

**CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2010**

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

9:45 A.M.

PRESENTATION: FEMA PLAQUE FOR IMPROVED FLOOD RATING

Jeff Woodward, Representative from FEMA, recognized Clark County for their exceptional work in managing flood risk in their community. He explained the FEMA program and their goals. He pointed out Clark County's accomplishments. Commissioner Stuart received the plaque and thanked Mr. Woodward and the county staff for their work in being able to save the taxpayers \$76,000 in flood insurance.

PROCLAMATION: DRUG COURT MONTH

Commissioner Stuart read the proclamation for Drug Court Month. Ed Hamilton, a graduate of drug court, acknowledged the court staff for their tremendous amount of work and said he was happy and free due to their work.

Davis Hess said the program is changing his life and is grateful. He hoped the City of Vancouver will continue funding the program.

10:00 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) Gary Brewer, Realtor, asked the Board to remove the Traffic Impact Fees on commercial and industrial projects until the unemployment in this county is back under 10%. He said more jobs are needed in Clark County, and he asked if there was anything in the works. Commissioner Stuart said the board is looking at some sort of fee holiday within targeted areas for targeted types of businesses. Commissioner Mielke said the board is continuing to review and hasn't forgotten the people.
- 2) Larry Patella spoke on e-verify, home rule and light rail.
 - a. E-verify: wanted some action and wanted the dollar amount of "0"; Commissioner Mielke said Clark County is one of the lead counties on this, and the Board has been discussing it. Bill Barron said the county implemented e-verify in both personnel and purchasing (in contracts over a million dollars) and is doing an assessment.
 - b. Home Rule: Citizens should have the right to put forth an initiative petition that is binding and could be put on a ballot.

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Commissioner Stuart said the board is discussing it and had a work session. He said one avenue, if the referendum and initiative is the issue, is to go to the legislature and petition the legislature to give authority to do referendum and initiative. The other avenue is having the Home Rule Charter process.

Commissioner Stuart said all three board members are supportive of referendum and initiative for the people. The question is how do we get it.

c. Light rail: Nowhere in the United States has these transit systems worked, costing taxpayers millions. Mr. Patella felt the only way mass transit would work is to run it only during the rush hours and unions wouldn't allow that. Vancouver and Clark County are not ready for light rail. Commissioner Stuart said this board has said light rail must go to a vote of the people. Stuart said there has been confusion on a couple of things -- C-TRAN and the 2012 date. Discussion followed.

- 3) Debbie Petersen thanked the board for supporting the drug program. She thanked the board for having public comment at the beginning of their meetings. She would like Home Rule on the ballot in November and asked for an email explaining where we are in the process and what the next two steps are in the timeframe. Thanked the board on e-verify and thought contracts should start at "0". She asked for an email on a timeline when that is anticipated or not occurring, and if not occurring, she requested the rationale. She commented on the C-TRAN plan and asked if the tax request was going to the voters this November. Commissioner Stuart said the C-TRAN board agreed to go in 2011 to the voters at least on the service preservation for C-TRAN plus the system itself. As far as when light rail/bus rapid transit would go to the ballot that piece is yet to be decided. Ms. Petersen asked if the revenue offset the \$5 million per month expense and has anyone penciled that out. Commissioner Stuart said he would ask at the meeting tonight. She had questions about the vote concerning RCW's and sales tax increases. Discussion followed. Commissioner Stuart referred her to C-TRAN's website, C—TRAN.org. She was concerned that C-TRAN would be looking like Tri-Met (who is looking at bankruptcy) with money being spent on CRC with little impact and no consensus on the project. Commissioner Stuart said an email would be sent to her regarding Home Rule and e-verify.
- 4) Chuck Miller, Washington Citizen's for Responsible Government, spoke in regards to support of home rule charter. He spoke about crime and costs associated with light rail. He also encouraged e-verify be used by everyone and be associated with a RCW / ordinance. He stated he would like an email to his organization on the Board's plans on E-Verify. He also commented about enforcement with the county jail and illegal immigrants who might be using county services.
- 5) Jack Davis & Jim Kenney spoke about the cost and their concerns associated with Hazel Dell sports complex. Mr. Kenney commented about bringing the issue to the voters. Mr. Kenney commented about the smell of chicken manure at Mr. Davis' property. Commissioner Stuart responded and stated Commissioner Boldt will respond to him when he returns. Mr. Davis commented about unemployment in Clark County. Mr. Davis commented about the EPA Report and public use of the property.

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- 6) Gary Schaeffer, Orchards discussed implementation of smart growth principles.
- 7) Brian Peck, candidate for State representative for 17th Legislative District commented his opposition to light rail and discussed a hidden vote in an upcoming C-Tran sales tax vote and stated he thinks if people are voting on light rail it needs to have the specific light rail language. Stuart stated the Board agreed with him on the language.
- 8) Sharon Nasset, Portland, Oregon commended the Board's participation in public comment process. She also discussed light rail and asked for clarification if light rail was a requirement of the federal government for this bridge. Stuart confirmed it was not a federal requirement for light rail to be involved in this project. Further discussions ensued about parties interested in light rail.

CONSENT AGENDA Items 1 - 6

ACTION: There being no public comment, moved by Commissioner Mielke to **APPROVE** consent agenda items 1 through 6. Commissioners Stuart and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: RURAL LANDSCAPING

Item Description: Consideration of an ordinance related to the Rural Landscaping Standards between residential and resource lands; temporarily suspending parts of Table CCC 40.320.010-1.

Department: Community Development

Staff Contact: Marty Snell

Legal Council: Christopher Horne

Staff Summary:

Snell presented the staff report and email from Perkins Coie regarding comments on behalf of the Columbia River Alliance for Nurturing the Environment (CRANE). Horne explained the process further.

Discussion:

Stuart commented he looks forward to the public process.

Mielke commented about the buffer.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner Mielke to approve Ordinance 2010-05-06 to extend the emergency ordinance up to six months in order to fulfill public participation process. Commissioners Stuart and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: TEMPORARY USES

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Item Description: Consideration of an ordinance related to the one-year limitation on Temporary uses; temporarily extending that period by one by amending CCC 40.260.220.

Department: Community Development

Staff Contact: Marty Snell

Legal Council: Christopher Horne

Staff Summary:

Snell presented the staff report.

Discussion:

Mielke commented his satisfaction with this item being in front of the Board.

ACTION: Moved by Commissioner Mielke to approve Ordinance 2010-05-07 to temporarily extend the suspension of temporary uses to extend the timeline by a year. Commissioners Stuart and Mielke voted aye. Motion carried.

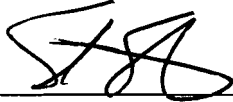
COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

- Commissioner Mielke commented it was good to hear from the people and their concerns.
- Commissioner Stuart reminded everyone of the Hazel Dell Parade on Saturday and that he would be attendance.
- Commissioner Mielke also reminded everyone about Dozer Days this weekend and commented about the wonderful weather they were expecting.
- Bill Barron commented about Commissioner Boldt's ongoing support for Dozer Day and that Commissioner Boldt would be there too.

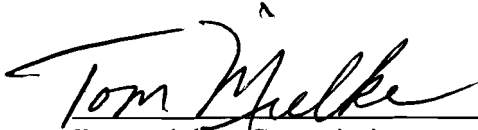
Hearing adjourned

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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Steve Stuart, Chair



Tom Mielke, Commissioner

Marc Boldt, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Jenni Richards
Clerk of the Board

lr / jc

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