

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED
PRIOR TO THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' SESSION
ON
THURSDAY, April 15, 2021
AT
10:00 A.M.

Questions, concerns or comments about these items can be directed
to staff or the Commissioners by contacting the Commissioners' office at

(503) 434-7501

OR

BOCINFO@co.yamhill.or.us

From: Brian Billups <brianbillups@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 4:35 AM
To: BOC Info
Subject: Rails to Trails

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

I sincerely hope that Yamhill County moves forward with the rails to trails project that would open up some more trails for bike riders. The roads in Yamhill County are often narrow with high speed traffic. . It would be great to have a rails to trails project available to help reduce rider/driver conflict.

Brian J. Billups
Direct: (503) 997-3551
Home: (503) 591-5590
Email: brianbillups@gmail.com

Carolina Rook

From: Cathy Navarra <cathynavarra40@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:44 PM
To: BOC Info
Subject: Yamhelas Westsider Trail

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Once again, I am writing in support of this trail. It would be such a benefit to the citizens and businesses of this County.

I am disheartened by the actions of Commissioners Starrett and Berschauer choosing to only listen to a few very vocal opponents of the trail. And the results of this are the bills coming due to reimburse the grants, and now reimburse the legal fees of the farmers who opposed it. You were warned that the money would have to be paid back before you chose to shut this down. Now the County is facing huge expenditures that were not budgeted for. Not only that, but you are looking to find someone other than yourselves to blame for this. The integrity of County staff is being questioned. This is so disrespectful of them and the work they have done. They certainly do not deserve this.

I wish that you would look at mediation and get the farmers who are opposed to come into mediation. The issues can be resolved if people choose to work together.

Remember that you represent ALL the people in the county.

Respectfully,
Cathy Navarra
McMinnville

Carolina Rook

From: Celine Mccarthy <forestgrovept@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:15 PM
To: Ken Huffer; BOC Info
Cc: Lindsay Berschauer; Mary Starrett; Casey Kulla
Subject: RE: YWT & bridge & audit

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Dear Mr. Huffer:

In recent weeks, I have watched several of the BOC meetings on the proposed YWT and have a few comments to reflect on. You seem to be a reasonable sort of person and you are in charge of your staff.

I think it is very disrespectful for Ms. Martin to roll her eyes and scratch her forehead with her middle finger when Ms. Berschauer asks certain reasonable questions. Which by the way as a physical therapist this takes extra hand intrinsic muscles to perform, thus it is no accident but meant on purpose although I'm sure this has become a habit for her.

In regards to Mr. Sadlo, when asked a few weeks ago why monies continued to be spent on the proposed YWT with so many LUBA remands and his response was "we didn't think we would lose". Did he even think there would be no consequences to not obtaining a conditional use permit (CUP) yet moving forward with a project? Well, it seems to me that you lost and now what? Repayment of almost \$50,000 of attorney fees by LUBA to the opponents fighting bridge construction and he advises the county to appeal? appeal? He states that LUBA got it wrong and he disagrees with their judgment. Well, he must be in good company with everyone incarcerated in jail as they all claim that the judge got it wrong.

I question his ability to reason common sense & he certainly isn't a very good council with providing advice to the commissioners.

Mr. Boenisch seems to side step answering many direct questions but promises to get answers.

And you Mr. Huffer, when asked a financial question, answer so eloquently and lengthy that in the end you spoke but never really answered the question. An amazing talent I might add. It is also interesting that you and your staff just never seem to have the "right" paperwork in front of you to answer certain questions even though you know what the agenda is so is it that you come unprepared or is it that you simply cannot answer certain questions as there's something going on? A total lack of transparency in regards to this trail? The best part is when Mary or Lindsay ask a certain question and all of you go totally silent! and there is dread on your faces as to who has to respond!

Which brings me to Mr. Kulla who I realize you have no control over. Mr. non-transparency himself but sticky sweet on the outside. Something's going on and it is very apparent by watching your meetings. There had been some "hidden" agenda from your staff and Mr. Kulla regarding this proposed YWT. Ms. Starrett has been asking for years now a guesstimate expense of attorney fees and hours spend on this trail. A ballpark figure would surface but nothing! Ms. Berschauer

asked about accounting expenditures on a far from finished Stag Hollow Bridge. These are reasonable questions & not out of line at all! Nobody wants to provide any answers so I think that an independent external audit would be great. I think the tax payers of Yamhill county deserve that. Even though it may be an expense, it will most likely cover it's costs from all the "unknowns" about this YWT and bridge. Besides construction materials have sky rocketed so who knows you may actually make money from the dismantlement.

I am not surprised that ODOT does not want to attend a meeting in person. The last time, they sent someone who "drew the short straw" and actually provided very little answers as he was not the "one in charge". Those questions have yet to be answered then and what about now?! What exactly is going on?

And for the record if any of the pro-YWT folks are reading this. Commissioners Berschauer & Starrett did NOT stop this trail. LUBA did with 4 remands and 2 bridge stays & ODOT & the county should follow land use laws as well. The application had to be withdrawn because this trail and bridge are simply not permitted. The county applicant (Mr. Sadlo) could not provide a conditional use permit (CUP) in a EFU zone. This is a land use issue period. Commissioners votes and public opinion have nothing to do with land use laws. If no CUP is obtained then grant funds have to be returned. This is what Ms. Starrett has been saying all along for the past 7 years! We as the opponents have been warning the county as well. This is the gamble this irresponsible county took and look at all the money wasted! This proposed YWT is not permitted nor can it be.

As far as the master plan is concerned coming up the the "magic answers" to solve farming issues, what answers? Alta planning did NOT perform a farm impacts analysis as that's not what they do. So there are no solutions to some of the farm practices problems and without that it doesn't really matter where the trail heads are going to be or how bright the lights will be or where the stop signs are or how tall the fence is. All that doesn't matter & is a waste of time & money. No CUP no trail.

I sincerely wish the spandex mafia bike riders & trail supporters would quit badgering the commissioners Berschauser and Starrett as they were forced to do the right thing and stop the bleeding on tax money spent on an illegal venture. Most of the letters seemed like they were "coached" with what to say with misinformation. Who is providing this misinformation? These 2 commissioners have nothing to do with this runaway trail and yet they are blamed but it is the county and staff who have created this illegal trail and wasted grant funding. Where is the accountability with the staff and Mr. Kulla and the former commissioners who created this mess with the cart before the horse and money spent before permits? Is there personal liability here? What developer would ever do this? It is insane and disgusting and a total shame that the NR press will not print a nickels worth of the truth. But, I believe that truth whether you agree or disagree with it, will manage to come to the light. I certainly hope so.

Mr. Huffer, your staff is suppose to be working on providing honest answers and help these current commissioners with making legal and just decisions with respect to tax payers dollars, yet it seems that they are not helpful at all. So, I ask again, what is going on that we don't know? Because, 2 commissioners seem very frustrated with regards to this trail as well as myself and numerous concerned citizens of Yamhill County. As a property owner of a family farm alongside this proposed trail, we will never, never stop fighting this injustice as the law is on our side.

Best regards,

Celine M. McCarthy
Yamhill, OR 97148

Carolina Rook

From: Mary Dressel <morpheus11275@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 6:14 AM
To: BOC Info
Subject: Re: Yamhelas Westsider trail April!

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Dear Board of Commissioners,
Our family learned that the trail would be on today's agenda. Please do everything in your power to support efforts to complete this trail.

Sincerely,
Matt & Mary Dressel
1317 SW Rose Drive
McMinnville, OR 97128

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 30, 2021, at 12:10 AM, Mary Dressel <morpheus11275@yahoo.com> wrote:

Dear Board of Commissions,
We would like to enthusiastically state our families support of the Yamhelas Westside Trail.

Please reconsider and support families in fun, safe activities! Please see one of our original requests below.

Sincerely,
Matt and Mary Dressel
1317 SW Rose Dr
McMinnville, Oregon 97128

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary Dressel <morpheus11275@yahoo.com>
Date: February 5, 2021 at 10:16:34 AM PST
To: starrettm@co.yamhill.or.us
Subject: Yamhelas Westsider trail

Dear Commissioner Berschauer and Commissioner Starrett,
Our family is very disappointed by your votes against the Yamhelas Westsider trail. Our children are 5th generation residents of the City of McMinnville. A trail like the one proposed, has been our families lifelong dream and we looked forward to a safe place to bike with our children.

Also, if you accepted any monies that have gone to oppose this trail, return it or recuse yourself. McMinnville should not be bought.

We want more safe and healthy areas for families to be outside together. We want a healthy and thriving McMinnville.

Sincerely,
Matt and Mary Dressel

https://newsregister.com/article?page=/article&articleTitle=county-commissioners-officially-end-pursuit-of-yamhelas-westsider-trail--1612481273--39272--breaking-news&fbclid=IwAR1aWkzyOdqnf_gUFW8tJ5qugiBHYDglprji8xq32GjOeyfCwRL7xHddpdQ

Sent from my iPhone

From: Anne Falla <yeowfornow@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 8:31 AM
To: BOC Info
Subject: Westsider Trail

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

I have no clue where to start (that hasn't already been said).

Lindsay is corrupt. She is bought and sold by her farmers and she should admit that as an elected non-partisan official and step down.

Her decisions to pull us out of the master plan process will cost us millions and the bills are piling up. We NEED to complete the master plan and start back up on the trail.

There is no need to waste additional time and money talking about our county officials being corrupt because they aren't. It's just Lindsay distracting us from her own poor choices, primature choices, and costing us millions. I don't see any need for an audit.

I do see a need for Lindsay to come clean and to step down.

Thank you for your time,

Anne Falla
McMinnville Resident

From: Jenny Wilson <bullmastiffg@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:16 AM
To: BOC Info; nmontesano@newsregister.com
Subject: Male the trail a priority

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Please make the trail a priority for the citizens of this county. It's really your own agenda and your sponsorship money that is wasting the county's time going back and forth when all we're going to have to do is pay back the grants. With there already being a pandemic and our county going into high risk again, children and adults alike need a safe place to ride their bikes and exercise.

I reside in Carlton and there's nowhere to ride a bike or go walking and they're pretty much are no sidewalks and most of the city except the newer developments. With all the log trucks and highway traffic and little to no crosswalks except on main Street it would be really nice to have access to a trail for safe walking and riding. Thank you for your time I hope the voices of the citizens of this county will be heard.

Jenny wilson
Carlton

Jenny L. Wilson

From: Jenny Wilson <bullmastiffg@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:18 AM
To: BOC Info; nmontesano@newsregister.com
Subject: Make***

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Make the trail should be the title.

Jenny L. Wilson

From: Kristen Gabrielsen <krigabrielsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:16 AM
To: BOC Info
Subject: Move ahead with master plan for trail!

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Dear Yamhill County Commissioners,

I strongly urge you to move forward with developing the master plan for the Yamhelas trail. How will we know if we can overcome the challenges and concerns if we don't complete the process?

The appearance that Commissioner Berschauer is sharing regarding her stance on the trail is that she was completely bought by those who funded her campaign. Is that true? I'm not sure. But she would have the opportunity to prove me wrong if she voted "yes" on moving forward with the master plan.

Kris Gabrielsen
470 NW Dyreka Ct
McMinnville OR 97128