

MID-COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Tuesday, February 28, 2012 1:00 p.m.
1113 Kelly Avenue, The Dalles, OR 97058

02/28/12

2011 Board of Directors:

Gilliam County: *Pat Shaw, Jeff Bufton, Mike Weimer.
Hood River County: *Maui Meyer, Les Perkins, Lance Masters.
Sherman County: *Cliff Jett, Steve Burnet, Michael Smith.
Wasco County: *Sherry Holliday, Brian Ahier, Rod Runyon.
Wheeler County: *Jeanne Burch, Jack Lorts, Patrick "Chris" Perry.
(*denotes Executive Committee Members)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair, Cliff Jett, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. Roll call of Board members and introductions of guests. A quorum was present. (Brian Ahier joined the meeting at approximately 2 p.m.)

PRESENT: Cliff Jett, Maui Meyer, Pat Shaw, Michael Smith, Steve Burnet, Mike Weimer, Rod Runyon, and Sherry Holliday.

ABSENT: Chris Perry and Jeff Bufton.

EXCUSED: Les Perkins, Jack Lorts, and Jeanne Burch.

STAFF: John Arens (Executive Director), Sarah Brumbaugh (Finance Director), Bill Fashing, (Community Development Director), Bill Larson (AAA Director), Marti Kantola (CMS Director) and Tine Meriwether (Executive Assistant).

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pat Shaw moved, seconded by Michael Smith, to approve the November 22, 2011 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

III. OPEN AGENDA

There was nothing new added to the agenda.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Election of 2012 Board of Officers

Shaw moved to nominate Michael Smith to serve as Chair. Sherry Holliday seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Holliday moved to nominate Mike Weimer to serve as Vice-Chair. Steve Burnet seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Shaw moved to nominate Rod Runyon to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. Mike Weimer seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Election of 2012 Executive Committee

Shaw moved to nominate Maui Meyer and Jeanne Burch to serve as members of the Executive Committee, representing Hood River and Wheeler counties respectively. Holliday seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

At this time, Chair Cliff Jett turns the meeting over to Michael Smith, 2012 Chair.

C. Approval of Budget Committee Calendar

Sarah Brumbaugh, Fiscal Director, reports several calendar dates need to be amended as follows: #1, change to February 28, 2012; #5, change to March 19, 2012; #6, change to March 27, 2012.

Maui Meyer moved to accept Budget Calendar with the changes. Steve Burnet seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Appoint Budget Officer

Burnet moved, seconded by Holliday, to appoint Sarah Brumbaugh as the Budget Officer. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Appoint Budget Committee Members

Brumbaugh stated she needs a lay member from Hood River County as Barbara Briggs will not be able to serve. Briggs' position will be left vacant at this time and Maui Meyer will serve as the Hood River County lay member. Rod Runyon assumes the position as Secretary/Treasurer, Michael Smith as Chair, Mike Weimer as Vice Chair.

Cliff Jett moved, seconded by Weimer, to approve the list of Budget Committee members as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Appointment of Elise Cain and Sherian Asher to serve on the Senior Advisory Committee.

Holliday moved, seconded by Shaw, to appoint Cain and Asher to the SAC. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Consideration of Amending the AAA Meal Site Policies.

Runyon suggested an amendment to #6, d) by inserting the words "budgets of" to the last sentence. The revised sentence would read: *If funds are available prior to the budget cycle without affecting the budgets of existing sites, the site would be eligible for those funds.*

William Larson, AAA Director, outlined the proposed changes to the policies.

Meyer moved, seconded by Weimer, to accept the proposed changes as presented.

A discussion ensued regarding further amendments to the policy document.

No. 2 of the policy was discussed. The consensus of the Board was that No. 2 should clearly state that the funding formula can be changed by the MCCOG Board based on current funding levels. It should *not* be written so that it restricts the Board's ability to change the funding formula based on current funding levels. For example, if a 10% reduction in funding occurs, all meal sites would be reduced accordingly.

The Board and staff discussed the desire of adding additional meal sites. However, the priority should be to have at least one meal site in each County.

Staff suggested the following language replace #2:

*'The AAA Meal Site Policies will recognize the current **funding** formula established by MCCOG. The meal site funding formula shall reflect equity throughout the region. Meal sites that request to be added as AAA sites will adhere to the policies in place at the time of petition.'*

Shaw moved, seconded by Runyon, to accept the changes as discussed to Policy #2 and #6,d. The motion carried unanimously.

The question was called and the motion on the floor accepting the proposed changes, passed unanimously.

H. Consideration of Amending the AAA Bylaws.

The Bylaws are proposed to be amended for housekeeping purposes in order to update Section F. with regards to Conflicts of Interest as provided by state law and Section V. inserting current non-discrimination state and federal language. All else in the document remains the same.

Weimer moved, seconded by Jett, to accept the AAA Bylaws as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Consideration of Bylaws for Mediation Advisory Council.

Marti Kantola, CMS Director, addressed the Board. She explained the need for an Advisory Council as required by mediation grantors who oversee her program. Kantola stated she needs advise on specialty cases such as foreclosures and farm mediations, for example. She asked if Board members had suggestions of individuals who might be interested in serving to let her know. She needs representation from all five counties served.

Following discussion, Meyer moved, seconded by Jett, to accept the Bylaws as presented.

A discussion followed regarding the size of the membership. A minimum of seven members was proposed. Section C. was reviewed and it was the consensus of the Board to remove items 1 through 9 of that section as Section B outlined membership requirements.

Meyer moved, seconded by Shaw, to amend his previous motion by incorporating the changes as discussed. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposals for membership are to come back to the Board for final approval.

J. Resolution No. 11-07 Assets Surplus – Computers.

Meyer moved, seconded by Jett, to approve Resolution No. 11-07 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

V. REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS

A. Wendy Buck, PGE – Cascade Crossing Update.

Ms. Buck was not present to deliver the update due to weather conditions. This item will be postponed to the March meeting.

B. Bill Fashing, Community Development Director.

Bill Fashing updated the Board on the Columbia Gorge Consortium. He stated it was decided to remove "sustainability" from the name of the group. A process to begin including members of the various boards

was discussed at the last Consortium meeting. It needs to have additional involvement other than at the staff level in order to move forward. At recent meetings, the group has also discussed what they want the Consortium to be; putting initial goals and objectives on paper such as facilitating a "think tank" to develop new ideas and comprehensive approaches, increased focus in the Gorge through more proactive roles for our individual organizations, encouraging and supporting each other in being more efficient and effective in our roles, provide forums for larger scale discussions on issues affecting the region such as transportation and housing.

The Board and Fashing discussed how the Consortium should move forward. The Board suggested that each Consortium staff member provide periodic reports to their respective organizations in order to keep their policy makers informed and gain support for issues identified by the Consortium. Fashing stated he would take that message back to the Consortium.

C. Executive Director's Report.

John Arens, Executive Director, gave thanks to Michael Smith and Brian Ahier for their assistance in evaluating our IT needs and planning for future needs. They assisted MCCOG in getting a better consultant to work with. Arens gave an overview of where we are with our software and long-term goals for our computer technology. The E-Permitting program for Building Codes will eliminate the need for the extra servers currently in use. Transportation will eventually have a new system that will allow GPS tracking of buses and give drivers dispatch/route information. MCCOG will have the ability to host the CAT transportation system in Hood River.

Arens reported that Building Codes will be moving in our building by mid-June to help off-set overhead costs for AAA and WIA. The vacant secretarial pool area will be remodeled to house them. Also related to Building Codes, the E-Permitting program will be coming on-line within the next six months to replace the current Eden software. Also, three new trucks will replace the old ones with high mileage.

Arens thanked Fashing for doing an "exemplary job" for MCCOG in grant writing. Brian Ahier addressed the Board regarding a health care grant that has made it to round two. It is for \$6 mil with a portion dedicated to MCCOG for the AAA program serving the elderly for in-home visits, coordinating home health care, training programs in partnership with the community college, healthcare agencies, both hospitals, etc. A portion will also provide assistance with transportation.

In other grant news, MCCOG was awarded a grant from Google to provide 50 new computers to replace old, outdated ones. Transportation has submitted a Flex-Grant through the Department of Transportation (ODOT) in the amount of approximately \$825K (\$100K match). A portion of the dollars can be used in land acquisition for a new Transportation Center. We have received preliminary award approval subject to final approval from ODOT by next month. Arens anticipates that we will need to have an Executive Session regarding this grant and how to proceed, at the March BOD meeting.

A Connect IV grant in the amount of \$2.5Mil is pending. If this grant is awarded it can be combined with the Flex Grant for Transportation facility funding.

The Workforce Innovation Grant through the Department of Labor is due March 22nd to be submitted by The Oregon Consortium on our behalf. That proposal is for \$5.6 Mil over a three-year period. This will give MCCOG the ability to start on the Applied Training Center. Related to that, District 21 has been approved for a \$100K grant through ODOT to start a training program for high school students to enter into ODOT career jobs.

In closing, Arens stated a first rough draft of the AAA budget indicates it is in line with all other AAA budget's within the state. The percentage allocated to Administration (Administration, Advocacy, Outreach and Planning as defined by the State) is at 15%. Eighty-five percent of the budget is Direct Services; 90% of nutrition dollars go to Direct Services. Arens further discussed the AAA budget and efforts to educate the Senior Advisory Council about the document and helping to make it easier to understand.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – ORS 192.660 (2) (g)

Meyer moved, seconded by Jett, to enter into Executive Session as authorized under ORS 192.660 (2) (g) to discuss financial considerations with regards to Wind Farms. Tom Svendsen, Interim CREA Director, was introduced. He gave a brief history of his background and then discussed financial matters.

Following discussion, the Board came out of Executive Session. No action was taken.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

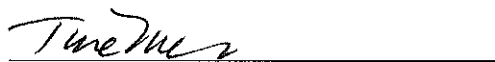
There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

ATTEST:



Michael Smith, Chairperson

Respectfully Submitted by:



Tine Meriwether, Executive Assistant