



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY
WASHINGTON

RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009
4:00 PM -5:30 PM**

**1300 FRANKLIN STREET – PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER
6TH FLOOR – TRAINING ROOM #679**

Members Present:	John Allen, Dick Carroll, Dick Clairmont, Bill Ganley, Rodger Lance, Lloyd Lycan, Melinda McLucas, Jack Melton, John Shaffer, Thomas Smith, Dan Weaver
Excused Members:	Scott Dalesandro, Dave Hurt, Jerry Petrick, Florence Wager
Absent Members:	
Ex-Officio:	Eric Temple, Will Pickering
Public:	Dave Gray-CBRR, Doug Auburg-BYCX, Todd Coleman-POV
Staff:	Fred Abraham, April Flinn, Mark McCauley, Lisa Goorjian, Troy Pierce
Agenda Item	Facilitator
Meeting called to order @ 4:00 PM	Dan Weaver
Roll Call/Introductions	Dan Weaver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions were made around the room. 	
Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes	Dan Weaver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved and seconded minutes approved as circulated. 	
Communications/Announcements	Dan Weaver
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Shaffer, the newest member of the board, introduced himself. • Rails with Trails Update – A memo will be coming out next month that will describe the technical data in a bullet form, describing where the trail will be in relation to the track. They will have maps and pictures that will correspond to the memo's bullet points. A meeting will be held in January 2010 between Eric Temple, Will Pickering, and the trail user groups to talk about the rails with trails program. It would possibly be valuable to have a resolution by each user group so the trail user groups understand the fact this is a working freight railroad that supports the rail with trail concept as long as the two can not conflict. User groups and the rail operator can mutually use one another's help. The Prosecutor's office and Risk Management office believe that the language in the current lease for the railroad is very strong and offers indemnification. 	
PVJR Activities	Eric Temple
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Gray filled in for Eric Temple • Track Work – PVJR is happy with the track work that has been done. The track looks good from Rye Jct. to Barberton. There are still bad ties from Barberton to Battle Ground. 	
BYCX Activities	Will Pickering
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance – The maintenance is getting done. • Trains – There were two school groups last month, October. The Halloween trains were busy; they were 80% sold out. They are now taking reservations for the Christmas trains. November 29th has been added for the Christmas train rides. • Ties – A couple of truckloads of ties will be coming in soon. 	
Status of County Activities	Fred Abraham
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development Team – They have been meeting with businesses in the community, specifically those associated with the rail line. Most of the current shippers have been visited. The 	

effort to talk to and visit the businesses has been recognized, and they are welcomed by the businesses. Most of the businesses are looking at increasing their rail shipments in the next three to five years. This is due in part to the economy and also due to a potential increase in fuel prices. The businesses along the rail line also recognize that the County is trying to make an effort to grow businesses and improve the rail line. Potential shippers are now beginning to be contacted. Then old businesses will be looked at that are along the rail line that used to be rail served.

- **Overlay Zoning** – The main idea behind the overlay zoning is to get a “buy-in” from the jurisdictional partners. The overlay is designed to be used in the areas where we have had use of the rail in the past, but not necessarily now, and for any property’s adjacent to the rail that are still available that could be rail served. The general idea of the partners that were present at the meeting was that it seemed like a good idea, but they needed to confirm within their departments in their respective Jurisdictions.
- **Sewer Trunk Project** – This is at the sand spur trans-load site. There is approximately 600 feet of sewer line in the railroad right-of-way. The project is moving forward even with the rainy conditions that came early. They are approximately 2/3 of the way done with the project. This project will stabilize the sewer line for a long time. They have insured that it is safe and secure enough to be safe for future railroad movement, expansion and vibration.
- **Regulatory Signs** – We have a feel of what needs to be done for the No Trespassing signs. Other signs were addressed as well, such as missing signs and improperly placed signs. All of these can be handled through grants from WUTC. WUTC advised that there are three different grants that will address the needs: Public Crossings, Private Crossings, and No Trespassing. The first piece will be to do the no trespassing signs. We want to pattern these off of the BNSF no trespassing signs, and modify it to fit our rail line. The second piece will be to identify the public crossing, and the third piece will be to identify the private crossings. The maximum limit for the no trespassing signs is \$20,000. An estimate from public works to do the work is just under \$20,000 for a wood post; to use a metal post would increase the price by \$8000. Mark Wilsdon said that it would be worth spending the \$8000 to get the \$20,000 from WUTC than having to go back to the signs in the near future. Federal regulations are coming in 2010 or 2011 that all signs will need to have a reflective coating front and back. They are moving away from stop signs to yield signs.
- **PUD bore at Fruit Valley** - There is no update on the bore project. They are installing a steel incased water line.
- **Interchange at Rye Jct.** – No update yet.
- **78th-88th Street** – There is no update on the Rye yard extension. The REET money was put into the budget for next year.
- **Grace Avenue** – The County engineering department has moved to the 90% plans for review. The right-of-way and building within the yard issue is still up in the air. A meeting was held and determined that the City of Battle Ground, the County, and PVJR need to sit down and discuss the issue and come to a resolve about the right-of-way. If the east track can be moved to the west side and the building moved, it could make the Grace Avenue project work. This would all need Eric Temple’s approval.

Subcommittee Reports	
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right-of-way – No update. • Community Outreach – Fred Abraham will be giving a speech to the NACC sometime in February. • Web Page – No Update. • Safety – No Update. | |
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Unfinished Business	Dan Weaver
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Terms – Board term letters were signed by Tom, John, Jerry, and Dick. (Jan 1, 2010 – Dec 31, 2012) Dave Hurt is no longer with the Port of Vancouver. The RRAB would like to keep representation from the Port of Vancouver. A motion was made and seconded to keep a representative from the Port of Vancouver. A thank you letter will be sent to Dave Hurt. • Scott Dalesandro – There was a discussion about Scott’s knowledge of the railroad. A motion was moved and seconded that Scott be reappointed by the BOCC. • Todd Coleman – He is from the Port of Vancouver. He introduced himself. The board moved and seconded that Todd Coleman’s name be given to the BOCC for consideration as a representative from the Port of Vancouver. • By-Laws & Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair – There was a discussion on what should happen with the by-laws in regards to elections for chair and vice chair. The by-laws were not | |
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changed.

- **Nominations** – Lloyd Lycan was nominated for chair. Nominations were closed. It was a unanimous vote for Lloyd to be chair. John Allen was nominated for vice chair. Nominations were closed. It was a unanimous vote for John to be vice chair. These will be effective in January 2010.

New Business

Dan Weaver

- **Car Counts** – Car counts have dropped. They are still within the national average. It is looking as if the last quarter of 2009 or first quarter of 2010 could be the bottom.

Good of the Order

ALL

- **Social** – It was proposed to have a holiday social event for the December meeting. Everybody voted to have a social event. An email will be sent out as a reminder.

Round Table

ALL

- Nothing new.

ADJOURNMENT @ 5:28 PM