

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES

April 30, 2012

2:00 p.m.

Commissioners' Office

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

Staff: Laura Tschabold, Rick Sanai, Scott Maytubby, Sherrie Mathison.

Guests: Ossie Bladine, News-Register; Derek Godwin, Mike Bondi, and Deb Zaveson, Oregon State University (OSU) Extension Service; Doris Crimmins and Elmer Parker, OSU Extension Service District Budget Committee; Tex Rhodes and David Walsh, SP Newsprint, 1301 Wynooski St, Newberg; Michael Jefferies and Kirk Duncan, Waste Management.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Leslie called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

* Contracts/Grants - Authorize the Assessor's Office to apply for the 2012-13 Assessment & Taxation Grant from Oregon Department of Revenue, \$2,247,337. Leslie agreed to sign the application immediately for electronic submission, with the Board to ratify authorization at Thursday's formal session.

* Minutes - Approve the formal session minutes from April 19, 2012.

OSU Extension Service - Derek Godwin, Regional Administrator for Yamhill County, provided an update on the Extension Service, noting that staff has been reduced by 30 to 32 positions statewide over the last four to six years, which has led to many changes, including changes to the administrative structure. He said that Mike Knutz is now the leader for Yamhill County, and his position is one of outreach in building relationships. He distributed copies of an organizational chart (see Exhibit A).

Mike Bondi, Regional Administrator for Clackamas County and Director of the North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC), stated that NWREC is a research farm serving a seven-county district that includes Yamhill County. He said that the center has educational and applied research programs, and farmers throughout the area really depend on the research and technology provided by NWREC. He distributed copies of NWREC's quarterly newsletter.

Derek stated that he and Mike Bondi are both developing extension advisory committees, and Mike Knutz would be taking the lead locally in developing a Yamhill County advisory committee. He distributed draft copies of an intergovernmental agreement between OSU and Yamhill County Extension Service District (ESD) and said that he would be meeting with county counsel to update the agreement. He stated that off-campus programs are charged a much lower overhead rate than on-campus programs, and the definition of "campus" is now based on who pays the rent for the facilities. The Board agreed that it would make more sense for ESD to pay

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the rent directly to Yamhill County, making it an off-campus program, rather than having that money go to OSU and then be paid back to the county for rent. Derek stated that he would like to review the budget and explore other ways to be more efficient, such as with phone systems and copier contracts. He said that he would also be interested in becoming more involved with county departments, if there are any meetings he could sit in on.

Waste Management-Newberg Hauling - Sherrie Mathison stated that Waste Management has requested a 2.86% CPI increase for Newberg Hauling, and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee voted 6-1 to approve the request. Kathy stated that the Board doesn't like to raise rates, especially during these tough economic times, and she hopes that Waste Management is working with struggling businesses to keep their rates lower. She said that SP Newsprint is an important company in the community and is concerned about what these rates would do to its bottom line.

Kirk Duncan stated that Newberg Hauling has implemented recycling pickup, which provides more options for residential customers. He said that the company also gives businesses opportunities for recycling and works with them to make sure they have the right service level. He stated that the company will be switching to front-end collection vehicles later this year, which are much more efficient and will lead to a rate decrease after the change has been implemented and the effects analyzed. He said that Waste Management has been very sensitive to companies that are still in recession, and will continue to do so. He noted that calls will now be handled out of a call center in Oak Harbor, Washington, which will allow for better reporting of missed pick-ups, customer complaints, and environmental issues.

Kirk explained that SP Newsprint has a different rate schedule than the rest of the county, and is charged by the ton instead of by the yard. He said that he would be meeting with representatives of SP Newsprint to discuss rates and materials, and believes that together they can find a sustainable solution that is economically sensible for both companies. He said that there are things that SP Newsprint can do that are beyond the abilities of Waste Management, and it will take equal effort from both sides.

David Walsh stated that SP Newsprint has the capability and capacity at the mill to take leachate from the landfill, and would love to do that, but can't commit to it right now because it would require a permit modification from the Department of Environmental Quality, and the current permit isn't up for renewal until 2014. He said that the company is trying to come out of bankruptcy, which will involve a change of ownership through an auction, and any increase in costs would make the company less attractive to prospective buyers.

Waste Management-Newberg Transfer Station - Sherrie stated that Waste Management has requested an 11.6% rate increase for Newberg Transfer Station. Kirk reviewed presentation slides detailing facility upgrades and improved recycling efforts. Michael Jefferies explained that when Waste Management purchased Newberg Transfer Station, it was expected to bring the facility up to the same standards as its other facilities, and those capital improvements cost \$1.4 million. He said that the 11.6% rate increase is primarily to cover the \$168,000 in depreciation, CPI adjustments in salaries, and fuel cost increases. He noted that 95% of businesses in the county would fall under the 2.86% CPI rate increase rather than the 11.6% rate increase, with the

exception being for those businesses that do self-hauling.

Tex Rhodes stated that even though SP Newsprint has a separate contract with Waste Management, he believes Waste Management will ask SP Newsprint for a rate increase close to what everyone else will be paying. David said that SP Newsprint is constantly working to reduce its costs, and is asking that Waste Management does the same before it requests a rate increase. He said that he hasn't heard much to indicate that Waste Management is doing that.

Kathy requested that a decision on the rate requests be postponed until the commissioners have an opportunity for more in-depth discussions with Sherrie. Sherrie stated that Waste Management would like to have a decision before June 1 so it can give the 30-day public notice before the proposed effective date of July 1, 2012.

Western Oregon Waste - The Board agreed to reschedule the discussion of Western Oregon Waste's rate increase request until Joe Cook can be in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary