



Clark County Railroad Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 11, 2023, 4:04pm to 4:49pm
Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin St., 6th Floor BOCC
Training Room and virtual via Microsoft Teams

Advisory Board-Present: Chad Eiken (Interim, City of Vancouver), Dan Weaver, Eric Fuller, Jim Malinowski, John Hansen, Kent Cash, Neil Chambers, Mark Herceg

Advisory Board-Not Present: Gregg Smith, Jim Pearson, John Shaffer, Lloyd Lycan, Mark Daniels, Zack Keith

Clark County Staff and Leadership: Denielle Cowley, Glen Yung, Kevin McDowell, Kevin Tyler

Battle Ground, Yacolt, Chelatchie Prairie Railroad (BYCX): Randy Williams, Doug Auburg, Nathaniel Boyd

Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad (PVJR): Nathan Bruce, Amber Carter

Guests: Dave Rowe, Jackie Lane, Kimberley O'Hara, Michael O'Connell, Nancy Halvorson, Steve Jagelski, Maggie Derk (City of Vancouver)

4:04pm Quorum present and meeting called to Order – Dan Weaver

4:09pm July 10, 2023, minutes adopted (Motion by Kent Cash, Second by Neil Chambers)

Comments from the Chair – None

Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad (PVJR) – Nathan Bruce

- No accidents, injuries, or incidents to report
- Traffic levels steady although nationally rail traffic is down
- KPFF concluded bridge inspections and should see report shortly

Battle Ground, Yacolt, Chelatchie Prairie Railroad (BYCX) – Randy Williams

- Took KPFF out to bridges
- Steam engine will be out until 2024
- On hold about maintenance building – meeting to talk about lease agreements tonight
- Basic maintenance work / minor track work / need to fix leaky roof on one car

County Activities – Denielle Cowley:

- GCB 3592 - \$2.7 million grant status (Bridge repair and then more roadbed rehab mostly in northern sections)
 - OTAK hired to help with repair plans for timber trestle bridges – should have 90% plans and cost estimate this month
 - Roadbed rehab – In combination with GCB 1249 (500k) RFP is complete and contract negotiation is commencing – unable to share contractor at this point but should be within next month or so

- Bridge Management Program – First round of inspections canceled due to hot weather – came back in late August and performed inspections on two urban bridges (I5 and HWY 99) – WSDOT covered/removed graffiti on I5 bridge – bridges 18, 20, 25 and the tunnel have been inspected – remainder will be done in Sept/Oct – Waiting for draft of bridge management plan and load ratings

Unfinished Business – Dan Weaver

- Railroad Advisory Board bylaws – Dan read draft, agrees with it and Kent will work with Kevin to get it finalized so it can be presented to the board, hopefully at the next meeting so they can vote on it
- Freight Rail Dependent Use (FRDU) Work Session application
 - Work session with county councilors went well, several recommendations made and they had several questions and comments from the board
 - Final analysis showed if properties were fully developed (1500 acres) the property taxes would be approximately 16 million annually

New Business – Dan Weaver

- Freight Rail Dependent Use next steps – Board discussed August 16, 2023 council time presentation by Community Planning and direction received by council as summarized in August 17 staff memo to the county manager.

Public Comment – Dan Weaver

- Chad Eiken introduced Maggie Derk with City of Vancouver

Good of the Order – Dan Weaver: None

4:49pm Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Chris Walker

Upcoming Meeting:

Date: October 9, 2023

Time: 4:00pm to 5:30pm

Location: Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin St., 6th Floor Training Room and virtual