

**MINUTES
INFORMAL SESSION**

February 24, 2004 10:00 a.m.

Room 108, Courthouse

PRESENT: Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern, and Leslie Lewis.

Staff: John M. Gray, Jr., John Krawczyk, Murray Paolo, Laura Tschabold, Julia Staigers, Don Clark, Jonia Pierce, Bill Gille, Russel Heath, Susan Mundy, Dan Linscheid, Jack Crabtree, Kellye Fetters, Ken Friday.

Guests: David Bates, News-Register.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Kathy called the meeting to order.

* Personnel - Steve presented requests for personnel action received from various departments. See agenda for details.

Morgan Lane Transition House - Steve provided an update on the status of the Morgan Lane property, identified in the Oregon Housing and Community Services grant request. He reported that he and Richard Sly have completed preliminary steps toward evaluating the house for purchase and will be involved in negotiations with the property owners.

* Grant Prioritization - Approve prioritization of two ODOT grant applications as follows:
1. School Bus/Chehalem Valley Strategic Planning Committee Project
2. Yamhill County - Transportation Expansion Feasibility Study

Leslie noted that "Chehalem Valley" is a misnomer, since the school bus project would include all school districts equally.

* Loan Forgiveness - Julia requested approval for forgiveness of 40% of three outstanding farmworker housing loans. See agenda for details.

CASA Grant - Don Clark discussed the outstanding funds from the CASA grant, currently about \$135,000, that have been stagnant. He suggested removal of the funds with first preference for farm labor use, and otherwise for county rehabilitation purposes. Leslie stated that the Board needs to take some time to consider the issue.

* Contracts -See agenda for details.

Grader Replacement - Bill Gille informed the Board that the leases on two 1999 Cat 143H graders will expire Mar. 1st. He presented three options: (1) Keep the graders without warranty and sell them at market value in five more years; (2) Exercise the guaranteed buyback option and

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purchase two new Cat 143H graders under a new lease agreement; or (3) Exercise the guaranteed buyback option and purchase two new graders from John Deere. He recommended option 2, explaining that the buyback amount is top dollar for the current depressed market, and while John Deere graders are typically less expensive, they have lower resale value and don't provide down-time replacement. There was some discussion about hiring outside contractors for grading, and Russ pointed out that government agencies receive huge discounts from Cat compared to other contractors. Leslie moved to exercise the guaranteed buyback as shown in option 2. The motion carried, Kathy, Mary, and Leslie voting aye. The issue of purchasing new graders was not decided at this time.

* Road Vacation - Approve Docket RV-2-2004, a petition for vacation of public road in Otter Creek Hylands subdivision. No public hearing is required under ORS 368.351.

* Take-Home Vehicle - Sheriff Crabtree outlined a proposal to authorize a county take-home vehicle for the Sheriff's Office Emergency Manager. This decision would modify a previous Board Order.

Information Systems Charges - Jack presented a concern that the Sheriff's Office has been paying for IS charges while no other general fund department has had to do so. John K explained the history leading up to this situation, but said it would be appropriate to abolish the IS charges. He suggested that it may not be necessary to keep people on pager pay in the jail, which would free up some funds that could be moved to IS. Leslie stated that while cost effectiveness of pager pay to the jail can be examined, because of safety issues there needs to be a backup plan to handle calls if not through IS. She agreed that the Sheriff's Office and the jail shouldn't have to pay IS charges, and suggested that Murray could increase the hourly rate to non-general fund departments to cover the hole in his budget. Murray said that he was disturbed that he hadn't been notified of today's discussion and just happened to be at the meeting for another topic. A work session was scheduled for Wednesday, March 3rd at 2:00 in room 108 to further discuss the issues.

* Homeland Security Grant - Mary moved to approve the grant application and take action on Thursday at the formal session to ratify the decision. The motion carried, Kathy and Mary voting aye, Leslie being absent.

* Public Hearing - Planning Docket PAZ-02-03, applicant Matthew Powell. Mary and Kathy agreed to do a site review with Ken immediately following this meeting.

* Memorial Day Boat Races - Findings will be adopted at Thursday's formal session, providing the \$250 application fee has been received.

Recess for 5 minutes.

Title 3 Budget - John K reported that he met with Title 3 recipients last week and has reached a

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stalemate, as there are not enough dollars to satisfy everyone. He outlined the breakdown of the 2004/2005 budget for Title 3 funds. There was some discussion of the forest education program budget and comparison to previous years. The consensus was to address the issue in the work session already scheduled for March 3rd.

* Announcements - Due to the resignation of Richard Ball, there is a vacancy on the Road Improvement Advisory Committee. Mary reported that there are two vacancies in the CCF, which has requested that the Board do a press release and place a notice on the website for volunteer opportunities.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary