



WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 20, 2011

PRESENT: Sherry Holliday, Chair of County Commission
Scott C. Hege, County Commissioner
Rod L. Runyon, County Commissioner
Tyler Stone, Administrative Officer
Kathy McBride, Executive Assistant

At 9:00 a.m. Chair Sherry Holliday called the Regular Session to order.

OPEN TO DEPARTMENTS

Mike Davidson, Emergency Manager, asked if any member of the Board of Commissioners had any questions regarding the Memorandum of Understandings listed on today's Consent Agenda.

The only question was from Commissioner Hege in regards to the individuals signing the Memorandum of Understanding for Hood River County.

Lane Magill, Chief Deputy Sheriff, discussed with the Board the grant that the Sheriff's Office is receiving from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for patrols on the Deschutes River. The Grant is in the amount of \$10,000.00 and must be spent by the fall of 2012. Staff will not be incurring overtime in performing the work under the grant program.

Some discussion occurred.

Commissioner Hege had a question in regards to how much the County receives for citations which are issued by the Sheriff's Office.

Magill stated that the County retains only 20 to 25 percent of the fines.

Christa Rude, Commission on Children and Families Administrator, was present in case any member of the Board of Commissioners had any questions in regards to two items on today's Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Hege requested that Rude go over what the Agreements are in regards to.

Rude stated that the State Agreement is the standard Agreement with the Oregon Commission on Children and Families. She noted what services the Agreement will fund during the next biennium.

Some discussion occurred in regards to the funding levels.

Rude noted that the Healthy Start funding represents only one year of funding, while the other programs listed represents two years of funding. Of the funding listed in the Agreement only 54% of the funding is available to the Department. Anything after that amount is anyone's guess.

Rude noted that the Drug Free Community Funding ends in September, 2011.

The second Agreement is with the Mid-Columbia Center for Living; said funding is targeted to alcohol, drug and tobacco (8070 funds). This is a biennium amount.

Molly Rogers, Youth Services Director, stated that the County is doing a lot of planning on the use of the 8070 funding.

In closing, Rude stated if they do their job well and they lose their funding they want to insure that there is sustainability for the programs that are funded and that the programs will continue to exist in the community. As to the 8070 funding, those dollars may be shifted to fund Debbie Jones' position as Prevention Coordinator when the Drug Free Community Funding goes away.

Further discussion occurred.

**CONSIDERATION of items listed on the Discussion List of July 20, 2011,
(Attached as Exhibit A).**

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Item #1

The Board was provided a copy of the comments from County Counsel Eric Nisley in regards to the Lease Agreement with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad on property that the Bonneville Power Administration is interested in acquiring an easement on for their Big Eddy-Knight Electrical Transmission Line Project, (Attached as Exhibit B).

Chair Holliday does not see a problem with BPA's request.

Commissioner Hege requested that Tyler Stone, Administrative Officer, be directed to handle the request from Bonneville Power Administration. He believes that BPA should be required to pay for the right-of-way.

Item #2

Kathy McBride, Executive Assistant, informed the Board that Mel Omeg has not responded back to her email requesting his comments on the proposed Work and Financial Plan for this year's Wildlife Services Agreement.

Item #3

Chair Holliday informed the Board that she attended a meeting of the Wamic Rural Fire Protection District and discussed their request for the County Surveyor to assist in doing a Property Line Adjustment Plat. She suggested that the cost of the Plat could be split amongst the Fire District and the Barlow Grange. The Barlow Grange is not willing to talk with them regarding sharing the cost of the required Plat.

Some discussion occurred.

*****It was the consensus of the Board of Commissioners that the County is unable at this time to grant the request from the Wamic Rural Fire Protection District for assistance from the County Surveyor in doing a Property Line Adjustment Plat. There are many non-profits in the County who could reasonably expect the same level of forgiveness and that would quickly become a problem***.**

Item #4

Chair Holliday will send out to the Board of Commissioners the dates in September that will not work for Mike Hernandez, Barlow District Ranger, for a field trip to view fuel reduction work in the watershed. The Board is being asked to select a date for said field trip.

Other Business:

Chair Holliday stated that McBride sent to the Board the letter received from Oregon Housing and Community Services in regards to the monitoring of the County's Home Repair Loan Program. There were no "Findings" found during this monitoring process. Chair Holliday stated that Kathy did a great job in administering this Grant Program.

Commissioner Runyon stated that the tour of Wind Farms in Sherman County was really good.

Chair Holliday stated that she spoke to County Judge Gary Thompson. He suggested that the Board go online to view the Sherman County Ordinances to see how they deal with wind farms.

Phil Swaim thanked the Board of Commissioners for allowing them to go along on the tour.

GARY CASSIDY. Slide Show on Land Use and Wind Energy Concerns.

Gary Cassidy presented a slide show entitled Energy, Dollars and Sense in Wasco County, (Attached as Exhibit C).

During the slide show Cassidy shared some of his thoughts in regards to energy concerns in Wasco County as outlined in his presentation, (Attached as Exhibit D).

At the conclusion of the slide show Cassidy offered to provide the Board with a longer version if requested.

There were no questions or comments from any member of the Board other than to thank Cassidy for his presentation.

Other Business:

Commissioner Hege informed the Board that the Wind Energy Health Impact Assessment Steering Committee met all day yesterday. It was a private meeting since the Committee is not considered a public body. The embargo document is in draft form. The Steering Committee has two weeks to provide to the state their comments. The State Health Division will revise the report and will release it sometime in August or early September. The report is looking at the science behind wind turbines.

The Board recessed at 9:48 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 9:50 a.m.

{{{Commissioner Hege moved to approve Resolution #11-019 in the matter of accepting and appropriating unanticipated Bureau of Land Management Grant Funding during Fiscal Year 2011-2012. Commissioner Runyon seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}}

EXAMINATION of the books and papers of County Officers.

This is the time for the examination of the books and papers of the following County Officers: Board of Commissioners, County Clerk, County Sheriff and County Treasurer. The EDEN Reports for the following Departments/Divisions were reviewed and discussed at this time: County Court Department, County Clerk Department/Elections Division, Emergency Management Division/Marine Patrol Division/Law Enforcement Division, and Information Technology Division/Employee & Administrative Services Department/Facilities Division for Fiscal Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.

Questions from the Board of Commissioners pertained to revenues and expenditures in the following Departments/Divisions: Marine Patrol, Emergency Management, Law Enforcement, Employee & Administrative Services, Facilities and County Clerk.

Sheriff Rick Eiesland noted that the Marine Patrol Revenue is received after expenses have been incurred and billed for; Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue does not contribute funding towards Emergency Management; he is not sure if the County will receive any grant funding next year from Oregon Emergency Management; revenue from concealed handgun permits are up; the County receives approximately 45% of traffic fine revenue; the Court Security Contract Funding is negotiated annually; gas and oil has been broken out from the Operational and Maintenance Account under the Marine Patrol Division; and the Part Time Sheriff Account under the Law Enforcement Division is used for expenses pertaining to Reserve Deputies and for background checks;

Chair Holliday requested that we rename the "Wild Animal Control" Account to "Wildlife Control".

Monica Morris, Finance Manager, will rename the Account as requested.

Stone noted that the County use to provide Civil Service work to the City of The Dalles and Wasco Rural Fire Protection District. Those services are no longer provided.

Morris noted that the County is still waiting for the final pay off amount for the ARRA Grant which helped to fund the Solar Panel Project at the La Clinica Building. She also mentioned that the janitorial funding from the City of The Dalles never came through and that the County is reimbursed by Circuit Court for the cost of their phone system.

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Sheriff Eiesland stated as to the rent for Community Corrections; the County was going to charge them the same amount as what they were paying at the Williams Building, \$47,000. If the County does charge them that amount then the County will need to pay more of the costs for NORCOR.

There were some questions that pertained to the Facilities Division.

Morris noted that the Facilities Division will not receive almost \$70,000 in revenues for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

Stone noted that the janitorial contract with the City of The Dalles has not existed since 2005.

Morris stated that the County still has one more payment to make to PERS, which is why there currently is some savings to the PERS Account under the Employee & Administrative Services Department.

As to the Facilities Division Utilities Telephone Account; Morris could not answer Commissioner Hege's question as to why the Account is overspent. Fred Davis, Facilities Manager, would have to answer that question.

Morris stated that she goes through each Department's Budget at the end of the year. If she has any questions or concerns she will meet with the Department Head prior to the budget being reviewed by the County's Auditor.

Chair Holliday had a question for Linda Brown, County Clerk, in regards to the new counter in the Clerk's Office.

Brown responded by stating that she still has the money from the state to replace the counter. She is waiting for Fred Davis to get an estimate on what the new ADA counter will cost. The grant from the state was in the amount of \$12,500. The County has budgeted \$20,000 for the project.

Brown reported that the County Clerk's revenue is up 20 to 25% over the previous year's revenue due to the increase in filings.

Commissioner Hege asked about the required monthly Treasurer's Report listing Fund balances. He would like the report to include what our earnings are as well as the Fund balances. Commissioner Hege would like to see County Treasurer Chad Krause come in and present to the Board his report.

Some discussion occurred.

Morris informed the Board that she and Krause will be meeting this week with the County's Bank on our monthly charge on earned credits and credit cards. The Treasurer is putting together some cash handling policies for the County Fair. Krause is looking for volunteers to work in the cash office during this year's Fair. The County will also be talking about investments. The Finance Office will be involved in the meetings next week with Manatron, Inc.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL of the Regular Session Consent Agenda of July 20, 2011, (Attached as Exhibit E).

{{{Commissioner Hege moved to approve the Regular Session Consent Agenda for July 20, 2011 as presented. Commissioner Runyon seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}}

New or Old Business:

Stone reported that the Board will need to convene into an Executive Session at the next Board Meeting to discuss union negotiations.

Commissioner Hege stated that the Community Outreach Team will be traveling back to Washington, DC in September of this year. He does not plan to go to Washington in September, nor does Stone. He is thinking that the County should only participate once per year instead of twice. This will save the County some money. He would like to see the County be more proactive in Salem and locally when our legislative and congressional representatives come here. Commissioner Hege has not spoken to members of the Community Outreach Team.

McBride noted that the Board needs to consider the approval of the Amendment to State/Local Agreement County Opportunity Grant Program for Hunt Park Development (Phase 2).

Stone stated that the County received the last grant award and since the State does not have the total amount of money allocated the County's award is being reduced. We will need to scale back the project or we will be required to come up with the additional funding. Stone has not yet identified where the project could be scaled back to; that will be done before we go out for bids.

Some discussion occurred.

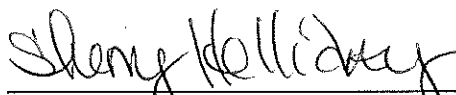
{{{Commissioner Hege moved to approve Amendment to State/Local Agreement County Opportunity Grant Program for Hunt Park Development (Phase 2) between the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Wasco County which reduces the grant amount from \$153,236 to \$144,574 and reduces the match requirement from \$51,079 to \$48,191.33. Commissioner Runyon seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}}

The Board signed:

- Memorandum of Understanding between Hood River County Emergency Management and Wasco County Emergency Management.
- Memorandum of Understanding between Sherman County Emergency Management and Wasco County Emergency Management.
- Memorandum of Understanding between Wasco County and Mid-Columbia Council of Governments.
- Oregon Commission on Children and Families 2011-2013 County Intergovernmental Agreement between the Oregon Commission on Children and Families and Wasco County.
- Agreement between Wasco County and Mid-Columbia Center for Living.
- Resolution #11-018 in the matter of accepting and appropriating unanticipated Economic Development Grant Funding during Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
- Regular Session Minutes of July 13, 2011.
- Resolution #11-019 in the matter of accepting and appropriating unanticipated Bureau of Land Management Grant Funding during Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
- Amendment to State/Local Agreement County Opportunity Grant Program for Hunt Park Development (Phase 2) between the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Wasco County.

The Board adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

WASCO COUNTY BOARD
OF COMMISSIONERS



Sherry Holliday, Chair of Commission



Scott C. Hege, County Commissioner



Rod L. Runyon, County Commissioner

WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
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DISCUSSION LIST

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Discussion on the request from Jerry McCalib, Bonneville Power Administration, regarding acquiring an easement on County owned property for BPA's Big Eddy-Knight Electrical Transmission Line Project.
2. Discussion on the emails received from David Williams, Wildlife Services Director, dated July 6, 2011 and July 7, 2011.
3. Request from Wamic Rural Fire Protection District for assistance from the County Surveyor in doing a Property Line Adjustment Plat.
4. Discussion on the email received from Mike Hernandez on scheduling a field trip to view fuel reduction work in the Watershed.

Exhibit B



Kathy McBride <kathymc@co.wasco.or.us>

BPA Request for Easement Acquisition

Eric Nisley <ericn@co.wasco.or.us>

Mon, Jul 18, 2011 at 3:56 PM

To: Kathy McBride <kathymc@co.wasco.or.us>

Cc: Tyler Stone <tylers@co.wasco.or.us>, Sherry Holliday <sherryh@co.wasco.or.us>

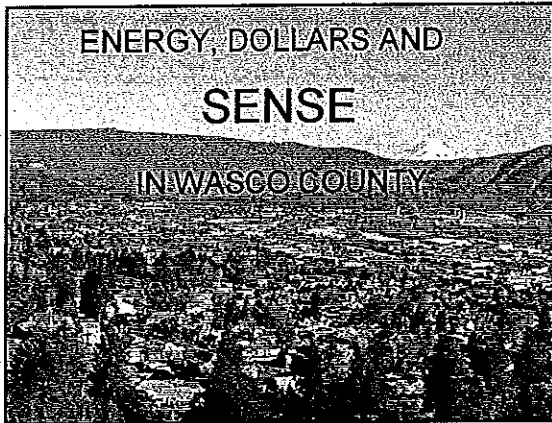
I looked over the lease. It would not appear to me that the easement to BPA will interfere with the Railroad's use of the property for a generator but I cannot tell where the generator is in relationship to the transmission line. I would just contact BNSF, let them know you will be granting this easement to BPA and see if there is any way in which it would interfere with their use.

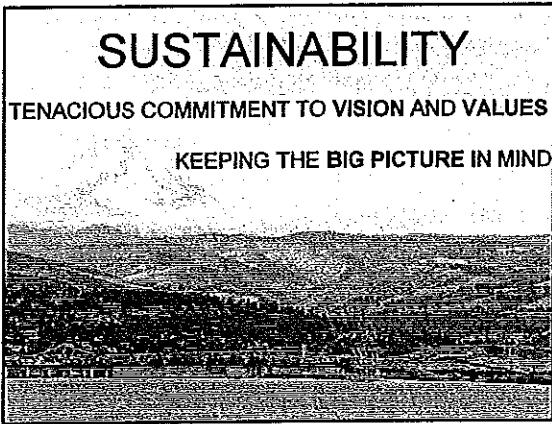
Generally, they have no right to object to us giving an easement, but if it would interfere with their use, we might have some issues that we would need to work out.

Does this answer the questions posed?

[Quoted text hidden]

--
Eric Nisley, DA Wasco County [541 506-2680](tel:5415062680)





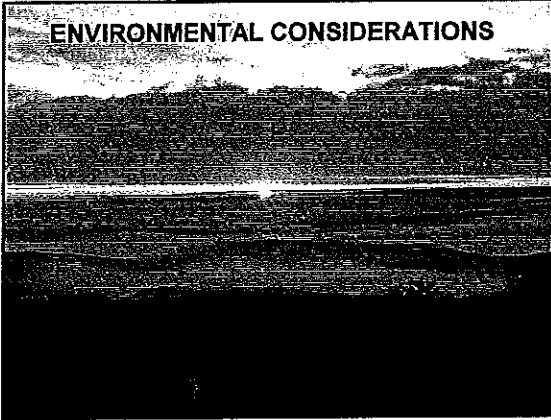
VISION: *To preserve and enhance the beauty, livability and economy of Wasco County*

- Protect life and property by determining how and where development occurs.
- Protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of Wasco County.
- Protect investments in property by ensuring that incompatible uses do not occur on adjacent properties.
- Protect the environment for future generations.
- Focus development in areas which minimize conflict with other permitted uses.

**THE BIG PICTURE
SIX CONSIDERATIONS**

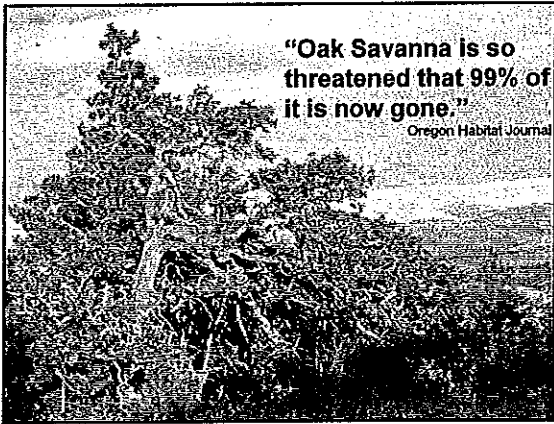
- Environmental
- Aesthetic
- Health
- Energy
- Economic
- Conservation

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS



**"Oak Savanna is so
threatened that 99% of
it is now gone."**

Oregon Habitat Journal



The ODFW Oregon Conservation Strategy 2006 identifies Wasco Oaks as an important habitat type for as many as 300 species. The area from the Columbia River up through Mt. Hood National Forest contains over 80% of the areas limited oak habitat.



ODFW Oregon Conservation Strategy recommendations for Wasco Oaks



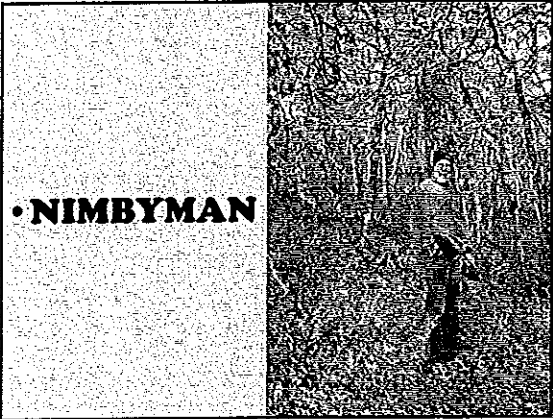
LIMIT DEVELOPMENT IN OAK HABITAT
MAINTAIN AND RESTORE OAK WOODLANDS

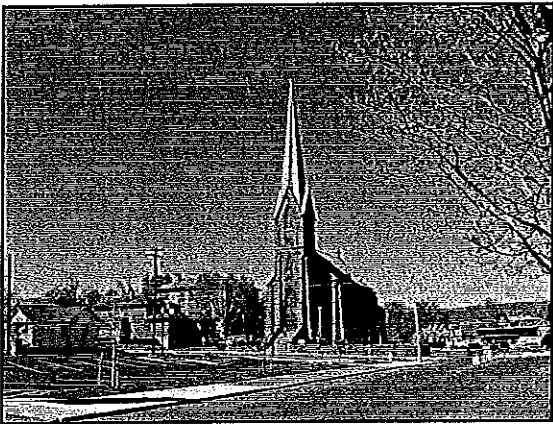
AESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS

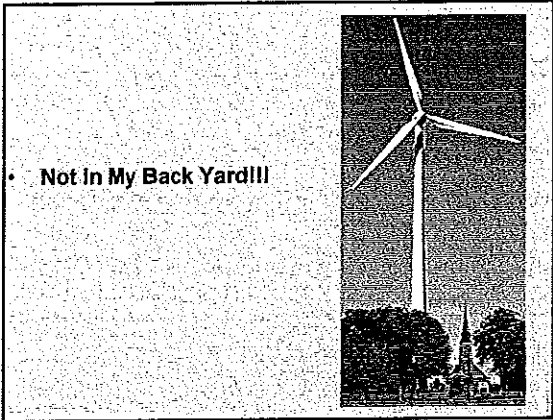


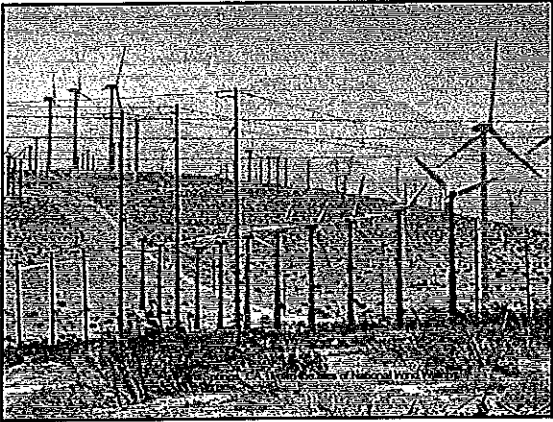
VIEW IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE ENVIRONMENT

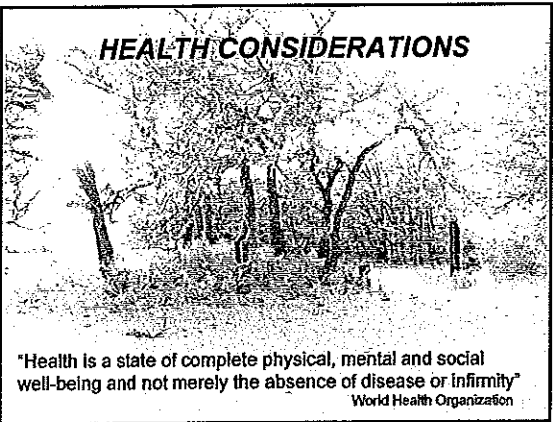






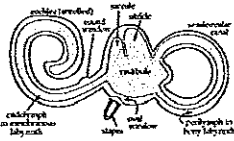




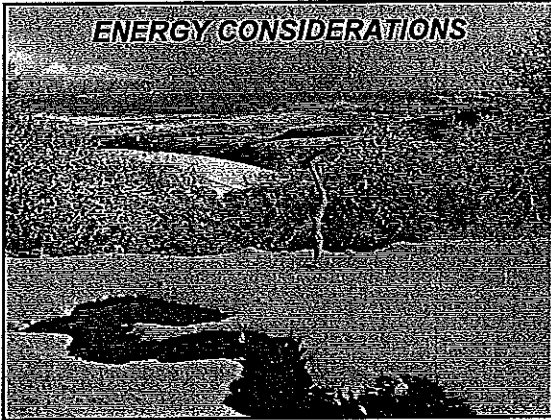


Health Considerations

- Disruption of the night sky
- Proximity & quantity
- Persistent mechanical noise
- Shadow flicker
- Pulsing low-frequency and sub-auditory sound and vibration



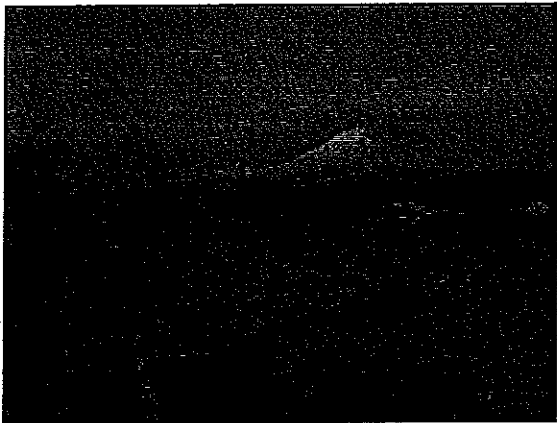
ENERGY CONSIDERATIONS

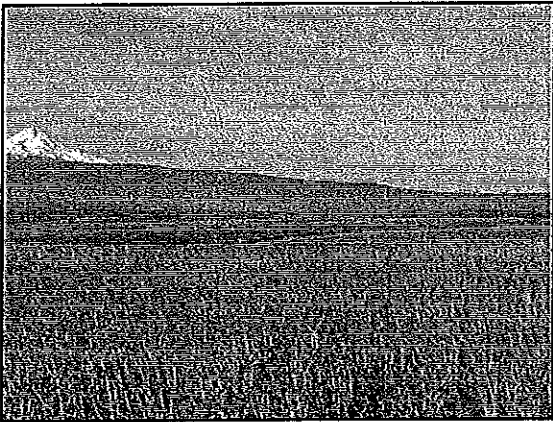


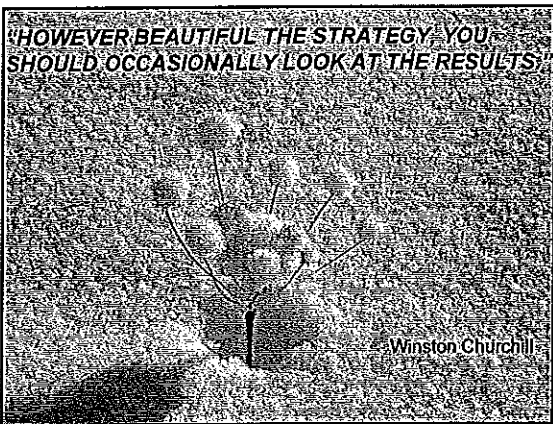
WIND ENERGY POTENTIAL Wasco County

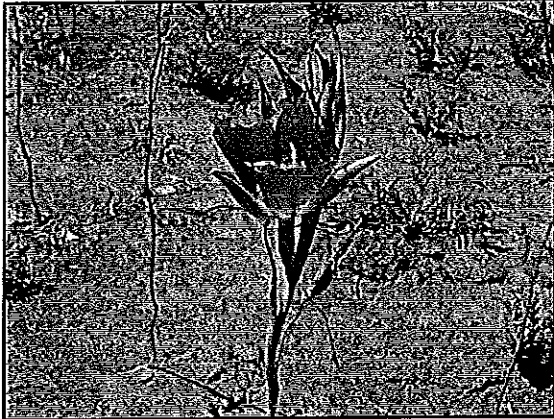
CLASS	POTENTIAL	SPEED (mph)
1	poor	0-12.5
2	marginal	12.5-14.3
3	fair	14.3-15.7
4	good	15.7-16.8
5	excellent	16.8-17.9
6	outstanding	17.9-19.7
7	superb	> 19.7

Renewable Energy Atlas of the West





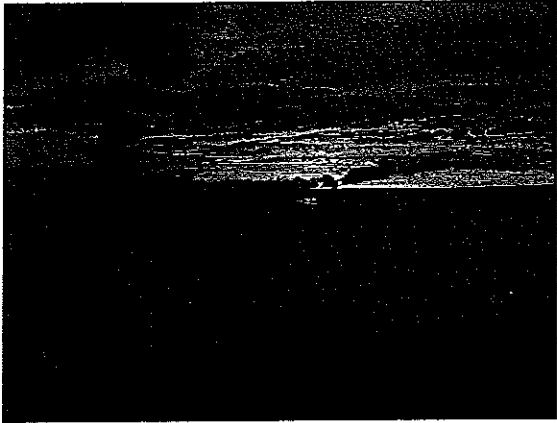






RECOMMENDATIONS

- Utilize EFSC process where appropriate
- Retain option as advisory to EFSC process
- Provide adequate setbacks for all concerned with provision for exceptions



ENERGY, DOLLARS AND SENSE IN WASCO COUNTY

(ENERGY, ECONOMICS AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN WASCO COUNTY)

Honorable commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to share some thoughts with you regarding energy concerns in Wasco County. I come as a member of the Commercial Energy Advisory Group which spent 100's of hours writing a new Chapter 19 for WCLUDO. I also come as a trained mediator working with Six Rivers Mediation Services offering a view through this lens. Also, as a citizen who has entered into the renewable energy scene, not always by choice, but always with fascination and concern.

We all want life that is sustainable. We don't want to be wasting strokes in a life that is short enough as it is. In my decades of working with scores of projects I have found two key exercises that have helped me keep on track and maintain perspective. These are

- a tenacious commitment to vision and values and
- keeping the big picture in mind.

Wasco County has some very good vision and values statements.

Areas that I view as important in seeing the big picture are: environmental, aesthetic, health, energy, economic, and conservation. I would like to address the first four of these very briefly and make some recommendations.

Environmental Consideration

Our state and county have some good checks in place to help us with keeping all aspects of the big picture before us. The first of these is provided by the ODFW (and other fish and wildlife agencies).

On our tour in Sherman County we all enjoyed the wildlife we observed. The wildlife we saw was near to the bands of trees and water.

Oak habitat is quite unique to Wasco county, so much so that it has actually been given a type – Wasco Oaks.

The recommendation from ODFW Conservation Strategy is:

- Limit development in oak habitat
- Maintain and restore oak woodlands

Aesthetic Considerations

At this point you might be thinking, "This guy is an environmental, NIMBY nut.

In a very real sense, we are all NIMBYs. This is the tallest building in Wasco County, an icon of historic The Dalles. We strive for responsible, appropriate siting of industrial wind facilities.

This is an extreme picture, but I quite confident that none of us wants The Dalles to become a Palm Springs.

A second check is provided by Health Considerations.

The definition of health in wide use today is from WHO. This is the definition adopted by the committee formulating the HIA, a report we are all anxiously awaiting.

These are the commonly repeated health considerations articulated throughout the world where commercial wind facilities are being developed in proximity to residents. There is a growing body of evidence of peer reviewed research showing that there are indeed serious health concerns for those in too close proximity to turbines. These need to be taken seriously.

Energy Considerations: It is here that the critical issue of setbacks comes into play.

A reality check is in order concerning the wind resources in Wasco County. The vast majority of wind resource in Wasco County is Class 2 or 3, that is marginal and fair. There is very little that is Class 4 = good. Most of this is on Sevenmile Hill and mostly in the NSA.

Wind maps show some superb and outstanding wind on top of Mount Adams and Mount Hood. Just because you have fantastic winds does not mean it is reasonable or appropriate to develop there. Sherman County has a significant amount of consistently good (class 4) wind. Wasco County is not Sherman County.

Winston Churchill once said, "However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results." I believe we have a chance to not only look at the results, but to in actuality, in a significant way, influence the results.

The key decision is the extent of setbacks. You are obviously serious about doing a good and thorough job of being informed. We had a great tour on Monday. Thank you for including me in on this.

I have worked together with Elaine Albrich for over three years. I have had a several occasions to talk with Brian Walsh. They are great people. Obviously they are going to push for the smallest possible setbacks. This is their job. If they did otherwise, frankly I would be disappointed in them. You will remember that Brian said that some of the land owners farm right up to the edge of the road. We saw this to be true. When they sign leases they want turbines as close to the edge of the road as possible. This is reasonable, since a string of five more turbines could mean an annual income of \$25,000.-37,000. Iberdrola appears to be self-governed, responsible, considerate, and ethical. Not all companies are like this. The word "Enron" conjures up all manner of impropriety, greed, and deceptive abuse foisted upon the American public, proving my point.

You also know very well that there is a group of concerned citizens who want to insure that they are not subjected to loss of things they hold very dear, environment, health and quality of life which they are deserve.

How do we balance these concerns? Allow me to speak as a mediator. Under the old ordinances there were many flaws, one being inadequate and unclear setbacks, which threw us into all manner confusion. One significant goal of the Advisory Group has been to create a document which is clear and expedites the permitting process. Given the disparity of the groups coming to the table, a few hundred more metres in setbacks with the provision of exceptions, could save everyone concerned a lot of time, personnel, and money. It may very well be that a bit larger setback is a simple answer to all concerned. It is a reality of the human condition that not all developers are going to be self-governing, considerate, and ethical.

Three Recommendations:

Utilize the EFSC process where appropriate. The EFSC process has proven to be a good process. The fact that they do not have standard setbacks is both a positive and a negative. I do not believe this is going to change any time soon. They regularly defer to the counties to provide specific guidance here.

Retain the option to serve as an advisory council to EFSC. The WCLUDO as now written provides for this. You know the county, and can call upon your resources and knowledge to help EFSC make informed decisions.

Provide adequate setbacks for all with provision for setbacks where deemed necessary and appropriate.

In the last Planning commission hearing Chair Don Hoffman astutely asked Brian Walsh if Iberdrola could work with larger setbacks which included provision for exceptions. Brian's answer is a brilliant way forward to

- help insure protection for all,
- expedite a clear permitting process as free as possible from costly appeals,
- while allowing for appropriate development.

Brian Walsh's words were, "If this is what we have, we are happy to do this."

**WASCO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 20, 2011**

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Memorandum of Understanding between Hood River County Emergency Management and Wasco County Emergency Management.
2. Memorandum of Understanding between Sherman County Emergency Management and Wasco County Emergency Management.
3. Memorandum of Understanding between Wasco County and Mid-Columbia Council of Governments.
4. Oregon Commission on Children and Families 2011-2013 County Intergovernmental Agreement between the Oregon Commission on Children and Families and Wasco County.
5. Agreement between Wasco County and Mid-Columbia Center for Living.
6. Resolution #11-018 in the matter of accepting and appropriating unanticipated Economic Development Grant Funding during Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
7. Regular Session Minutes of July 13, 2011.