



proud past, promising future

**RAILROAD ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017**

**4:00 PM -5:30 PM**

**1300 FRANKLIN STREET PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER**

**6<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR - BOCC CONFERENCE ROOM**

<b>Members Present:</b>	Dan Weaver, John Shaffer, Patrick Sweeney, Lloyd Lycan, Dave Nelson, Dick Clairmont, Eric Fuller, Jeff Swanson, Neil Chambers, John Shaffer,	
<b>Excused Members:</b>		
<b>Absent Members:</b>	Elizabeth Scott, Tom Smith, Kent Cash, Jack Melton	
<b>Ex-Officio:</b>	Eric Temple	
<b>Public:</b>	Doug Auburg (BYCX), Randy Williams (BYCX), Amber Carter (by phone), Wayne Harner (POV), Michael O'Connell (Property Owner)	
<b>Staff:</b>	Jerry Barnett, Mark McCauley	
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>	
<b>Meeting called to order @ 4:00pm</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>	
<b>Roll Call/Introductions</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>	
<b>Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moved for approval, seconded, unanimously approved.</li> </ul>	
<b>PVJR Activities</b>	<b>Amber Carter</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update from Eric Fuller, he will attend next meeting.</li> </ul>	
<b>Legislative Update</b>	<b>Amber Carter</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senate bill 5517 (defines freight rail dependent uses in the Growth Management Act throughout code including the rule character definition, which would also be defined as freight rail access) passed, waiting for hearing in House Environment Committee.</li> <li>House bill 1504 (defines freight rail access as an urban service with the intent of allowing parcels adjacent to the railroad to be touched by an urban service and be exempt from the D designation process) passed the House with a strong vote but with substantial changes, will need amendments in the Senate.</li> <li>Bill sponsors Representative Liz Pike (1504) and Senator Lynda Wilson (5517) are competing for attention to have their bills advance. Both have worked hard on the issues.</li> <li>Senate bill applies statewide; House bill was narrowed to three counties; Clark, Spokane and Yakima.</li> <li>Western Washington Growth Management Hearing Board - 3/23/17 is the deadline for a decision to be issued from the hearing board.</li> <li>Other complimentary Bills moving through the process: Senator Short introduced Senate Bill 5790 defines economic development as an appropriate element within the growth management act for purposes of rural character definition.</li> <li>Three budgets being released in upcoming week: Operation, Transportation and Capital. Transportation budget's initial request was 7 million which included two million estimated for the bridge and five million for steel replacement on the first 2 miles of track. With the exception of Monica Stonier, all SW Washington members sponsored a letter to both the House and Senate Transportation Committees requesting an increase in that amount. Rep. Pike sent a subsequent letter acknowledging the need for the higher dollar amount for the bridge (\$2.5 million) and culvert replacement.</li> </ul>	

<b>BYCX Activities</b>	<b>Randy Williams/Doug Auburg</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening Saturday of Mother's Day weekend; did first run on tracks from Yacolt to Chalatchie Friday. Quite a few trees down, 3.5 hours to go 5 miles. Cut down lots of brush. Work crew scheduled for Thursday to help. Got containers moved, fences are up, schedule will be on website soon.</li> <li>Received preliminary engineering. Almost ready to put out bids for building/plumbing/electrical. Rep. Pike has stated funding will transfer to next biennium.</li> </ul>	
<b>County Activities</b>	<b>Jerry Barnett</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tunnel Scaling – The board approved \$72,000 for scaling. Aware of 5/10/17 deadline, pushing for that to happen. Concerned about the unknown, if there is enough money.</li> <li>Bridge 12 currently being surveyed, about to make first billing to WSDOT on the grant, moving forward on schedule, geotech should be out immediately after survey. Schedule hasn't changed, 6/30/17 for 60% and permit submittals.</li> <li>SR503 bus lane going fine, working out an agreement for painting between the county and WSDOT</li> <li>Emergency Notification System signs installed last week. Came in significantly under budget, hope to use those funds for private crossings. Comes from road fund, needing to investigate if that would be a legitimate use of road funds.</li> <li>Anderson Plastics - Trying to come up with an alignment of the gate and entry for Caples Road. PVJR and County need to come up with a vehicle to make sure they have access in perpetuity.</li> <li>Waiting on roster for website, all up to date, but might need changes. Will be working with Marty Snell on updating economic development. Website is on the county site.</li> </ul>	
<b>Port of Vancouver</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
<b>Subcommittee Reports</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
<b>Unfinished Business</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment offered that the only people with authorization to do anything with the railroad is the County and Eric Temple. Anything communicated needs to be cleared with one of those sources.</li> <li>RRAB candidates – Michael O'Connell was asked to leave the room for this discussion. There were three individuals recommended from the seven candidates. Shaffer gave a summary of the top three candidates: James Pearson, John Hanson and Richard Green. He recommended for future recruiting postings they give more information about what the advisory board does. The candidates were nominated to be approved by Swanson, seconded by Chambers and approved unanimously for a three year term.</li> </ul>	
<b>New Business</b>	<b>Dan Weaver</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	
<b>Good of the Order</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mark McCauley joined the meeting. Council approved two things; removing loose rock for North County tunnel and a \$199,000 contract to get to 60% design on bridge 12.</li> <li>Letter of support for Grace Avenue, then will pursue the Railroad school.</li> <li>Swanson asked for the Board's support of a drafted letter to the US Economic Development Administration regarding Battle Ground's grant request for the reconstruction of SE Grace Avenue. The motion to sign was passed unanimously with Swanson recusing himself.</li> </ul>	

<b>Round Table</b>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>ADJOURNMENT @ 4:42 pm</b>	