

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS'  
REGULAR MEETING**

August 3, 2011

9:00 a.m.

Harris Hall Main Floor

Commissioner Faye Stewart presided with Commissioners Jay Bozievich, Rob Handy, Sid Leiken and Pete Sorenson present. County Administrator Liane Richardson and Recording Secretary Melissa Zimmer were also present.

1. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Leiken asked for item C.1 be pulled from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

3. **COMMISSIONERS' RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS AND/OR OTHER ISSUES AND REMONSTRANCE**

Bozievich reported that he read the paper today about Lane County losing another 450 jobs on top of having to deal with the County's \$1.2 million shortfall for Secure Rural Schools payment from the BLM and their possibly having to make up \$1 million in the workers compensation self-insurance fund. He hoped they can find opportunities. He said he feels for all of the families who have been displaced by the move Navistar made. He indicated that when they compare Oregon with Indiana, Oregon is far above Indiana by the way of taxes. He thought it was a business decision to see where they are the most profitable. He stated that they have to keep a business environment to keep people in Oregon who are already employed.

Stewart thanked the state of Oregon and Metro Partnership and their local Economic Development because they had been working to see if Navistar would reconsider. He indicated that the state stepped up to try to convince Navistar that Oregon was the place to stay. He hoped the facility could be transitioned into something else or to help the constituents find the jobs.

4. **EMERGENCY BUSINESS**

None.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. Approval of Minutes

July 6, 2011, Work Session/Goal Setting, 12:30 p.m.

B. Assessment and Taxation

- 1) ORDER 11-8-3-1/In the Matter of a Refund to Seneca Sawmill Co and Enid Rose Corp, in the Amount of \$83,164.03.

C. County Administration

- 1) ORDER 11-8-3-2/In the Matter of Awarding Funding for Internal County Projects Selected Through the 2011-12 Economic Development RFP General Allocation Cycle.

D. Health and Human Services

- 1) ORDER 11-8-3-3/In the Matter of Adding One Full-Time (1.0 FTE) Administrative Analyst Position and Two Full-Time (2.0 FTE) Office Assistant 2 Positions Effective August 8, 2011 and Appropriating an Additional \$123,966 in Revenues and Expenditures for 2011-2012 in Fund 286 Department of Health & Human Services.

E. Public Works

- 1) ORDER 11-8-3-4/In the Matter of Approving Purchase of Real Property – Map and Tax Lot No. 17-04-28-44-00900 (Pioneer Resources Business Park, Lot 25).

F. Management Services

- 1) ORDER 11-8-3-5/In the Matter of Appointing Two At-Large Members to the Redistricting Task Force.

MOTION: to approve the Consent Calendar.

Bozievich MOVED, Leiken SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0.

5.C.2.

Leiken thought the scoring committee did an excellent job in scoring. He thought the three projects were worthy. He said the Sheriff's Department and the MLK Program are underfunded compared to the history from previous times.

Glenda Poling, Economic Development, said there is a provision in the Board memo that states in accordance with the Economic Development Standing Committee's request if they find additional funds more than they expected from video lottery, that they will go back and revisit and try to make them whole.

Handy asked about an interim report about an audit/investigation of Economic Development. He asked when they would see the report.

Richardson replied that the Board will see the report as soon as it is completed. They don't yet have a deadline.

Handy asked how much Lane County was paying for the audit/investigation.

Richardson stated that she didn't know, but if she was asked ahead of time she could have had the information available.

Handy asked when she could get the information.

Richardson asked if there was a majority of the Board who wished to have an answer.

There was not a majority of the Board asking for the audit investigation information.

Sorenson asked the amount the Economic Development Standing committee would be getting.

Poling explained that Lane Manual addresses the requests from an internal department at a maximum of 50 percent of what they are allowed to submit for an RFP.

Sorenson wanted to make sure they are spending all of the money internally.

Poling said this is based on an assumption. She indicated the money they are allocating today will come off of the top of money that goes to their department. It is a promise that the money comes in will be shifted there first. She believed from what has happened in the past couple of years, they will see their share be approximately \$75,000 per quarter.

Sorenson commented that government that allocates funds for Economic Development purposes are the same people who have to cope with the budget problems the government has. He said the policy objective of the Economic Development portion of the lottery is about job creation. He thought these were all defensible. He asked to let the Board know if they are getting close to 50 percent.

Poling indicated that HB 3188 passed as an emergency measure in June gives specific direction on how counties can spend the money. She stated that it must be for Economic Development and be public education based. She stated that Lane County is compliant with most of the requirements. She will be working

with Mike Barnhart, Finance, to see if there are other guidelines to come out of the bill. She added they have reporting measures due October 1.

Bozievich explained that the \$370,000 represents the amount that would bring them close to the 50 percent based on the estimates.. He indicated that the Economic Development Standing Committee was informed of those limits. He said the Economic Development Standing Committee understood they could allocate some, all, or none of the \$370,000 to the applicants. He said they ranked the applicants as they would for the external applications. He believed they were following the state's guidelines and the scoring and ranking was based on how well those programs would add to the Economic Development of Lane County. He noted this is what the Economic Development Standing Committee recommended and he supported their recommendation.

MOTION: to approve ORDER 11-8-3-2.

Bozievich MOVED, Leiken SECONDED.

VOTE: 5-0.

6. **RESOLUTIONS**

- a. ORDER AND RESOLUTION 11-8-3-6/In the Matter of Proclaiming August 3, 2011 as Summer Food Program Awareness Day.

MOTION: to approve ORDER AND RESOLUTION 11-8-3-6.

Sorenson MOVED, Handy SECONDED.

Bozievich stated that he fully supports the program and Food for Lane County. He stated that there is a cost for these resolutions. He wanted to address these comments more to the Policies and Procedures Committee and to the Board. He said there is an unlimited number of great causes they could pass resolutions in support of, but every one of them they do has to go through staff and Legal Counsel and there is a dollar cost to them. He thinks they have to think carefully about bringing resolutions on items that are not a function of the County government in a direct way. He was disappointed that two of the commissioners missed a schedule board meeting yesterday with the volunteers from their Roads Advisory Committee to attend a function related to this resolution. He commented that they are looking at a County that can't afford to keep Sheriffs on the road 24 hours a day and they are releasing dangerous criminals from the jail because they don't have jail bed space. He said they are trying to figure out how to fill a \$1.2 million budget gap with another \$1 million budget gap from the state. He will be voting no on this resolution and any further resolutions brought forward before the Board that don't specifically pertain to important Lane County policy.

Leiken thought instead of a proclamation that they could put together a letter of support and send it to the organization. He said he will support the resolution, but he was okay with having a discussion in Policies and Procedures.

Stewart read the resolution into the record. He supported sending the resolution discussion to Policies and Procedures.

VOTE: 4-1 (Bozievich dissenting).

7. **COMMISSIONERS BUSINESS**

- a. DISCUSSION/Manual Change to Place County Counsel Under the County Administrator.

Stewart recalled the Board had a discussion about this last week around the County Counsel. He indicated that currently the County Counsel reports directly to the Board. He added the County Counsel is hired by the Board and is one of three positions the Board has direct authority over. He said this discussion is to see if there should be a manual change to move County Counsel under the authority of the County Administrator for hiring purposes and management. He noted it was highly recommended that they keep the position where it is today.

Bozievich stated he had requested this to come back to the Board. He is concerned about the number of people reporting directly to the Board but he understands the protections. He understands the concerns about trying to maintain a separate legal voice. He thought as they look into the area of County Counsel that contracting out might be a way to work around this. He also thought they needed to look at the Performance Auditor position, as it has remained unfilled. He thought it was an opportunity to eliminate a position that directly reports to the Board that might not be a necessary position. He thought with their current budget situation that eliminating the Performance Auditor position would be the way to go.

Sorenson noted that most organizations have a separation in who Legal Counsel reports to. He hadn't heard any compelling reason why they should make the change. He didn't think they should make the change.

Leiken was comfortable leaving the County Counsel as is. He thought no matter who was in the position of County Counsel, there needs to be good communication between County Counsel and the County Administrator as they move forward. He said as they move forward with the County Counsel, he was interested to see if it was feasible to work with an outside firm.

Handy had asked former Lane County Commissioners about this proposal. From Bill Dwyer, he said "That it used to be that way but it did not work. He didn't find the proposal to be in the Board's best interest." Handy spoke with Jack

Roberts and Roberts said “When I was a commissioner and Jim Johnson was County administrator while Bill Van Vactor was still County Counsel, we used to rely on Bill Van Vactor to give an independent read on some things that the County Administrator was proposing, that could have been awkward and rendered his opinion less reliable if he was working directly under Jim. I still think it makes sense for the County Counsel to work directly under the Board and not the County Administrator, since it has always been independent of the County Administrator and directly answerable to the Board. I don’t believe a continuation of that policy represents a lack of confidence in the County Administrator today, any more than it did when Jim Johnson or Bill Van Vactor were County Administrators and Van Vactor and Teresa Wilson answered to the Board.” From Jerry Rust “County Counsel must be free and independent enough to give candid advice to not only administration but ultimately to the commissioners who must be held accountable so I see no compelling reason for the change and I see a potential downside where elected officials might not always get candid and independent advice.” Handy said it is bad policy to have too much power in the hand of a non-elected person like the County Administrator. He said the commissioners are responsible for the well being of Lane County including potential or actual lawsuits and how they may impact the resources of the County.

Bozievich wanted to have Policies and Procedures Committee look into eliminating the whole section of Lane Manual 3.070 and the following sections on the Performance Auditor. He believes that position is no longer necessary.

With regard to the Performance Auditor, Stewart said as they learn about the situation they are in, that due to budgetary reasons the position might not be kept. He said under the discussion of County Counsel, Madilyn Zike, Human Resources, and the Board had a discussion about how to move forward with County Counsel recruitment and interim acting County Counsel. He reported that Zike is closing a one week recruitment opportunity for people to apply for the acting interim position and that will be closed. She will forward the applications to the Board at the close of the day and because next week is a down week and Zike will be on vacation, the Board will have a special meeting on Monday August 8 at 2:00 p.m. to see if there is direction to move forward with any of the applications or a process to get further information.

8. **COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**

a. Announcements

None.

b. REPORT BACK/Budget.

Richardson commented that due to vacation schedules, they are not as far along as she had hoped. She reported that they have had success in moving to a new health care plan from Admin Pro, 626, and the Prosecuting Attorney’s

Association. She indicated that it will reduce their costs. She added they have the non-represented employees, including managers and supervisors who will also be moving to one of the two new plans. She indicated those moves will take place in January 2012 because of the difficulty of getting moved to new plans. She said the problem is they heard that Secure Rural Schools money is not going to be allocated in the amount they thought it would be. She indicated there is an additional \$1.2 million that Lane County will not see this year that they had included in their budget. She stated that late last week they got a letter from the state stating they wanted the County to put another \$1 million into the savings for workers compensation insurance. She added the letter stated it needed to take place by the end of August.

Richardson asked Management Team for a starting point to go back and look at their budgets and what would they do if they initiated a ten percent across the board cut in the general fund the departments received. She won't be recommending a straight across the board cut of ten percent, but it gave them a starting point. She indicated if they do a ten percent across the board cut there are significant impacts. She noted with Assessment and Taxation, they have the CAFFA grant where they get a significant amount of money back from the state but they have to guaranty staffing levels. She said what Assessment and Taxation is asking for if they move forward with the ten percent cuts is to use some of the money they lapsed in the last fiscal year to cover it so they don't lose the CAFFA grant of \$1.38 million. She added that Assessment and Taxation's portion is \$400,000 and if they cut that, they would lose \$1.38 million from the state. For County Administration, County Counsel, Management Services and Human Resources, all have identified either keeping positions open longer or reducing advertising, publicity, documentation or document resource type areas in order to hit their ten percent. She indicated the District Attorney's office would need to eliminate about \$500,000 and they are talking about eliminating general fund to Kid's First, where kid victims of crime are interviewed and supported and given medical examinations. She added they were also looking at eliminating the Medical Examiner's office. She noted the Department of Children and Families would also be reducing FTE in order to hit their savings. She reported the Department of Youth Services would reduce positions by three FTE. She indicated they would recommend closing down Pathways and they would close down the day treatment center and reduce the classification of two positions. She noted that Health and Human Services would go to Alternative 2 of her proposed budget, to take the majority of their reduction in detox and sobering and less than \$20,000 would come out of Public Health.

Richardson reported that because the Sheriff's Department closed down the 84 jail beds that was more of a savings than was needed at that time, their reduction would require an additional 35 jail beds to be closed and two more patrol deputies to be eliminated.

Richardson indicated that they don't have final numbers because they haven't been able to figure out the lapse. She said they are still in bargaining with AFSCME this morning and there is a possibility that they will see more savings and they will have a better idea in the following weeks. She asked the Board their thoughts on the cuts.

Leiken commented that their backs are up against a wall. He stated in the short term there will be continued pain in providing services. He said they are coming to a point where they have to figure out their priorities from the general fund. He stated that for him, Public Safety has been a priority they have to administer as far as Lane County Government is concerned. He believed they should be looking at their budget for the long term. He said there is interest about where the state could step in and work with the Forest Service, where the federal forests could come into the state jurisdiction. He said this was something that they as a county could look at. He thought they should start thinking out of the box on how they see additional revenues coming into the future. He stated he continually hears from his constituents that they are taxed to death and they are to the point that they can't afford additional taxes. He stated that they are under extreme circumstances. He thought as a whole they should look at how they want to position themselves and what do they want Lane County to look like. He stated they have to determine what kind of services they want to provide.

Sorenson stated the short term budget has to be looked at in conjunction with the long term budget picture. He said the Board has been working on the extension of the Federal Forest Payments legislation. He asked if the renewal of Secure Rural Schools was dead due to the federal budget picture. He asked if they are left with no guaranty in the FY 12/13 year. He asked if they should take a bigger look at finances because they are going to be forced to as early as April 2012. He thought instead of cutting the ten percent, they should look at the whole budget.

Richardson commented that it was a safer bet to state they are not going to get any extension at all. She thought they should be working on how they are going to sustain what Lane County looks like. She thought the Strategic Planning process would help with that. She indicated that they have to do something now to save as much money as they can. She indicated that if they are going to be eliminating FTE's that they do it sooner so they can experience greater savings.

Alex Cuyler, Intergovernmental Relations Manager, said he has been talking to people who are close with the lobbying efforts regarding reauthorization. He indicated that three weeks ago a National Resources Committee discussed Secure Rural Schools reauthorization, but it was couched in terms of active forest management and how SRS could be used as a bridge to that instead of a focus on the traditional authorization of SRS as the primary funding driver. He indicated that there is a different dynamic now between the House and the Senate. He didn't think they should bank on seeing the Secure Rural Schools authorization

this year. He noted there was a reduction this year from the BLM of \$1.2 million. He believed that they need to be working on the reauthorization issue.

Bozievich agreed that they cannot plan on SRS funding in the next year. He said they need to look at County services now in light of that and being able to support themselves on their current funding streams that are low. He indicated that currently they are supplying multiple services at very poor levels. He said it is time to look at the core functions and decide that there are some services they should just stop providing so they can offer core services and priority functions at a higher level to the citizens. He thought instead of taking detox from Health and Human Services that they could find another service that was less critical to their core function of providing a safe community. He said they have to look at everything from Animal Services to some of the add backs they had in the last budget. He thought the services they were providing that were provided elsewhere in the non-profit community might have to go. He said he likes the Pathways Program but there is a charitable organization that provides that treatment to juvenile males that is a faith based organization. He indicated they are providing a duplicative service. He added there are not enough beds for the demand. He said they have to look at the core services. He said they have to decide if there are some services that they won't be doing as a County anymore that impact the general fund. He said as a Board they have to set priorities and people's personal safety should be one of the highest priorities, keeping a traditional law enforcement system that is functional. He said that meant prosecution, the court system, jail beds and deputies. He said they need to be aware of the impacts of cuts. He did not want to see across the board cuts and to look heavily in programs that don't affect people's personal safety.

Stewart wanted to see the recommendations from the departments. He said they are unclear about the state's requirement from workers comp. He wanted to schedule the information to come back to the Board.

Richardson wanted to come back on August 24. She indicated that would give budget staff more time to work the numbers. She said they won't know more from the federal level because they are on vacation. She indicated that she was looking at other organization changes from the outside to confirm the numbers. She indicated on August 24 she will come back with more concrete financial numbers and they will know what is happening with one more bargaining unit and other recommendations.

Stewart stated that he is not comfortable with some of the cuts. He wanted a deeper discussion. He was not comfortable with any less of a public safety system. He wanted to look at other alternatives. He didn't want to save the position of the Performance Auditor. He asked if they should get Leadership Team meeting again. He said it has to coincide with the information and what they have to make decisions with. He added that they should take this to the public and have a Public Hearing. He commented that the longer this takes, the

worst it is. He wanted to schedule this back on August 24 with a deeper discussion. He said they need to act today to make sure they are operating within their budget and they have to look towards next year. He added with the condition and the things that have taken place financially with job losses and what is going on with the federal government, they don't have a reauthorization. He said they need to find out what the level will be next year and start to plan for it. He said they need to understand where they are going to be next year. He thought they need to start that conversation.

Sorenson said they need to get an evaluation on the opinion of the department directors on some proposals they could offer in lieu of across the board cuts. He said they need to get ideas put on the table. He said they have to look at a matching program from the general fund. He said criteria in budget reduction should be what are they giving up in terms of federal, state or other partner dollars. He asked if as bad as things are for Lane County, what the legislature is going to do for the counties in worse shape.

Richardson reported the same \$1.2 million hit from SRS Lane County is taking, the smaller counties are experiencing the same change.

Cuyer explained it was an \$11.2 million shortfall they got news from statewide from the BLM. He reported that Douglas County is taking a \$4 million hit in this current budget year; Curry County is under \$1 million; and Josephine County about \$3 million. He said this news from the BLM was devastating on top of the fourth year reductions they had expected. He doesn't know what the legislature will do. He doesn't know what will happen to a county in Oregon if it is unable to carry out its functions.

c. REPORT/Policies and Procedures Committee.

Richardson reported that the Policies and Procedures Committee met several times and they focused on commissioners on committees either being appointed or liaisons. She indicated there were committees where they need Board direction.

She said for the Commission for the Advancement of Human Rights, this was elevated from a committee to a commission and their charge became looking at human rights issues. She said it didn't define whether it was inside or outside the organization. She reported the problem they had was most of the complaints were internal. She added there are internal processes and confidentiality provisions and other concerns where they couldn't allow a commission to vet a lot of the issues that were raised. She recommended to Policies and Procedures to focus on external human rights issues. She indicated that will allow them to staff the group with the current staffing they had. She and the Policies and Procedures Committee are recommending they remove the Rural Community Improvement Council. She talked to the Economic Development Standing Committee to find

out when it had last met. She found out it hadn't met in years and their focus was similar to the Economic Development Standing Committee. She didn't want to lose the rural feel so the recommendation out of Policies and Procedures is two at-large members appointed who work or live in a rural community and have those added to Economic Development Standing Committee.

Richardson said they need direction for the VMAC Committee. She recalled that prior to the Board's moratorium on spraying, they had a significant focus and area in which they were working in. She indicated with a moratorium on spraying, they don't have the focus they were directed to look at. She added they are moving into other areas that aren't in their bylaws. They want to do more education and discussions about outside entities spraying roads that are in Lane County's borders and it is not the area they were told to focus on. She said the recommendations ranged from getting rid of it to putting people who are currently on the VMAC onto the Roads Advisory Committee and combining it and putting the VMAC's charge to the Roads Advisory Committee. She thought the education portion could be forwarded onto the Health Advisory Committee, or leaving them as is and amending the bylaws and allowing them to do what they are trying to do, more of an education focus. She indicated there was no clear recommendation out of Policies and Procedures. She noted that some committees are doing annual reports and some are not. The recommendation was for all of the committees to do annual reports and if the Board wants they can have some to come in and interface with the Board.

Leiken said he didn't know what to do with VMAC until yesterday with the joint meeting with the Roads Advisory Committee. He wanted to change the title of the Roads Advisory Committee where it is more holistic and change it to the Transportation Advisory Committee. He heard from the Roads Advisory Committee that they were interested in what VMAC does. He wanted to roll the VMAC discussion to the next Policies and Procedure Committee meeting and take the discussion up about the Roads Advisory Committee and see if they can coordinate the committees.

Handy thought they should bring the Public Health Advisory into the discussion to see where they could get the most effective use of resident energy, interest and expertise. He said the question is how much damage is safe or how little damage is possible. He indicated as far as the charge of the VMAC Committee, the right-of-way issues on Lane County roads and the educational component is with Lane County property owners who are spraying herbicides on Lane County right-of-way. He indicated that Lane County is not spraying, but some of the residents are. He said their main focus of education is specifically on the Lane County rights-of-way. He is comfortable with this going back to Policies and Procedures to get on the agenda of the Public Health Advisory Committee to weigh in on whether that is the correct place for the committee to be merged. With thought written annual reports coming to the Board was a good idea. He wanted a set of criteria for all of the committees for the information to the Board.

Bozievich stated that every committee they have requires costs in staffing the committee, preparing minutes, noticing, and meeting rooms. He said they need to be careful about how many committees they have and their functions. He said they are trying to look at their core functions and not looking at things outside their jurisdiction or being duplicated by other places. He believed the Commission on Human Rights is duplicative, has a nebulous purpose and does not serve the function to better Lane County government. He indicated that there are other organizations at the state and federal level that deal with those issues. He said they are elected officials that are supposed to be protecting human rights. He added that VMAC is in the same situation. He recalled that VMAC dealt with spraying and the County no longer sprays. He said being an education organization is not their core function. He stated that they have to concentrate on trying to do their core functions at least at an adequate level of service instead of doing a little of everything very poorly. He stated they have already determined in the right- of- way they do not use chemicals and the purpose of VMAC has already been achieved. He said the Roads Advisory Committee is looking at not having a lot of purpose with the reduction in capital projects and the work in the right- of- way is being done by road crews that the Roads Advisory could look at. He thought they were reaching beyond their core functions with education. He was in agreement with the rest of the recommendations.

MOTION: to amend the Lane Manual changes on standing committees advisory, mandated and non-mandated committees found in Chapter 3.5.5 to 3.552 in order to incorporate housekeeping changes and Board involvement in each of those committees as recommended by the Policies and Procedures Committee with the exception of eliminating the Commission on the Advancement of Human Rights and the Vegetation Management Committee as listed under 3.515 and having the subsequent changes in the numbering in that table and eliminating Section 3.540, the Lane County Commission on the Advancement of Human Rights and Section 3.552, for the Vegetation Management Advisory Committee.

Bozievich MOVED, Stewart SECONDED.

Sorenson indicated that he didn't see the reference to the Sav-It Committee. He asked about the status.

Richardson noted in the Policies and Procedures discussion, they discovered that Sav-It had sunsetted. They had discussions with Greg Evans who was the chair of the committee and he indicated that at this time he didn't think it was worth bringing it back again because they received no ideas from the public. She recommended leaving it as is currently. She indicated there will be something on the website to allow people an easy way to submit ideas. She added if they start collecting ideas they might form an ad hoc committee to address those. She recommended leaving as is with the committee not existing.

Sorenson thought they should put some effort into the Sav-It Committee because they all want good ideas brought forward and employees are a good source of the good ideas, but he also thought taxpayers are also a good source of ideas. He said it is a policy objective of his to resurrect this committee. He believes that could be characterized in the good government or bipartisan arena. He said the problem that Evans and other committee members came up against was what they can do comparable to time management. He stated that is relevant to their financial issues because if they can get ideas it would be great. He disagreed they should eliminate the Commission for the Advancement of Human Rights. He was open to ideas from their committee or other commissioners not on the committee to modify it and improve its focus and to listen to the members on Human Rights. He said eliminating it is too drastic. With regard to eliminating VMAC, he believed the need now for this is greater than it was during the bad old days. He said failing to address vegetation in the right-of-way they control affects the private property owner and if they don't control unwanted vegetation, they are not performing their good neighbor function as a property owner. He said the government set up advisory committees to set up information and considered so it doesn't go directly to the Board. He favored folding the Rural Community Improvement Council. He wanted to get the Roads Advisory Committee's perspective before they rename the committee. With regard to standardizing reports, he wanted the Policies and Procedures Committee to come up with workable rules the committees would follow. He said he was in favor of giving up annual reports and just having information posted as it is acquired. He thought that might lower the cost of administration.

With regard to the Commission for the Advancement of Human Rights, Stewart stated that he has been here for six years and they have had three start and stops with this committee. He said they have not been actively functioning in the six years he has been here and they have had difficulties with it. In light of the discussion about budgetary issues, he is finding it hard to see this as a priority dedicating staff time. He recalled in the past they had a budget. He indicated that the city of Eugene has a Human Rights Committee. He didn't think it was worth duplicating. He thought there could be a County member being added to that committee. He is not supportive of continuing with it because it hasn't been fruitful. He recalled the VMAC Committee was formed when the County was spraying. He stated that currently they are not spraying and they have codes for the public not to spray in the right-of-way. He didn't think they needed a committee to sit around and discuss the fact they already have a code on the books that states it is illegal to spray County right-of- ways. He commented their problem is that they don't have enough resources to allocate for someone to pursue the compliance. He said they have a Roads Advisory Committee (that because they have moved from more of a capital improvement program) are more holistic about transportation as a whole. He said rolling the duties of Vegetation Management into the committee is perfect. He commented that it is a committee that costs between \$10,000 and \$20,000 per year to have. He said some members are frustrated that they continue to talk about the Board and spraying. He said

they need to move beyond this. He wanted to roll the functions together and be more efficient with their processes. He was supportive of the motion. He commented at some time they are going to admit that they don't have any money.

VOTE: 3-2 (Handy, Sorenson dissenting).

9. **COUNTY COUNSEL**

Announcements

None.

10. **COMMISSIONERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Leiken announced that this weekend Willamette Brews and Blues will be taking place.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION as per ORS 192.660**

Per ORS 192.660(2)(d) for labor negotiations and current litigation.

ORS 192.660(2)(h) for the purpose of labor negotiations and current litigation.

13. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

There being no further business, Commissioner Stewart adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Melissa Zimmer  
Recording Secretary