



Government Affairs Minutes

Friday, July 1st, 2011 • 1:30 pm Starker Conference Room

We're all for business.

Call to Order

B. Grant

Meeting called to order at 1:37pm

Kip Much is in attendance today, considering joining the GAC.

Approve Minutes

B. Grant

June Minutes – did not meet quorum, minutes not approved. Moved to next meeting.

Local

South Bypass

P. Lampton

Pat Lampton gave an overview of the plan. The plan is stalled with the city unwilling to buy off on State's design and vice versa. The state believes the City's proposal is a dangerous design. The City feels the State's plan is unsafe as well. The City wants to develop a park in the future. The City is standing strong with it's position. We may lose this opportunity if the City doesn't approve one of the state's proposals.

Long-term solution will require flyovers and such to accommodate foot and motor vehicle traffic.

GAC should consider providing some feedback to the City if they choose to do so.

Roger Nyquist (representing Linn County) has been involved in these meetings, and was in favor of the State's original proposal.

ACTION: Call Mark O'Brien to discuss if there is still time to survey the membership and send a letter to Council from the GAC on behalf of the Membership.

ACTION: Send a survey to membership (if timing is right) and ask on feedback regarding bypass.

ACTION: Send letter to council with Member feedback.

A count has not been done on how many bicyclists go across the bridge daily. There are upwards of 40,000 people that travel across the bride daily.

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County

J. Dixon

Budget approved a few weeks ago. Fortunately have sufficient reserve for this and next biennium. Need to do planning now for sustainability of County government. The County will be alright in juvenile and county corrections. Commission on children and families is up in the air, as it will go away within one year with legislation that was passed in Salem. There was a reduction in position in current budget, the bulk were coming positions, with only a few current employees laid off. There is a levy to go out next year.

The future of the rail line is unknown. There is a gentleman interested in purchasing the rail line. Discussion of it being a rail line going to Salem and the airport. The future of the rail line is unknown.

Jay is willing to bring feedback to Capitol Hill when he travels back there yearly.

State

Legislative Update

Session from a business perspective went pretty well this time. Some positive job growth bills passed. Completed the redistricting, which went pretty smoothly.

Another session is coming up in February. It will be a very short session. There will be one bill each.

Restored the Governor's budget cut for Veteran services (Additional \$350k).

Increase \$37.1million of economic development funds to County by \$8million.

Increased County Fair budgets by \$1million

Increase Economic Revitalization team by \$1million

Increased \$300k for economic gardening

Increased \$1million for economic development

Monthly legislative briefing

M. Eastham

Would like the GAC to hold monthly legislative breakfasts for a change to talk with our legislators. This would be to understand their thinking, and to talk about our focuses moving into the session. These would take place previous to the session taking place. This would likely begin in September. This would be open to members, hosted by the GAC.

ACTION: Look for facility and setup breakfasts.

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Other

Sara Gelser has agreed to do a phone update with us during the session during the session.

Reservoir Road will be completed. A traffic light will eventually go in. Costs will be recouped by Andrew Martin. Ultimate plan is for a structure to go over the tracks. This will happen far down the road. It will require an easement and approval from OSU.

Hold a reception or dinner with Senator Wyden when he is in town.

ACTION: Schedule a meeting.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at: 2:31pm