

# MINUTES & NOTICE OF BOARD ACTION

BOOK 150 PAGE 2192  
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APPROVED

## LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



*This document, upon approval in a public meeting by the Board of County Commissioners, serves as official minutes of such meetings as required under the Open Meetings Law, ORS 192.650.*

Pursuant to notice made by mailing agendas to news media, a selected list of jurisdictions and individuals in Lane County, a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was held.

Questions should be directed to The Board Office Specialist 3, ext. 4203.

June 30, 1992  
9:00 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners'  
Conference Room

Chair Ellie Dumdi presided with Steve Cornacchia, Marie Frazier, Jack Roberts and Jerry Rust present. Sharon Giles, Recording Secretary.

### 1. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Margo Drivas, Assistant County Administrator, identified four items of emergency business which would be heard later in the meeting.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Garth Putnam, 38040 Pengra Road, stated that he has picked up numerous homeless hitchhikers and needs a place to drop them off. He noted that families should be a priority.

Bobby Bourland, resident at McKenzie Bridge Camp (at Armitage Park), commented that he was the spokesperson for that camp. He said the camp is organized and desired showers, water access from the pump station, and garbage and recycling pick up (or a fee waiver at the dump). He said there is one porta-potty and one more is on the way. He indicated the residents were willing to keep them there and pay for them. He stated he works as a firefighter and would lose his job if the camp were forced to disband.

Laurie Elliott, resident at McKenzie Bridge/Armitage camp, stated that there is no child abuse at the camp. She said many people were in danger of losing their homes and requested the Board's help.

Jacqueline Welker, resident at McKenzie Bridge/Armitage camp, explained that she is at the camp because of her diabetic daughter who needs to be near her doctors. She said the people at the camp cannot afford homes because rents are too high. She stated there needs to be affordable, low-income housing, but in the meantime, the people at the camp need help.

Laura Friedrich, living in her bus at 34415 Highway 58, stated that she has five children and has no electricity and no running water. She said she has no hope of moving into housing in town as it would cost a minimum of \$1,500 for rent and deposits. She noted that there needs to be more camps for people to live and raise children.

Hal Conner, 33642 Molitor Hill in Cottage Grove, expressed concern over the people who are being displaced due to the economy. He said people want to keep their families together and more sites for campgrounds are needed.

Mary Birmingham, 2015 West 17th Avenue, commented that there are limits on shelter stays and there is no stability in moving from place to place in the shelter system. She explained that the campers need to be able to live in the campgrounds legally. She stated that more campgrounds need to be opened up and made liveable, and that they need to be convenient to jobs, schools and doctors.

Lori Lysett, P.O. Box 1098, Cottage Grove, stated that she is the camp host at Blodgett Camp. She commented that the homeless campers are good people and help is needed to finish setting up Blodgett Camp.

Patrick Dodd, 2015 West 17th Avenue, stated that he had an 8-page document generated by the people at Blodgett Camp and that it shows all materials needed to upgrade the camp. He commented that the work could be done cheaply with in-kind donations. He said he would get a copy of the document to the Commissioners.

Randy Lysett, Blodgett Creek Campground, commented that the campground is primitive and that the recommendations for its upgrade would make it liveable. He stated that Blodgett Creek is not the best location, but it can work.

Elizabeth Gonzalez, Eugene Mission, stated that she has lived at the Mission for two and one-half years, and has lived on the streets since 1979. She commented that there is a vacant building near the Mission that could be utilized for families with children.

Charles E. Whited, Jr., 3360 Game Farm, Springfield, commented that he is the minister of the Bethany Lutheran Church. He stated that he has met many of the families at the Armitage Campground and that they are making the best of a bad situation. He said they work together, share and encourage each other. He remarked the site is good because it is accessible to Eugene/Springfield.

### 3. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

To be held at 10:40 a.m.

9. EMERGENCY BUSINESS

This item taken out of order.

a. SUBDIVISION PLAT

- 1) Nedco Plat  
City of Eugene  
17-04-26

MOTION: Approval. Roberts MOVED, Frazier SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0.

- b. ORDER 92-6-30-3/In the Matter of Authorizing the County Administrator to Execute a Lease Agreement with Lane County as Lessee for Space Located at 1901 Garden Avenue, Eugene.

MOTION: Approval of the Order. Roberts MOVED, Rust SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0.

- c. ORDER 92-6-30-4/In the Matter of Approving Various Liquor License Renewals for Various Individuals.

MOTION: Approval of the Order. Roberts MOVED, Rust SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0.

- d. ORDER 92-6-30-5/In the Matter of Approving the Liquor License Renewal of Esther M. and George S. Ralph, dba Lorane Valley Bed and Breakfast.

MOTION: Approval of the Order. Roberts MOVED, Rust SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0.

4. COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

- a. DISCUSSION/Homeless Campground Sites.

Cottage Grove Ranger District  
Where is the Willamette National Forest in the Process?  
Armitage Park Site  
Description of Opportunities in County Park Sites  
Overview and Recommendations

Rust introduced this item to the Board. He stated that the issues to be considered included camp hosts, law enforcement, sanitation (toilets, grey water), cap on the number of people, access to urban services, and transition to permanent housing. He questioned whether Lane County wants to facilitate homeless camping and, if so, to what extent.

Steve Manela, Health and Human Services, indicated that the Intergovernmental Human Services Committee and the Intergovernmental Housing Policy Board had been working on a service strategy and a

development strategy. He presented an overview of these strategies. He said that currently local government invests \$1.2 million on an ongoing basis in the service system and that Lane County has put approximately \$750,000 into the development of new housing.

Kent Smith, Cottage Grove Ranger District, presented an update on the Blodgett Campsite. He stated that development of the site began in April of last year. He said that the Umpqua Forest Service recognizes Lane County as a key player and feels the Forest Service is a partner. He commented that concerns involve liability, sanitation, and security, and that most of these concerns are being met at Blodgett.

C. Daniel Lindstrom, Director of Community Sharing in Cottage Grove, stated that their role has been fiduciary and they have received an Emergency Housing Account 16-Month Grant of \$10,500 to facilitate the development of Blodgett Camp, 26 miles east of Cottage Grove. He commented that expenses to date (the first four months of the grant) were approximately \$15,000, which includes some donations of materials; while actual out-of-pocket expense was about \$3,400. He stated that there are currently 11 people living at the camp. He commented that improvements needed are camp siting, water, and safety. He indicated that money for communication devices has been budgeted for next year and that should help solve the safety issue. He noted that an ideal site for a homeless camp is Blue Mountain Park.

Don Gray, Lowell Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest, stated that his agency had been reviewing potential campsites, focusing on Shady Dell campground, about 45 minutes East of Eugene. The camp is five miles west of Oakridge on Highway 58. He commented that strong local support and agreement from the partners (Lane County and St. Vincent de Paul) is needed. Rust asked Gray what he saw as Lane County's role. Gray explained that they would expect the County to provide periodic law enforcement and they were looking to Lane County to also have a similar camp.

Gary Gustafson, Deputy Director of the Division of State Lands, and Steve Purchase, Assistant Director of the Division of State Lands, were the next speakers. Gustafson stated that the safety and welfare of the individuals involved is a big concern related to the Armitage Camp/McKenzie River Bar situation. He explained that the majority of the land being used by campers at Armitage is owned by the State of Oregon. Gustafson remarked that last winter, the State closed the area to overnight camping and prohibited motor vehicle usage. He stated that DSL has worked with social service agencies to attempt to find alternative locations for the campers. He noted that this summer the DSL had not yet taken an aggressive approach to evict campers. He explained that neighbors are upset and complaining. He said the State needs to enforce their rule, but wants to explore options and alternatives and contribute to a long term solution. In response to a question from Rust, Purchase indicated that the State is not precluding camping anywhere, but would need to get the concurrence of

the State Land Board for any proposal. Frazier inquired as to whether the Public Trust Doctrine supersedes land use regulation. Purchase stated that no legal analysis had been completed on that issue.

Bob Keefer, Lane County Parks Director, reviewed his packet memo and stated that he had reviewed this issue in terms of following the model of the Umpqua National Forest. He commented that three sites had been looked at: Big River, Unity Park and Siuslaw Falls and that he had recommended Siuslaw Falls as it has a lot of potential, although there is a land use issue. He emphasized that the Parks Department does not have the staff to manage a camping facility. Keefer indicated that Blue Mountain Park was not on the list because it is a park that is managed for timber production, with a planned cut in 1993. Responding to questions, Roy Burns stated that Siuslaw Falls is zoned F-1 and that it was possible to create a new zone to accommodate homeless camping.

Manela summarized by saying that any planning for interim camping facilities should be focused on more urban areas and that it is important to keep in mind that new housing development is the ultimate goal. Rob Rockstroh, Director of Health and Human Services, commented that if the Board wished to continue with the camping option, it appears that the Forest Service and private non-profits are the easiest to work with.

- b. ORDER ~~92-6-30-1~~/In the Matter of Expanding a Pilot Project to Provide Rural Homeless Camping at Lane County's Siuslaw Falls Park.

Rust noted that, after listening to the issues, he now has doubts about the Siuslaw Falls Park site, but would like information to be developed and another look taken at the Blue Mountain site. He commented that the Forest Service needs to be encouraged in its work and that he hoped the State could provide some latitude at the Armitage site until at least October. Roberts remarked that the discussion emphasized the need to work toward permanent, affordable housing. Frazier suggested establishing a work group to look at options for the County related to homeless camping. Rust asked for and received consensus for he and Frazier to establish a working group to research further possibilities and report back within 30 days, and not to consider the Order regarding Siuslaw Falls.

This meeting recessed at 11:05 a.m. to reconvene at 11:18 a.m.

### 3. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Roberts read a letter, to be delivered today, prepared by Jim Johnson and written to Mike Gleason, Mike Kelly and George Kloeppel regarding rescinding notification of termination and giving new notice with reference to the jail, animal control and RIS.

Frazier stated that she had gone to Fall Creek the night before and that a group expressed interest in utilizing Unity Park and beginning an Adopt-A-Park program. She also commented that there would be two parades on the following Saturday to celebrate the Fourth of July: one in Cottage Grove and one in Creswell.

Dumdi read a suggested Resolution regarding reducing the danger of fire over the Fourth of July holiday and received consensus to finalize the Resolution, which was amended to eliminate the fifth Whereas clause, on July 1. Roberts suggested adopting a process regarding Fourth of July fireworks for coming years that could be in place to be activated when necessary and consensus was reached to look at this issue again in December.

Dumdi reminded the Board about a conference call to be held on July 2 at 10:00 a.m. regarding appointing a replacement to fill the District 2 Senate vacancy created by the resignation of John Brenneman.

Dumdi reported on the District AOC meeting held June 29 and distributed copies of AOC priorities and Commissioner assignments for legislative contact.

Cornacchia discussed the two agenda items on the previous night's agenda of the AOC Legislative Committee meeting. With regard to timber receipts, he stated that there was discussion on three issues: 1) keeping the distribution formula for national timber receipts at its current level of 75% for roads and 25% for schools; 2) supporting the increase from 25% to 50% of national forest receipts; and 3) whether or not the receipts could be used for law enforcement purposes also. Regarding the Governor's tax plan, Cornacchia stated he had voted as individual Commissioner although the vote would reflect Lane County and asked for consensus from the Board. He noted that there had been considerable opposition to support of the Governor's tax plan due to, among other reasons, 1) the seven percent cap on assessments and the lack of information on how it would be distributed, and 2) the expectation that the counties would pay, through Assessment and Taxation, the costs of implementation of the plan. Cornacchia stated that he had voted with the majority (12-7) to support the Governor, with comments expressing reservations on five areas of the tax plan. Consequently, he noted, Lane County is on record as supporting the tax plan, with reservations, but this position could be changed if the majority of Lane County's Board does not agree. Rust, Roberts and Dumdi indicated their support of Cornacchia's vote.

Dumdi announced that AOC has recommended a six percent dues increase beginning in 1993, and the Board indicated the need to get clarification on the figure for the special assessment.

7. PUBLIC WORKS

- a. DISCUSSION AND ACTION/Policy Direction Regarding Formation of the Siltcoos Heights Water District Within the Corporate Limits of Dunes City.

This item was taken out of order.

MOTION: Approval of the staff recommendation to oppose the formation of a special district. Cornacchia MOVED, Roberts SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0.

8. FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- a. DISCUSSION AND ORDER 92-6-30-2/In the Matter of Approving Project Phasing for the Courthouse HVAC/Asbestos Renovation and a Revised Budget of \$3,354,006.

This item was taken out of order.

MOTION: Approval of the Order. Cornacchia MOVED, Roberts SECONDED. VOTE: 5-0.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION as per ORS 192.660

To be held on Wednesday, July 1.

6. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

- a. Announcements

Drivas noted that election printouts would be available after 8:00 p.m. at the Elections Office.

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

  
Sharon Giles  
Recording Secretary