

**MINUTES**  
**LANE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Willamalane Park and Swim Center – Community Room**  
**1276 ‘G’ Street – Springfield**

**February 26, 2004 - 7:00 P.M.**

**VOTING MEMBERS**

**Present**

Director Jerry Miller (Lane ESD), Chair	Councilor Nan Osbon (Florence)
Mayor Sue Bond (Oakridge)	Mayor Ron Petitti (Creswell)
Councilor Dwight Coon (Junction City)	Director Chris Pryor (School District 4J)
Commissioner Bill Dwyer (Lane County)	Director Dennis Shine (LCC)
Commissioner Richard Eymann (EPUD)	Mayor Diana Tonkin (Westfir)
Councilor Mike Fleck (Cottage Grove)	Mayor Jim Torrey (Eugene)
Director Al King (School District 19)	Mayor Judy Volta (Coburg)
Director Alan Laisure (School District 52)	Director Helen Wagner (Willamalane)
Commissioner Patrick Lanning (EWEB)	Mayor Warren Weathers (Lowell)
Councilor Susie Navetta (Dunes City)	

**Absent**

Springfield Representative	Fern Ridge Library District Representative
Veneta Representative	Siuslaw Public Library Representative
School District 68 (McKenzie) Representative	Port of Siuslaw Representative
Western Lane Ambulance District Representative	

**STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS**

None

**GUESTS**

Emily J. Eymann, Bob Keefer, Jim Mayo

**LCOG STAFF**

George Kloeppe, Megan Banks, Jamon Kent, Ann Mortenson, Ted Stevens, Bob Swank, Byron Vanderpool

**1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Jerry Miller called the meeting of the Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Board of Directors to order at 7:05 p.m.

Willamalane Park and Recreation District Board President Jim Mayo welcomed members. He described the history of the District, its current park and recreation facilities, future development plans, and invited those interested to tour the facility after the meeting.

LCOG staff Ann Mortenson called the roll of members. LCOG Executive Director George Kloepfel stated that a quorum was present.

## 2. REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Chairperson Miller reported that the Executive Committee recommended consideration of an additional agenda item regarding Board and Executive Committee roles and a proposed meeting schedule change. He referred to memoranda related to the item dated February 24 and February 26 from the Executive Committee and Mr. Kloepfel that were distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

**MOTION:** *Mayor Warren Weathers moved, seconded by Director Chris Pryor, to add consideration of matters recommended by the Executive Committee to the Agenda of the meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously, 19:0.*

Chairperson Miller stated that the matter would be considered as Item 11.B on the Agenda.

## 3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Miller noted that the Consent Agenda contained the following items:

- A. Approval of Minutes of the January 22, 2004, Meeting
- B. Approval of amendments to the current year Older Americans Act III-E Plan and Budget, as follows:
  - o Shift \$37,670 to Respite Care from other programs within Senior and Disabled Services Budget
  - o Appropriate additional \$11,000 of Older American Act III-E funds to Senior and Disabled Services current year budget – \$10,000 to Respite Care and \$1,000 to AAA Administration
- C. Approval of plan recommended by the Senior Services Advisory Council for modifying the 2003-04 LCOG Area Plan Budget and for delivery of Oregon Project Independence services to eligible individuals, including a study to determine the feasibility of expanding eligibility criteria

**MOTION:** *Mayor Jim Torrey moved, seconded by Director Pryor, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was adopted unanimously, 19:0.*

## 4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

## **5. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Kloeppe referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Report of the Executive Committee” distributed via e-mail in advance of the meeting. He noted that it contained the report of a meeting held February 19.

Chairperson Miller said he would reserve his comments until consideration of the Item previously added to the Agenda.

## **6. COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Kloeppe referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Comments from the Executive Director.” He reviewed information it contained, as follows:

- The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 18, the third Thursday of the month, at Lane Community College.
- Fund raising events for the Meals on Wheels program at Mazzi’s, El Torito, and McMenamins North Bank restaurants.
- Retirement of Gary Darnielle, program manager of the LCOG Community and Regional Planning work group.
- Appointment of Senior and Disabled Services protective service worker Alicia Kehoe to Governor’s Office task force to develop protective services legislation.
- Oregon “Needs and Issues” process deadline is March 31.

## **7. SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

LCOG Associate Planner Megan Banks presented “A Tale of Three Cities: Downtown Planning in Coburg, Creswell, and Junction City.” She described processes used to assist communities develop plans for the revitalization of core areas. She showed examples of prospective and completed improvements in each of the cities.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

None.

### **9. SENIOR AND DISABLED SERVICES**

None.

## 10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

None.

## 11. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

### A. LCOG Bylaws Amendment

Mr. Kloepfel referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “LCOG Bylaws Amendment – Advocacy” and reviewed information it contained regarding changing Bylaws to be consistent with policy adopted by the Board in May 2003. He identified the proposed changes, as follows:

#### 10. Advocacy

~~The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing and communicating LCOG policies and policy recommendations. Advisory committees, established by LCOG, and members of the agency’s staff are precluded from directly advocating legislative positions to state or federal lawmakers without policy level approval. When time constraints make formal approval of advocacy positions by the Board impossible, the Executive committee is empowered to establish and communicate an agency position to legislative bodies. If neither the Board nor the Executive Committee can convene and deliberate upon a proposed advocacy position in a timely manner, the Chair is empowered to express the agency’s position to state or federal legislative bodies. Communication of recommendations to state or federal executive agencies need not be formally approved by the Board, but does require the approval of the Executive Director or his/her designee.~~

The Board of Directors is responsible for establishing and communicating LCOG policies and policy recommendations. Advocacy positions generated as recommendations by advisory committees, member agencies, or LCOG staff are to be endorsed or authorized by the Board of Directors before they are communicated to other levels of government. When policy-level approval has been given, ongoing oral or written advocacy can be conducted by staff or advisory committees without further Board approval. When time constraints make formal approval of advocacy positions by the Board impossible, the Executive Committee is empowered to establish and communicate an advocacy position to legislative bodies. When authorization has been granted by the Executive Committee alone, a report of such authorization will be made to the full Board at the earliest possible time.

Mr. Kloepfel stated that thirty days notice of the proposed amendment had been given to members immediately after the Board meeting on January 22. He said the Executive Committee recommended adoption of the proposal.

**MOTION:** *Director Al King moved, seconded by Director Dennis Shine, to approve the proposed amendment of the LCOG Bylaws.*

Director Shine asked if the amendment would preclude the Lane Economic Committee from taking advocacy positions. Mr. Kloepfel replied that advisory committee advocacy was permitted when policy-level approval was given by the Board of Directors.

*The motion was approved unanimously, 19:0.*

### B. Roles of Board and Executive Committee and Meeting Change

Chairperson Miller referred to memoranda from the Executive Committee distributed as Agenda Support Material at the beginning of the meeting that were approved for

consideration. He said discussion of Board and Executive Committee roles had begun at the Goal Setting Session of the Board held in Cottage Grove on July 25, 2003. He said the Executive Committee had reached conclusions, as follows:

1. The Board of Directors is best suited to exploration of regional policy issues.
2. The Executive Committee would serve the organization well by attending to routine business items that otherwise consume the time of the Board.
3. The Board should consider moving to a bi-monthly (every other month) meeting schedule and focus them on regional issues and important policy matters.
4. The Executive Committee should hold monthly meetings, adjusting its schedule to give it a more constructive role in setting the agenda for Board meetings.

Mr. Kloeppe referred to his memorandum distributed as Agenda Support Material at the beginning of the meeting that was approved for consideration. He noted that it contained suggestions for a Board meeting schedule to implement the recommendations of the Executive Committee

**MOTION:** *Mayor Torrey moved, seconded by Commissioner Bill Dwyer, to approve the conclusions of the Executive Committee and direct that they be implemented.*

Mayor Torrey said he believed the conclusions were an efficient and effective way for LCOG to do its business. He said he assumed that changes made to the Bylaws to implement them would include the ability of the Officers, Executive Committee, Executive Director, or a certain number of members to call a Special Meeting of the Board. He said he hoped that there would also be provision for the Board to “rein in” the Executive Committee, if needed.

Director King said he supported the recommendations and shared the views of Mayor Torrey. He said if there were fewer meetings of the Board, there needed to be an extra effort to “maximize them as quality time.” He suggested that a variety of meeting options be considered – meeting on Saturday morning, starting meetings at 5:30 or 6:00 p.m., mixing presentation and discussion.

Mayor Judy Volta said she agreed with Director King, but was concerned that full reports of meetings of the Executive Committee be provided to members of the Board. Chairperson Miller replied that he could foresee that reports of the Committee would be more extensive than they were currently and that there would be increased use of e-mail communication with members of the Board. He also said members were invited to contact members of the Executive Committee at any time.

Director Shine said he also favored the motion. He recalled that members had expressed that time spent hearing current activities of other members was valuable.

Chairperson Miller said he agreed that reports from member agencies should continue to be included on agenda of meetings of the Board.

Director Shine suggested that implementation of the recommendation to hold bi-monthly meetings of the Board be delayed until 2005. Chairperson Miller said the Executive Committee had discussed recommending that the meeting schedule be changed, beginning in June 2004.

**MOTION:** *Mayor Torrey moved to amend the motion to approve and implement the conclusions of the Executive Committee to add the phrase “implementing the change of meeting schedule in June 2004.”*

Chairperson Miller determined that Commissioner Dwyer and members of the Executive Committee agreed with the proposed amendment and stated that it was incorporated into the motion as a “friendly amendment.”

Director Pryor said he believed the proposals enabled “quality versus quantity” work by the Board. He said having “housekeeping matters” taken care of elsewhere, would allow the Board to give expanded considerations to regional matters.

Director Patrick Lanning said the Executive Committee had discussed topics which could be considered by the Board if it had an agenda free of routine matters.

Chairperson Miller said the Executive Committee would likely develop a list of how it would operate for which it would seek Board approval.

Commissioner Dwyer said he believed it would be important to describe what was to be included in “housekeeping matters.” Chairperson Miller said that it would likely include what was previously included on the Consent Agenda, standard items such as approving matters with the endorsement of an advisory council. Mr. Kloeppe added that the Charter requires that the Board approve the Budget, Annual Work Plan, and anything having to do with the Executive Director.

Director Pryor said he did not believe the proposals would diminish what the Board would have to deal with, but would add more to the Consent Agenda and allow the Board to consider matters that are more meaningful.

Director King suggested that Board meetings be scheduled for a minimum of two hours.

Mr. Kloeppe said he believed the proposals would allow the Board to deal with “many wonderful regional issues.”

***The amended motion to approve and implement the conclusions of the Executive Committee was adopted unanimously, 19:0.***

Mayor Weathers left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

## REPORTS

### 12. **ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mr. Kloeppe referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Advisory Council Reports” and said he or other staff could answer questions about them.

### 13. **REPORTS OF STATE AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

None.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 14. **SENIOR AND DISABLED SERVICES**

#### **A. Impacts of the Failure of Measure 30 on Senior and Disabled Services**

Director Ted Stevens reported that, at the current time, additional service cuts to LCOG Senior and Disabled Services (S&DS) programs were not anticipated, but that there would be no restoration of services already lost. He said significant reductions to be made in the number of persons eligible for the Oregon Health Plan would seriously affect a significant number of S&DS clients.

Mr. Stevens said “all bets are off” about the status of support for S&DS programs, if the Governor and Legislature decided to call a Special Session to make an additional attempt at resolving funding shortfall issues. He said S&DS was proceeding with caution, waiting for better direction from the State.

#### **B. One Year Extension of In-House Services Contract with Addus Health Care**

Mr. Stevens referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “One Year Extension of the In-Home Services Contract with Addus HealthCare.” He said it informed the Board of an important S&DS contract and required no action.

#### **C. Public Hearing On Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services**

Mr. Stevens referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Notice of Public Hearing on Draft FY04-05 Area Plan on Aging and Disability Services.” He said Board members were welcome to attend the hearing and that the Plan would be on the Agenda of the April meeting of the Board for approval.

## 15. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

None.

### BOARD DISCUSSION

## 16. REPORTS OF MEMBER AGENCIES

Councilor Susie Navetta reported that special attention in Dunes City had recently been paid to achievements of area high school students. She distributed copies of articles published in the *Siuslaw News* entitled “Health Occupations Class prepares high school students for the future” and “Siuslaw students benefit when given ‘alternatives.’”

Councilor Nan Osbon reported that the Florence City Council was aggressively pursuing development on the northern edge of the city. She said a public meeting had been held about forming a Local Improvement District to finance infrastructure improvements on a 370-acre parcel and that there appeared to be agreement to move forward. She said she was not as certain that a Native American gambling casino would be built in the area as the City Manager was reported to have said in the minutes of the previous Board meeting.

Mayor Ron Petitti reported that Creswell was growing in all directions and that he was continually surprised how quickly newly built homes were sold. He said a “Jim Johnson clone” had been hired as City Manager. He said the high cost of carrying out the Water Master plan made its implementation questionable and that the City was currently focusing its efforts on water conservation. He announced that the second annual “Dewey Days” Book Festival would be held March 13. He distributed copies of information about the event to be held at the Emerald Valley Resort.

Director Alan Laisure reported that Bethel School District 52 was continuing its efforts to help kids learn. He said the Board of Education had expanded its process for planning the budget for the next fiscal year to allow additional public input. He said a recent five-year enrollment projection study showed the district would continue to grow at a rapid pace. He said a fund raising effort to build an athletic field stadium was about to begin.

Director King reported that Springfield School District 19 had also expanded its budget planning process and that it would start earlier. He said a recent meeting of Team Springfield had set education as its prime objective for improvement in the next year. He suggested that school district representatives on the LCOG Board meet to continue discussing how the findings of the report received entitled “Possible ‘Disappropriation Costs’ to Education and Human Services” could be implemented.

Director Helen Wagner reported that Willamalane Parks and Recreation District was considering additions to its property holdings. She reported on development of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Street Sport Field Park, plans for the original Mt. Vernon Elementary School site, and improvements being made to bike paths.

Director Pryor reported that the Eugene School District 4J was continuing to determine ways to cut \$8-\$10 million from its current budget. He said construction of the north and south side elementary schools was proceeding on schedule and that there was unexpectedly high interest in naming them. He reported that when representatives of Oregon school districts had recently met with the U.S. Secretary of Education, members of boards of education were excluded.

Mayor Sue Bond reported that Oakridge currently had twelve major projects underway. She said a Local Improvement District to pay for street improvements had been formed, the water system was being expanded, and a new building was being constructed in the City's Industrial Park.

Mayor Diana Tonkin reported that Westfir was seeking funding for a wastewater treatment plan. She said the feasibility of acquiring an historic U.S. Forest Service ranger station was being studied. She said if it were acquired, it would be converted into a community center.

Director Lanning reported that Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) was engaged in a major study of its master site plan to determine if it could be made available as the site for a new west-of-the-Willamette hospital. He said the stage had not yet been reached for public involvement, but that he believed every effort would be made to facilitate the development.

Councilor Dwight Coon reported that a group of Junction City citizens was investigating the possibility of forming a park and recreation district. He said the process for hiring a new City Administrator was continuing and that engaging a new Finance Director was also underway. He said The City was exploring the possibility of forming an Enterprise Zone with Harrisburg. He said he was looking forward to the Scandinavian Festival.

Director Shine reported that Lane Community College (LCC) was pleased to be able to sponsor courses identified as important in Dunes City. He said federal assistance to continue such courses was being investigated. He said that the March meeting of the Board would be at LCC and that a brief presentation about job training programs was being prepared. He said efforts were continuing to determine how the college could strategically help area school districts. He displayed a copy of the *Springfield News* which had a major article on LCC students winning an American Culinary Arts competition.

Councilor Mike Fleck reported that Cottage Grove had been forced to adopt a rate increase to pay for repairs and improvements in its wastewater treatment plan. He said it had also been decided to continue to acquire municipal water from a site 40 miles away, rather than constructing a closer supply station. He said the City Council was considering whether it would be feasible to develop a park and recreation zone for needed improvements.

Commissioner Richard Eymann said it was an honor to represent the Emerald Peoples Utility District (EPUD) at meetings of the LCOG Board. He suggested that representatives

from Creswell discuss their needs for infrastructure improvements with EPUD representatives. He said EPUD was active in the Oregon Public Utility District association.

Mayor Torrey reported that Eugene residents regularly asked him how much weight he had lost. He said it currently totaled 97 pounds, the same as many Romanian women gymnasts. He said the City Council was actively supporting the development of a new hospital west-of-the-Willamette. He said the 2004 “United Front” lobbying trip to Washington DC would include efforts to have funds earmarked for planning improvements to the Coburg Interstate 5 interchange. He said unusual cooperation between local government agencies was recognized in previous lobbying trips.

Commissioner Bill Dwyer reported that he agreed that local area government agencies had more in common than differences. He said Lane County faced significant budget challenges as the result of the defeat of Ballot Measure 30. He said the Board of County Commissioners had agreed to request that all Departments determine how to make a nine percent cut in support for all services and to evaluate how to allocate its \$10 million reduction in revenue against it. He reported that the Lane Psychiatric Hospital would be closed. He also reported that the Lane County Department of Health and Human Services had spearheaded the establishment of federally funded Community Health Centers of Lane County to serve low-income residents, Latinos needing culturally and linguistically appropriate health care, homeless, and at-risk families, Medicare and Medicaid recipients unable to access health care and uninsured/under insured patients.

Commissioner Dwyer reported that the County was studying infrastructure improvement opportunities. He said Sheriff Jan Clements had decided not to seek election to a third term of office and had announced who he supported to take his place. He said bids were being received for the remodeling of the Wayne Morse Free Speech Plaza by the Public Service Building.

Commissioner Dwyer said he believed Coburg had suffered from the loss of business because of the inadequate freeway interchange and the lack of wastewater treatment facilities and would benefit from special federal funding. He said U.S. Representative Peter DeFazio would announce that he would run for re-election within a week. He said the County would not question development of a park district in Junction City, as it had with Springfield’s attempts to join with a rural fire district.

Mayor Judy Volta reported that planning for the Coburg wastewater treatment plant was reaching its final stages. She said the municipal water system was also being upgraded. She said her “real job” was managing a Ford Foundation grant that was intended to better link the community with its school. She described a recently held “Heritage Festival” and said its success suggested that residents were “ripe” to address funding and other problems.

Commissioner Dwyer listed negative factors in the establishment of a natural gas powered electric generating plant north of Coburg. He said he believed the developer was intention-

ally avoiding the involvement of local governments in constructing the plant because the application had not been submitted to the Board of County Commissioners.

Chairperson Miller stated that the Lane Education Services District was waiting for the “bottom line” in state funding to be established. He said, like others, the district had extended its budget planning process and would start it earlier than in previous years. He said the district was joining representatives from various communities in Lane County to discover how they could work together to improve education.

Chairperson Miller announced that the next meeting of the LCOG Board of Directors was scheduled for March 18, one week earlier in the month than it was regularly held.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

*(Recorded by Dan Lindstrom)*