

BOARD OF SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Meeting for Week of June 2, 2009

The Board met at 8:48 a.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at the Commissioner's Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners James D. Richardson, Chair, Jamie Tolfree and Paul Pearce present for a staff meeting. Discussion included scheduling and contracts, with no action taken.

The Board met in executive session regarding personnel from 8:54 a.m. until 9:39 a.m., with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 9:39 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009 at the Commissioner's Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners James D. Richardson, Chair, Jamie Tolfree and Paul Pearce present, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Pearce moved, seconded by Commissioner Tolfree and motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

1. Minutes for week of May 26, 2009.
2. Memorandum of Understanding with Washington State Traffic Commission to pay overtime for Skamania County Drug Recognition Expert when no WSP unit is available
3. Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding and Membership Agreement with Washington State Association of Counties Retrospective Rating Program
4. Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign the application for Grant No. D09-340 for the WA-DR-1825 Disaster (Snow and Ice Declaration)
5. Wind River Business Park lease with James Dean Construction to lease Building #2025 at the Wind River Business Park
6. Wind River Business Park lease with Randy Nieto of Randy's Painting to lease Building #2629 at the Wind River Business Park.
7. Authorization to Purchase, Upgrade AOC vehicles for the Sheriff's Office as well as DEM.

Commissioner Pearce moved, seconded by Commissioner Tolfree and motion carried unanimously to approve a request from Stevenson-Carson School District Superintendent Bill Hundley to continue pool maintenance through June 2010.

Commissioner Pearce moved, seconded by Commissioner Tolfree and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge receipt of a letter from the City of Stevenson to Skamania Lodge denying a permit, pending approval from the County, to construct a decorative fire pit, and a letter from Skamania County Facilities & Recreation Director to Skamania Lodge approving construction the decorative fire pit.

The meeting recessed at 9:53 a.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009 and reconvened at 10:00 a.m. the same date, with Commissioners Richardson, Tolfree and Pearce present.

Department Heads presented the following reports, followed by discussion regarding the small works roster limit increase, with no action taken.

- Terry Blaisdell, Central Services Director reported on various projects.
- Karen Witherspoon, Community Development Director reported on WRIA 29A, credit card reader, and environmental health.
- Kirby Richards, Community Health Director reported on chemical dependency, mental health, developmental disabilities, and public health.
- Scott Pineo, Facilities and Recreation Director reported on various projects and programs.

- Larry Douglass, Public Works Director reported on slides, State Route 14 Pedestrian Tunnels, and Engineering and County Road projects.
- Marilyn Butler, Senior Services Director/Risk Manager reported on grants, case manager position, monitoring of services, transit system, and risk management.

The meeting recessed at 10:17 a.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009 and reconvened at 10:39 a.m. the same date, with Commissioners Richardson, Tolfree and Pearce present.

The Board participated in a workshop with the Department of Corrections regarding offender re-entry program. Commissioner Pearce moved, seconded by Commissioner Tolfree and motion carried unanimously to authorize the Chair to pay week by week for housing a Department of Corrections supervised client, with a report at the end of the month.

The Board participated in a workshop with Community Development to discuss WRIA 29A, long range project list, and a mapping correction, with no action taken.

The Board participated in a workshop with Community Health to discuss chemical dependency, budget issues, contracts, and Head Start, with no action taken.

The Board participated in a workshop with Facilities & Recreation to discuss geotechnical engineering services and special testing for Rock Creek Community Services Center, Wind River Business Park property management, Home Valley Park landscaping, change order authority, and paint for the Courthouse parking lot and landscape contract, with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009 and reconvened at 1:05 p.m. the same date, with Commissioners Richardson and Tolfree present.

Nancy Ryke, Mt Adams District Ranger and Tom Mulder, Mount St Helens Monument District Ranger gave updates on Forest Service activities. Discussion included timber sales, personnel, Mount St. Helens 29th Anniversary, Pine Creek opening, roads, Hemlock Dam removal, firewood cutting permits, camp ground opening, Resource Advisory Committee, budget, travel map, special forest products, joint fire dispatch center for the Gorge, and biomass, with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 1:47 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009 and reconvened at 2:34 p.m. the same date, with Commissioners Richardson and Tolfree present.

A public hearing was held to receive public comments on proposed 2009 Title III Projects being considered for funding by the Board of Commissioners. Tom Linde advised of his support for the Firewise Project and Forest Youth Success Project. Commissioner Tolfree moved, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and motion carried to acknowledge receipt of a letter from John Hardham, Commissioner for Skamania County Fire District No. 3 in support of the Firewise Project. The hearing was closed to public comment, with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 2:44 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2009 and reconvened at 9:38 a.m. Thursday, June 4, 2009, with Commissioners Richardson, Tolfree and Pearce present.

Commissioner Pearce moved, seconded by Commissioner Tolfree and motion carried unanimously to approve vouchers for the period ending June 3, 2009 in the total amount of \$202,780.75.

Following discussion of proposed 2009 Title III Projects, Commissioner Tolfree moved, seconded by Commissioner Pearce and motion carried unanimously to approve all 2009 Title III Projects submitted, with the exception of a project from Underwood Conservation District for Firewise Education, Outreach and Fuels Reduction that would be discussed at a later date.

Skamania County Inmate Work Crew, sponsored by Skamania County Sheriff. To reimburse Skamania County Sheriff Department for the supervision of in-custody low risk inmates who perform a variety of projects to maintain recreational areas in and around Skamania County. Total project cost \$103,669.88.

Skamania County Sheriff's Emergency Services, sponsored by Skamania County Sheriff. To enhance and improve the level of search and rescue services in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and Columbia River Gorge NSA, as well as reduce and improve response times to all types of emergency calls. The funds requested are to maintain 1 FTE Road Deputy position, ½ FTE Road Deputy wage and ¼ FTE Road Deputy and overtime. Capital costs requested are for MDC & Communications upgrade and to provide office space at Pine Creek. Total project cost \$235,274.63.

North Country EMS St. Helen's Project, sponsored by North Country Emergency Medical Services. To continue to provide emergency medical services to visitors, recreationists, residents, and employees of the northwest area of Skamania County including Mt. St. Helen's National Volcanic Monument located in Skamania County. This project requests funding for personnel to staff an ambulance and rescue vehicle for the months of June, July, and August. Also respond from Yacolt station in other months. Total project cost \$80,000.

Forest Youth Success, sponsored by Stevenson-Carson School District 303 and WSU Cooperative Extension 4-H. To continue to provide summer employment for high school age youth to conduct projects on the national forest, to teach forest ecology and management, a sense of stewardship of public lands, and enhance and develop life skills. The program request for 2009 includes continued funding for a program director, assistant coordinator, eight crew leaders, the employment of up to 48 youth, and operating supplies and services. Total project cost \$132,807.00.

Skamania County Firewise Planning for Woodland Dwellers, sponsored by WSU Cooperative Extension. Project plan is to continue wildfire outreach and education, coordinate fuel reduction projects outlined in Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP), train community members to continue defensible space and fuel reduction projects, facilitate creation of a local coordinating group, meet with the steering committee of each CWPP group to complete five-year planning, and complete a Skamania County CWPP. The request includes salary and benefits for a full time wildfire coordinator plus funds for an AmeriCorps Intern. Total project cost \$84,375.00.

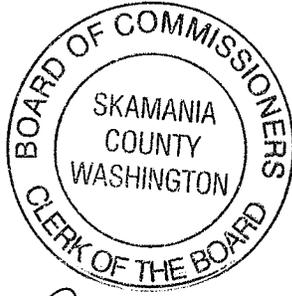
Public Private Partnership Cellular Phone Service Swift Subarea, sponsored by Skamania County Commissioners. The Swift Sub area and Mt. St. Helen's District have no phone service of any kind. Emergency response is severely hampered by this. The recreation transient population is very large. In the event of a fire the only alert system is by driving to the fire station and pressing a button which sends out a radio page. Cellular service in the area will save lives and property. US Cellular is preparing to install a tower in the area of Swift. With infusion of monies from the county this project can move back to 2009/2010 from 2013. Total project cost \$112,500.00.

Commissioner Pearce moved, seconded by Commissioner Tolfree and motion carried unanimously to acknowledge receipt of a letter from Joseph Birkenfeld regarding storage of Rock Creek excavation materials and forward a copy of the letter to the Prosecutor.

The Board met in executive session regarding personnel from 9:57 a.m. until 10:45 a.m., with no action taken.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m. Thursday, June 4, 2009.

ATTEST:



Pamela Johnson
Clerk of the Board

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Jan D. Richards
Commissioner

Jamie Tolpe
Commissioner

Commissioner

Aye 2
Nay _____
Abstain _____
Absent 1