



NOTICE OF BOARD ACTION
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.

January 11, 1994
9:00 a.m.

WORK SESSION
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners'
Conference Room

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

1. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Bill Van Vactor, County Administrator, noted that the first reading and discussion of the real estate transfer tax would occur after other business at 1:30 p.m. today. Rust commented that Item 9.a. has been postponed to January 26.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rich Aaring, 365 East 49th, spoke as chair of the Parks Advisory Committee, indicating that they were unanimous in urging the Board to adopt the Parks 2000 Plan. Rust thanked the Parks Advisory Committee for their hard work.

John Rosselli, 27543 Fruitway Road, Junction City, commented that he serves on the Parks Advisory Committee and is 100% behind the Parks 2000 Plan. He noted that all of the people involved in formulating the Plan were dedicated, aggressive and innovative.

John Helmer, 33925 Seavey Loop Road, stated that he serves on the Board of Directors and is here representing the Mt. Pisgah Arboretum. He voiced their enthusiastic support of the Parks 2000 Plan.

Dick Lamster, 84588 Bristow Rd., Pleasant Hill, urged the Board to support the Parks 2000 Plan, indicating that he is with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and has worked with Bob Keefer on the Plan.

Gary Anderson, 565 Landess, Cottage Grove, noted that he was founder and president of COPS (Clean Our Parks and Streams), with over 100 volunteers involved. He stated that the Parks 2000 Plan is a great extension of a public relations program.

Roger Delles, 2517 North 27th, Springfield, emphasized that the Parks 2000 Plan is realistic, self-supporting and self-sustaining approach to maintaining the County park system. He encouraged the Board to adopt the Plan.

3. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

To be held later.

4. COMMISSIONERS' BUSINESS

a. DISCUSSION/Meetings with Small Cities.

Rust remarked that Lane County has 11 small cities and it has been past Board practice to meet with each city once a year. He suggested:

- 1) That since the Board was not able to meet with Veneta in 1993, that it meet with them as soon as possible;
- 2) That the Board try to meet with each of the cities between now and the end of the fiscal year. He asked commissioners to think about substantive issues for the meetings and indicated the cities would be asked to develop a list also;
- 3) That perhaps some regional cities be grouped together for the purposes of a joint meeting: a) Florence, Dunes City and the Port District; b) Oakridge and Westfir; c) Cottage Grove, Creswell and Lowell.

Dumdi concurred and suggested an afternoon for each group. Cornacchia indicated he liked the idea of groupings and suggested that the cities be asked for their opinion. He also suggested meeting once or twice a year with each of the metro cities. Dumdi, Rust and Roberts concurred with that suggestion. Roberts voiced the need to communicate to the metro cities Lane County's desire to meet. He cautioned about being careful with the small city groupings, so as not to give the impression of slighting anyone. He also mentioned the challenge involved in meeting prior to June 30 considering the budget, re-elections, CERT commitments, the United Front trip, etc.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION as per ORS 192.660

To be held later today.

6. HUMAN RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

- a. DISCUSSION/Current Operation of Animal Regulation and Outlook for Future.

George Russell, Director of Human Resources and Management Services introduced Randy Covey, Animal Regulation Supervisor, Roxann Marshall, Animal Regulation Clerical Supervisor, Dave Alexander, Senior Animal Welfare Officer, and Dawn Nelson, Animal Welfare Officer.

Covey stressed the team management approach at Animal Regulation which was structured in January of 1992. He noted that the City of Eugene contracts with Lane County and, although privatization has been discussed, the City seems pleased with the current set-up. Covey stated that LCARA staff had met with Eugene staff in the spring of 1993, discussing animal control and coming to the understanding that any future reductions or changes would need to be addressed jointly between the City and the County. He explained that the goals of LCARA are in their Mission Statement (see material on file), highlighting that recognizing diversity, encouraging teamwork and open communications are important components of providing excellent customer service.

Covey noted that while enforcement is the core of most animal regulation operations, LCARA incorporates strong adoption and education programs for an emphasis on prevention. He reported that there are 1.5 full-time enforcement officers, while Eugene has reduced its current fiscal year enforcement from 4 to 3 full-time enforcement officers. Covey indicated that the future outlook and goals for Animal Regulation include code revisions that are needed to clarify certain aspects of Lane Code and the City of Eugene Code. He noted that there are three options confronting Eugene and Lane County with regard to Animal Regulation: 1) to maintain the status quo, with the current level of funding; 2) to reduce funding/services, which would possibly jeopardize public safety; and 3) to continue strong support and increase resources to ensure a progressive program.

Nelson presented information on adoption policies, noting that finding responsible adopters is sometimes a difficult process and the primary goal is to ensure that the animals never return to the shelter. She remarked that LCARA does not adopt out animals that are kept strictly outside, as they are responsible for thousands of service calls that come to the agency in the form of continuous barking complaints, welfare checks for animals with no shelter, etc. Nelson indicated that another policy is requiring a fenced yard for dog adoption, noting that this prevents chaining, which promotes aggression. Through a combination of adoption, spaying and neutering, licensing and adoption requirements, she stated that she had personally seen the amount of animals that come to LCARA cut in

half in the last 10 years. Alexander discussed the education portion of LCARA's program. He noted that one of the goals is to never have to euthanize a healthy, adoptable animal again. Alexander stated that the agency has become more visible to the public in an attempt to develop a positive public perception. He observed that public education has centered on the messages that all dogs need a license, all cats need identification and that spaying/neutering a pet is the only way to stop the senseless killing. Alexander remarked that this has been done through television, radio and written media and that direct education has been done through enhanced county fair booths and school and civic group presentations.

Marshall provided an overview of the budget and cost share reconciliation with Eugene (see '92/'93 report on file). She distributed two handouts of revenue comparisons for the prior two fiscal years, commenting that the main players in the revenue picture are the City of Eugene, the general fund, the cash balance, license and impound fees and "other" (comprising sales of leashes, distemper shots, etc.). With regard to expenses, Marshall indicated that expenses have remained below appropriations, primarily due to reduced spending in the area of personal services. She indicated that there is room for revenue enhancement through 1) a more comprehensive licensing effort and 2) analysis and restructure of current fees.

Responding to Rust, Covey noted that less than 50 percent of Lane County dogs are licensed. He reviewed the current license renewal process, stating that the main problem was in getting dogs licensed to begin with. Rust requested a copy of the upcoming strategic plan for more aggressive licensing. Responding to Roberts, Covey indicated that jurisdictions that have a consistent canvassing program sell many more licenses and that a canvassing program generally pays for itself. Dumdi asked for details on the enforcement policies and procedures. Covey replied that complaints are taken very seriously and enforcement doesn't always make people happy. He stated that the enforcement policy is to educate the public while addressing the violation that has been committed. Covey observed that officers listen to both sides and provide mediation. Roberts stated that he was gratified regarding how few complaints Lane County gets regarding animal regulation. Russell commented that he is pleased with the professionalism at LCARA and invited the Board to visit or do a ride-along.

8. PUBLIC WORKS

a. DISCUSSION/Parks 2000 Plan.

This item was taken out of order.

Bob Keefer, Parks Manager, reviewed his agenda memorandum, highlighting the summary on page 24 of the Parks 2000 Plan (see material on file).

With regard to not charging indirect charges (Summary, #7), Roberts commented that the Finance and Audit Committee was not able to recommend that to the Board. He indicated that Finance and Audit had recommended that Keefer leave it in the Plan, but come up with another way to cover that portion of the budget. Keefer noted that the amount ranges from \$50 - \$65,000.

Cornacchia asked for reassurance that an upcoming Order to approve and implement the Parks 2000 Plan would in no way commit this Board, or future Boards, to a particular funding level or treatment of the revenues of the Parks Department as is shown in the budget included in the Plan. Keefer responded that the Plan gives the division guiding principles on how to operate, but it is understood that the budget will have to go through each annual process. Roberts recognized that implementation of the Plan may be different and that he would prefer the use of the term "accept," not "approve." Cornacchia observed that he would like to see value received for any parks lands that are disposed of and that he was supportive of creative public/private sector partnerships that allow others to maintain or develop the parks.

Keefer asked about the process necessary to bring the upgraded and additional positions, which are non-general fund, on-line. Rust indicated that Keefer should work with Van Vactor to work through the process and bring forward the necessary Order(s). Dumdi commended Keefer on the excellence of the Plan. Ron Leach distributed his written comments to the Board in a letter and a letter from the Bohemia Mine Owners Association was also distributed (see material on file).

7. COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

a. Announcements

Van Vactor commented that he had spoken with Roy Burns this morning and the backlog in the building department is now below 70.

Van Vactor referred to a letter from Northwest Event Management asking for "free days" at Hayward Field that are available to the county and cities for the National Masters Championships. He indicated that he had received a response from the University of Oregon which notes that for providing Hayward Field at no charge "such uses shall not include major spectator events and must be directly sponsored by one of the Cities or the County".

3. COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cornacchia indicated that he had spent time yesterday with Bruce Anderson on a 90-acre piece of land on Lorane Highway/McBeth Road which deceased clients of Anderson wished to donate for public use. He stated that the clients' children have a life estate, but there is a potential for the land to go into inventory as future park land. With concurrence from the Board, Cornacchia remarked that he would look into this matter more closely.

Rust noted that there was a retirement party for two retirees at Public Works on Friday at 3:00 p.m.

Rust observed that an all-day economic development strategic planning session would be held on February 10 at the Downtown Athletic Club. Noting the potential for the attendance of more than two commissioners, Van Vactor asked that the meeting be advertised as a Board meeting.

Dumdi observed the death of Paul Lenarduzzi and the Board expressed condolences to his family.

9. PUBLIC SAFETY

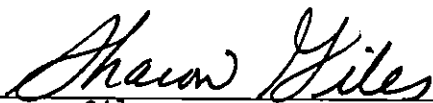
- a. DISCUSSION AND ORDER 94-1-11-1/In the Matter of Amending and Adopting a Revised and Updated Emergency Operations Plan for Lane County.

Postponed to January 26.

10. EMERGENCY BUSINESS

None.

There being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m. to convene into Executive Session at 11:15.



Sharon Giles
Recording Secretary