

MINUTES
LANE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lane Community College
Workforce Training Building 19 – Conference Room
4000 East 30th Avenue - Eugene

March 18, 2004 - 7:00 P.M.

VOTING MEMBERS

Present

Director Jerry Miller (Lane ESD), Chair
Commissioner Richard Eymann (EPUD)
Director Al King (School District 19)
Director Alan Laisure (School District 52)
Commissioner Patrick Lanning (EWEB)
Director Charlie Mitchell (Siuslaw Public
Library District)

Commissioner Anna Morrison (Lane County)
Director Chris Pryor (School District 4J)
Director Dennis Shine (LCC)
Mayor Diana Tonkin (Westfir)
Mayor Jim Torrey (Eugene)
Mayor Judy Volta (Coburg)
Mayor Warren Weathers (Lowell)

Absent

Cottage Grove Representative
Creswell Representative
Dunes City Representative
Florence Representative
Junction City Representative
Oakridge Representative
Springfield Representative
Veneta Representative

School District 68 (McKenzie) Representative
Fern Ridge Library District Representative
Willamalane Parks and Recreation District
Representative
Western Lane Ambulance District Represent-
ative
Port of Siuslaw Representative

STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

None.

GUESTS

Peg Allison, Tim Craig, Jeff Davis, Steve Hull, Jim Lindley, Shirl Meads.

LCOG STAFF

George Kloepfel, 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 7:10 p.m.

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

Director Alan Laisure introduced Steve Hull, newly appointed Superintendent of Bethel School District 52.

2. REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Miller noted that the Consent Agenda contained approval of the minutes of the February 26, 2004, meeting.

MOTION: *Commissioner Morrison moved, seconded by Director Al King, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was adopted unanimously, 12:0, Mayor Jim Torrey having not yet joined the meeting.*

COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairperson Miller reported that the Executive Committee had not met since the last meeting of the Board and determined that no member had comments to make.

6. COMMENTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Kloepfel referred to Agenda Support Material entitled "Comments from the Executive Director." He noted that a questionnaire requesting information of Board members was included with the material. He said response was optional, but that the data was often requested in grant applications.

Commissioner Morrison asked how large was the Transportation-Growth Management Program grant reported to have been received? Mr. Kloepfel stated that it was \$75,000.

7. SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Partners In Economic Development

Director Dennis Shine introduced Tim Craig, Lane Community College (LCC) Division of Community and Economic Development (CED) Executive Director.

Mr. Craig explained that his division provided professional education and training programs, continuing education, and conference and meeting services. He said his responsibility was to coordinate assessment of emerging and changing needs for economic development and job force training. He described development of a regional skill center to serve special needs of high schools in Lane County. He introduced CED program directors.

Jim Lindly said he was director of the Business Development Center and Corporate Contract Training programs. He said the purpose of the programs was to provide training for employees of new and existing businesses. He said the LCC program was the oldest and largest of 19 in the state and boasted a record of an \$8 return on a \$1 investment.

Peg Allison said she was director of the Center for Meeting and Learning and Conference and Culinary Arts programs. She said the Center was a state-of-the-art conference facility able to accommodate up to 400 guests at tables or 600 theater-style. She said students of the Culinary Arts program had prepared the food served at the meeting and had recently competed successfully in an interstate culinary contest.

Jeff Davis said he was director of the Cooperative Education and Educational Outreach programs. He said the department offered courses in professional certification and personal enrichment. He explained that it was quickly responsive to emerging and innovative education needs of the community. He described cooperative education centers operated in Downtown Eugene, Cottage Grove, and Florence.

Shirl Meads said she was director of the Workforce Development department that included the Workforce Network, providing services to employers and job seekers; the Job Opportunity and Basic Skills (JOBS) program; and Employment Retention Assistance programs, providing programs for teen parenting skills, work experience, job retention, and career advancement services for Department of Human Services clients throughout Lane County.

Mayor Jim Torrey joined the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Commissioner Morrison asked if LCC received funding from the federal Workforce Network and if it had participated in a recent educational lobbying trip to Washington D.C. Mr. Craig replied that Workforce Network resources were included in funding for CED programs. Director Shine said he had represented LCC in a lobbying trip and described the trip.

Commissioner Morrison asked for additional information about the proposed regional skill center and how it would differ from current college participation programs for high school students. Mr. Craig replied that the proposed concept had been described as a “Middle

College” and emphasized more skill development than educational training and would provide college experience orientation.

Mayor Warren Weathers asked what local industries jobs were most difficult to fill. Mr. Davis replied that it was his experience that general instruction for supervisory management skills and preparation for health care careers were most requested.

Mayor Weathers asked if it could be possible for LCC to assist rural school districts in the utilization of distance learning services. Mr. Craig replied that explorations for such assistance were underway. Mayor Torrey said he was aware that the Conden School District was experienced in such programs and could provide advice on how to proceed. Chairperson Miller said the Lane Education Services District was working with LCC in expanding the availability of distance learning services. Mr. Kloeppe reported that Regional Communications Services managed by LCOG was submitting a grant to establish two-way communication capacity with all Lane County school districts.

Mr. Craig referred to material available describing CED programs at LCC.

BUSINESS ITEMS

8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

None.

9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

None.

10. SENIOR AND DISABLED SERVICES

None.

11. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

A. 2004 Budget Committee Appointments

Chairperson Miller referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “2004 Budget Committee Appointments.” He noted that the application from Ronald Murphy for appointment to the LCOG Budget Committee was also distributed. He reviewed the recommendations it contained, as follows:

1. That Ron Murphy be appointed to a three-year term to the Budget Committee, joining Marion Esty and Bob Doppelt as citizen members.

2. That Gary Williams, Patrick Lanning, and Jerry Miller be appointed to one-year terms on the Budget Committee.

MOTION: *Director Chris Pryor moved, seconded by Mayor Torrey, to accept the recommended appointments to the Budget Committee. The motion was adopted unanimously, 13:0.*

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Kloeppe referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “Advisory Council Reports.” He noted that it contained information from the Metropolitan Policy Committee, Disability Services Advisory Council, and Lane Economic Committee. He determined there were no questions regarding the reports.

13. REPORTS OF STATE AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

None.

INFORMATION ITEMS

14. SENIOR AND DISABLED SERVICES

None.

15. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

A. United Front Report

LCOG staff member Jamon Kent described the 14-year experience of Eugene, Lane County, Springfield, Lane Transit District, Springfield School District, University of Oregon, other area government agencies, and, most recently the City of Coburg, in presenting a “united front” to federal officials in Washington D.C. regarding regional issues. He circulated a copy of a book entitled “Lane County, Oregon, Federal Priorities” used in the recent lobbying trip.

Mayor Judy Volta described her experience as a first-time participant in the process. She said she believed the preparation meetings and staff support provided by LCOG was most helpful in the heavy schedule.

Mayor Volta suggested that LCOG conduct a forum for cities involved in municipal wastewater development projects. She said she believed there was a “regional confluence” of interests that could be of benefit to current and future infrastructure efforts.

Commissioner Morrison left the meeting at approximately 8:10 p.m.

16. EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

A. Board of Directors Bylaws Amendments

Mr. Kloepfel referred to Agenda Support Material entitled “LCOG Bylaws Amendments.” He noted that the memorandum and attachments included specific proposals developed as a result of agreements reached on revising the Board meeting schedule and other updates resulting from earlier policy decisions regarding evaluation of the performance of the Executive Director and development of the budget.

Mr. Kloepfel said the amendments would be considered at the April Board meeting, following a required 30-day advance notification process. He said their adoption would require approval by a two-thirds majority of a quorum of members present.

BOARD DISCUSSION

18. REPORTS OF MEMBER AGENCIES

Mayor Volta invited everyone to come to Coburg and buy antiques.

Director Shine reported that final Lane Community College overall enrollment was down approximately ten percent and non-credit enrollment was down 36 percent, less than the 60 percent reduction projected earlier. He expanded his description of the combined Washington D.C. lobbying effort of Oregon Community Colleges. He reviewed physical plant improvements, his educational conferences experience, and the effort to fill the LCC Vice President position.

Director Charlie Mitchell described his experience as a new member of the Siuslaw Library District Board of Directors. He said ways to better serve the entire district were being discussed and that expansion of parking at the main building was underway.

Mayor Diana Tonkin reported that Westfir continued to struggle with how to develop facilities to meet its wastewater needs. She said planning also continued about the use of a surplus U.S. Forest Service ranger station as a community building.

Mayor Weathers described the experience of Lowell with Department of Environmental Quality standards in its wastewater treatment facility improvements. He said there was a significant increase in treatment costs to meet standards set and that they would provide few, if any, health benefits.

Mayor Torrey reported that considerations in Eugene about how to best locate public facilities in the downtown area were showing great promise. He said efficiencies of scale, collocation, and property resource sharing were being identified.

Commissioner Patrick Lanning reported that Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) was interested in participating in Eugene public facility location discussions as part of its Master Plan Site work. He said the utility was committed to maintaining a downtown location identity, even if bases for other aspects of its service were re-located. He said a final Public Hearing on Rates had been held and that an increase had been set to provide for regaining of prudent reserves and maintaining aging infrastructure. He said Integrated Energy Planning had begun and discussions anticipated regarding the use of energy produced by a proposed natural gas power generation plant.

Director Alan Laisure reported that the Bethel School District 52 Board of Education had discussed co-location as a possibility for new District headquarters. He said annual budget work had begun, phase-two construction of the Prairie Mountain Middle School had begun, initial construction of an Industrial Arts building at the high school was about to begin, and planning for a high school athletic stadium continued.

Commissioner Richard Eymann reported that Emerald Peoples Utility District (EPUD) continued to work aggressively to provide better and more economical services to its owner/customers. He said new and enlarged energy sources were being studied and that efforts were underway to engender cooperation with neighboring electric co-ops.

Director King of Springfield School District 19 said Team Springfield was also studying cooperative location of facilities. He said the budget planning of the district had begun earlier than ever and would be more extensive, involving a five-year plan.

Director Chris Pryor of Eugene School District 4J described what he believed was a coincidence of issues between municipal wastewater development problems and those of school districts. He said he was excited about the possibility of a community/civic center to co-locate public services in Eugene. He said the most momentous issue recently dealt with by the Board was naming of schools being constructed Bertha Holt Elementary School and Caesar Chavez Elementary School. He said there was united Board support for the names.

Chairperson Miller said he believed the Lane Educational Services joined other educational entities in mourning the recent death of Tom Huebner. He said the School Board was “winding down” its resolution process and beginning work on the budget

Chairperson Miller noted that Lane Transit District was making changes to its level of services and fares. He said he believed discussion of public transportation could be valuable at a future LCOG Board meeting.

In response to Mayor Volta’s suggestion, Mr. Kloeppe reported that the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments had sponsored a “wastewater summit” and that he would seek to obtain the report of its outcomes and recommendations to share with members. He said LCOG staff would seek to collect information about the experiences of small cities in developing wastewater treatment facilities

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

(Recorded by Dan Lindstrom)