

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 7, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

The Board convened in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Commissioners Mielke, Stuart, and Boldt, Chair, present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Mielke referred to agenda item #7 (request to increase signature authority to \$300,000 for the General Services Director for projects using Small Works Roster). He said he hoped they would continue to receive notification about what has been done.

Glenn Olson, Deputy County Administrator, stated he would follow-up on that.

Commissioner Mielke wanted more information on item #9 (authorization for the Clark Housing Review Board to disband and authorize the Urban County Policy Board to participate in the HOME project selection process).

Pete Munroe, CDBG/HOME Program Manager, Department of Community Services, explained that the funding comes from HUD and the same amount of funds would continue to come into the community; however, they would be divided between the City of Vancouver and Clark County.

Commissioner Boldt asked staff for clarification on item 11 (request to ratify the County Administrator's signature on service contract K174 between Clark County Weed Management & Washington Department of Agriculture to terminate agreement).

Phil Burgess, Director, Weed Management, explained that it was a contract with WSDA to control shiny Geranium, which they didn't have funding for initially. However, WSDA did receive funding and Burgess said they will give the money back to WSDA and then reapply in this calendar year for a different project.

ACTION: There being no public comment, moved by Stuart to **APPROVE** Consent Agenda items 1 through 18. Commissioners Boldt, Stuart, and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Katie Brooks, Susan Hartman, and Sharif Burdzik, members of Leadership Clark County, talked about their team project, Changing Demographics in Clark County. They explained that it focuses on helping Russian and Spanish speaking individuals find essential information on public services, which is done with Russian and

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 7, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

Spanish language pamphlets and their web site, www.myclarkinfo.org, which they would like to link to Clark County's web site.

The board agreed that adding their link to the county's web site was a great idea.

2. Unidentified man commented that fireworks are disruptive for the people who have to work during the 4th of July holiday weekend. He suggested fireworks should be allowed only on the 4th.
3. Jim Carlock, Portland, provided information to the board pertaining to a lower cost version of the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project, doing only essential projects. He also suggested building a new bridge to handle southbound traffic and seismic-upgrade the current bridges to handle northbound traffic. He further explained.
4. Bridget Schwarz, Ridgefield, commented on big box retail stores and a sustainable business model. She provided statistics on Wal-Mart, including employee wages; split shifts; high turnover; wage/sex discrimination; healthcare, etc. Schwarz said they needed to be careful about big box developments and also be more proactive in working with local business versus national retailers, which don't have a sustainable business model.
5. Ron Soren, Portland, commented on the CRC. He said he didn't feel another bridge built along the I-5 corridor was a good idea. He read from an ODOT report. Instead, he recommended a bridge going into Washington County, Oregon.
6. Unidentified man commented on the E-Verify system, which is used in several jurisdictions, such as the City of Lakewood. He wanted to know why illegal immigrants are allowed to take jobs away from American citizens. He explained what Whatcomb County does, which is to require contractors/subcontractors to use the E-Verify system.

Commissioner Boldt responded that they are looking into that.

7. Sharon Nassit stated that other boards, such as RTC, C-Tran, and the Bi-State Coordination Committee, should air their meetings on CVTV. Also, CVTV's \$25 charge for copies of DVD's is too high. Lastly, Ms. Nassit said the Washington Transportation Commission has always had an archive of their hearings available on their web site, but it is no longer there.

Commissioner Stuart noted that CVTV would be televising the next CRC Project Sponsors Council meeting and would do so thereafter.

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JULY 7, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

8. Unidentified woman thanked the board for scheduling a work session in August regarding home rule charter.
9. Jim Carlock, Portland, referenced his previous comments about his proposal to have a \$1/2 billion dollar bridge versus a \$4 billion bridge. He clarified that it was independent of the third bridge downstream and, in fact, he thought both were needed. Mr. Carlock also commented on Wal-Mart, which charges \$4 for a month's supply of medications instead of the \$10 charged by other pharmacies. He said they are cheaper in general, which helps a person's dollar go further.


COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

- Commissioner Stuart commented that an upcoming event at the amphitheater, July 10, was sold out and people should be aware of traffic and consider other options on how to get to/from the concert.
- Commissioner Mielke commented on the new 219th Street interchange and said it was handling about 80% of the traffic that normally got off on 179th Street. He said he was anxious to see how it was going to work.
- Commissioner Boldt thanked the Parks Department for their work over the 4th of July holiday in getting things cleaned up.

Hearing adjourned

MINUTES
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JULY 7, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Marc Boldt, Chair



Steve Stuart, Commissioner

Tom Mielke, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board

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Please Note: The Board of Commissioners' minutes are action minutes. Digital recordings can be provided upon request. In addition, the Commissioners' hearings are broadcast live on CVTV, cable channels 21 and 23, and are also videotaped and repeated several times (www.cvtv.org)