

MINUTES & NOTICE OF BOARD ACTION

BOOK 154 PAGE 0316

APPROVED *November 23, 1993*



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.

October 27, 1993
Following HACSA

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Harris Hall
Main Floor

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

1. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

One item of Emergency Business was identified.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wendell Whittington, 795 West 26th Avenue, expressed concern regarding Ballot Measure 1. He stated that Measure 1 changes the personal income tax as well as increasing the corporate tax by 15%, which he indicated would be passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices. Although noting that he was for education, he suggested trying to repeal Measure 5 before passing Measure 1. He asked whether Measure 1 repeals the age, elderly and blind deductions. Roberts responded that Measure 1 increases the standard deduction, but does not take away any of the other deductions that exist.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION as per ORS 192.660

Held earlier in the day in conjunction with HACSA Executive Session.

4. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

To be held later in the day.

5. COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

a. REPORT/Shelter Work Group.

Rust identified members of the Shelter Work Group in the audience, including Representative Cynthia Wooten, Chair Richard Green, Ron Chase, John Van Landingham and Marian Malcolm. He noted that Richie Wieman and Steve Manela were staff to the committee. He referred to the material provided in the packet and noted that the recommendation is the Centennial car camp. Rust recommended to the Board that Lane County participate financially to help make the car camp happen again. Responding to Cornacchia, Rust remarked that \$10,000 of the County's share will come from Manela's budget and suggested that the other \$5,000 come from appropriated reserve. In an additional handout, expenses and potential revenue were outlined (see material on file). Roberts clarified with Manela that the \$10,000 portion would come from money carried over from a previous year's grant.

MOTION: To offer a statement of thanks to the intergovernmental subcommittee that did this work and that Lane County agree to pay \$15,000 contingent upon the other parties participation at the level suggested (State of Oregon - \$35,000; City of Eugene - \$15,000; Lane County - \$15,000; and Springfield - \$5,000) and that Lane County's money come from sources as described previously. (NOTE: The contingency for Springfield's participation was later removed by "Friendly Amendment" by Roberts.) Rust MOVED, Roberts SECONDED. Roberts observed that the major reason for the cost was providing 24-hour staffing, which is a benefit to the community as a whole. He noted that there were no significant problems last year. Roberts acknowledged that this is still a one-year fix, but that he would be supporting it. Rust commented that Eugene would be picking up the cost of the utilities as well as law enforcement contingencies. Frazier inquired what potential revenue from campers would be used for and Weiman responded that last year it was used as part of the ongoing cost of running the camp. Weiman inquired, based on the Motion, whether Lane County will commit even if Springfield will not. Rust asked that the contingency be left for now to be reconsidered if Springfield refuses. Roberts asked that the contingency be removed and, for his second, proposed a "friendly amendment" that the contingency be removed. Cornacchia indicated that he would not support the Motion based on the way the revenue was split. He noted that the utilities for the camp were already included in the budget. Cornacchia questioned the formula and why the County was an equal partner with Eugene, with Springfield at \$5,000. He suggested the need for equal partnership. Rust explained that Eugene had assumed all of the costs last year, that Eugene's deficit looks about the same as Lane County's for next year, that this would free up staff (law enforcement, legal counsel, health and human services, etc.) who have previously had to respond at the Armitage camp, and that Lane County is the general purpose government representing all of Lane County. Dumdi indicated that she shares Cornacchia's concern, but that the issue has impact on the County overall and that she will support the Motion. She suggested that talks be pursued with Springfield to encourage their participation. Rust concurred and agreed regarding removing the contingency from the Motion. Frazier

asked if any profile tracking was being done on camp users. A work group member responded that Whitebird did a profile last year with demographic information and will be doing it again this year. Frazier requested a copy of that information. VOTE: 4-1, Cornacchia dissenting.

b. REPORT/Ferry Street Bridge.

Dave Reinhard, City of Eugene, distributed an agenda for this discussion, a memorandum outlining the recommendations of the Ferry Street Bridge Citizen Advisory Committee and the Planning Commission, and a chart reflecting traffic flow on the bridge (see material on file). He introduced Mike Gleason, City Manager, Chris Anderson and Terry Smith, the Director and Deputy Director of Public Works, Jim West, Transportation Planning Engineer, and Bill Hall, the head of OBEC Consulting Engineers, who were present in the audience. Reinhard presented a 14-minute video regarding the Ferry Street Bridge Study which reviewed the four alternatives. He made special note of the fact that the Ferry Street Bridge is a regional facility and that the traffic flow reflects commuter trips from a vast area. West explained various traffic flows on a map on the wall.

With regard to the Alton Baker Park proposals, Rust noted that the area is a flood plain. He asked what kind of elevations would be needed for a new transportation facility. Hall responded that all the bridge plans have been designed to exceed the 100 year flood elevation and the approaches were at grade. Rust questioned the purpose of the berm. Reinhard replied that it was to mitigate noise and to protect from visual intrusion. Noting that it was a significant impact, Hall indicated that the berm would be 10 feet high, with a 3-1 slope on each side, which would create a berm about 70 feet wide on both sides of the road. Reinhard commented that these were only proposed for Alternative D. Rust expressed concern about the City's public hearing on November 22, observing that it was the week of Thanksgiving and people would be out of town. Reinhard remarked that November 22 is a Monday and that most people will not have departed yet for the holiday. He also noted that the hearing would be held open for 10 days. Rust commented that he was concerned that the timetable was being driven by the time-sensitive nature of the federal grant. Rust asked whether a suggestion for an alternative mode bridge on the north side of the Ferry Street Bridge was examined. Reinhard responded that connection was the issue, as related to neighborhood impact and acquisition problems.

Responding to Dumdi, Reinhard stated that Agripac has had representation on the CAC throughout the process and additional meetings have been held with their management. He commented that Agripac would like to relocate, as they have 10 acres and would like 20 acres. Responding to a question from Frazier, Reinhard replied that the capability of the Ferry Street Bridge Corridor is at or over practical capacity now. With regard to alternative modes, Frazier

asked what percentage of the automobile traffic volume is targeted for reduction. Reinhard remarked that, in general, the goal was an additional 10 percent shift from cars into other alternatives during the peak hours. Frazier noted that the CAC had recommended a public vote and asked if a regional vote would be recommended if the project is supported as a regional facility. Staff responded that the City Charter requires a vote due to the historic tree issue and the limited access amendment, and there is no way to broaden it to a regional vote within the Charter.

Roberts remarked that he supports the recommendation of the CAC, but noted that the Planning Commission recommendation has a lot of merit. Dumdi stated that she also supports Alternative C, noting that it is important to encourage alternative modes of transportation, including park'n'ride areas. She noted that she feels strongly that it should not go through Alton Baker Park. Cornacchia noted that this exercise, and its 5-year process, has been required by the various jurisdictions as a result of the Transplan. He stated that many people see this as an opportunity for a referendum on the automobile, but they need to be reminded that this is the culmination of a lot of previous planning work and agreements. With regard to the regional nature of the project, Cornacchia noted that the people affected by this project exceeds the citizens of Eugene, and this places responsibility and consideration at the Board level. Noting that there are 15,000 jobs in the downtown employment core, resulting in 30,000 daily trips in and out of town, Cornacchia emphasized that the corridor is an artery to the heart of Eugene and that the arteries need to be kept clean and functioning. He commented that bicycles are a legitimate consideration for residents of the central core, but not for suburban residents.

Noting that he has no problem with the regional aspect of the facility, Rust stated that he was not ready to support any alternative yet. He indicated that his objections center around the fact that 1) the range of alternatives is quite narrow and 2) there is a time crunch, not allowing people time to develop alternatives. He commented that there would be a review of urban design issues, with respect to this project, conducted by the School of Architecture tonight at Lawrence Hall at 7 p.m. Cornacchia responded that the process, five years in the making, had involved looking at a broad range of alternatives, then arriving at a limited number from which the community can choose. He commented that only in the last two to three months have objections arisen. Frazier suggested the use of the term "Corridor" as opposed to simply the Ferry Street Bridge, as the issue affects miles of roadway. Dumdi expressed concern that the \$23 million appropriated for this project through the efforts of Senator Hatfield and Congressman DeFazio may be lost if the process does not move forward in a timely manner.

With regard to a tour of the area, Reinhard suggested the use of a van over a period of several hours, looking at concerns with regard

to ingress, egress, etc. Rust asked that maps be taken, and perhaps a vantage view be provided from the top of Fifth Street Market or the Citizens Bank Building. He also asked that the tour be taken prior to the City Council's work session on December 6. The Board concurred to plan a tour, including interested City Council members, the Mayor and necessary staff, sometime within the next two to four weeks as schedules allow.

This meeting recessed at 11:18 a.m. to reconvene at 11:30 p.m.

c. FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION/Meeting with Communities of Color.

Roberts suggested that Betsy Fairlamb, who was present representing the Human Rights and Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, be asked to share her thoughts. Fairlamb referred to a handwritten letter from Lynn Burditt, Chair of the HR&AA Advisory Committee, included in the Board packet. She noted that suggestions by the group as ways the committee may be involved include: 1) looking at issues related to diversity in the Lane County workforce; and 2) look at work place diversity training and continue discussions with department heads and managers related to ways that cultural diversity can be trained and implemented in county employees. Fairlamb stated that the group sees their role as assisting and facilitating rather than taking a leadership role, and that the committee would like to help be the Board's "conscience".

Bill Van Vactor, Acting County Administrator, lead the Board in discussing what he heard at the forum on September 28. He noted that there appears to be a perception among the communities of color that they may not be receiving equitable and competent services from Lane County government. He indicated that he thinks Lane County needs to go through some type of process to assure itself that its services are provided equitably and competently. In that regard, Van Vactor stated his willingness to work with the Board, the Management Team and the HR&AA Advisory Committee to develop a process to review some of the service delivery systems that are most vital to the community. Dumdi stated that she had heard a tone of frustration and that we all need to work together as a team without isolating groups. She noted that many people requested follow-up meetings. Rust remarked that the equitable services issue was a focus. He noted the issue of appointments to boards and commissions and the need to have more people of color on them. Rust also observed the group's concern with hiring, training, and cultural competency issues within Lane County's employee work force and their need for improvement. Roberts noted that he had not heard many specific problems with Lane County identified, rather more general concerns. With regard to specific recommendations, Roberts indicated that he heard that people from the communities of color would like to be at the table when the money is being divided up. He noted more general concerns regarding how services are provided with relation to language barriers and cultural competency. Roberts stated that these could be included in a broader

investigation of how Lane County is going to provide good customer service. He remarked that the desire for continuity and follow through was the most poignant, and that there was a need to institutionalize some follow through. Cornacchia indicated that he heard all the same things his colleagues had just expressed. He added that a primary concern is that racism exists in this community in individuals, within societal groups and within institutions and that this is what Lane County needs to acknowledge and understand. He remarked that he is concerned about trying to deal with all of the broader issues and that he thinks Lane County needs to focus on issues it has control over and can be effective with. Cornacchia commented that he thought the most powerful speaker was Jan Oliver who stated simply "I just want the job done right."

Roberts indicated that the Board's plans need to be reduced to writing and provided to the Human Rights and Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, so that they can help keep the Board on track. He also noted that the committee will be asked to undertake assignments which the Board gives them directly. Rust suggested that a group, consisting of several people from the HR&AA Committee, several people from the Board and several people from administration, be created to help set the focus for a workplan and report back to the Board within 30 days. Cornacchia concurred and suggested that each Board member come to the afternoon session prepared to give a few suggestions of what needs to be addressed. Roberts and Rust volunteered to serve on the focus group on behalf of the Board, with Cornacchia as backup. Van Vactor was asked to produce the names of several department heads to serve on the group and to ask the HR&AA to provide the names of several people. Cornacchia suggested that Arlene Marshal be used as primary staff/coordinator. He suggested that a status report on the formation of the group be presented to the Board next week.

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.



Sharon Giles
Sharon Giles
Recording Secretary