



Clark County Railroad Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 10, 2025, 4:00pm to 4:56pm
Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin St., 6th Floor BOCC
Training Room and virtual via Microsoft Teams

Advisory Board-Present: Dan Weaver, Dave Rowe, Jerry Jacobus, Jim Malinowski, Jim Pearson, John Hansen, John Shaffer, Mark Daniels, Mark Herceg, Neil Chambers, Terry Gardner

Advisory Board-Not Present: David Millar, Eric Fuller, Gregg Smith, Zach Keith

Clark County Staff and Leadership: Amber Emery, Denielle Cowley, Glen Yung, Kathleen Otto, Ken Lader, Kevin McDowell, Kevin Tyler

Battle Ground, Yacolt, Chelatchie Prairie Railroad (BYCX): Randy Williams

Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad (PVJR): None Present

Guests: Charles Hancock, Jackie Lane, Jim McRae, Karissa Halstrom, Kim O'Hara, Steve Jagelski

4:00pm Quorum present and meeting called to Order – Dan Weaver

4:18pm January 13, 2025, minutes approved as modified to clarify RRAB's role, which is to make recommendations to Clark County Council and not to lobby on behalf of the county (Motion by Neil Chambers, Second by Gerald Jacobus).

4:24pm February 10, 2025, minutes approved as modified (Motion by Dave Rowe, Second by Mark Daniels).

Comments from the Chair – If a member of the board is going to propose a letter for support of a bill, the Chair needs to see a draft of it, why the board should take a position on a particular issue, and how it fits in with the railroad as seen today. The Chair can then go forward with approval from the County Council. If the council has taken a neutral position, it is highly unlikely they will approve a letter from the board.

Portland Vancouver Junction Railroad (PVJR) – Not present

Battle Ground, Yacolt, Chelatchie Prairie Railroad (BYCX) – Randy Williams

- Hoping to have steam engine ready to go by Father's Day, and have it run more often so maintenance can be performed on diesel engine
- Happy with the activities of Railworks, very good to work with
- Will start running again for Mother's Day Weekend
- Doing some deferred maintenance on the cars
- Hoping to get down to a big rock wall where they used to stop now that Bridge 20 is repaired

County Activities – Kevin Tyler

- Bridge Repairs Status – Complete other than one minor issue

- **Railroad Roadbed Rehab Status**
 - Bid went to Lee Contractors for \$455,000 (remaining grant funds)
 - Work needs to be done by June 30th
 - Included painting HWY 99 bridge
- **County Climate Policy**
 - Staff involved in developing the climate policy are willing to give the board a brief presentation, scheduled for the April meeting
 - Jim Malinowski asked if there will be an opportunity for changes in the policy. Kevin said he doesn't know and will provide materials in advance of the meeting, and he can provide comment back. Jim believes the statement is weak and there should be something about moving freight by rail for 10% of the energy you can by highway and impacts of rail on the environment are far less than highway construction. This is a good time to write a letter to council to say what the board thinks should go in the policy.

Unfinished Business – Dan Weaver

- **Railroad presentation and open house (to educate the community about the railroad)**
 - Sub-committee to gather information – Dave Rowe, Neil Chambers, Mark Daniels, and Jim Malinowski

New Business – Dan Weaver - None

Public Comment – Dan Weaver

- **Jim McRae – He is with the 18th Democrats Legislate District and lives in Barberton near the railroad.**
 - Wants to know if the board will allow organizations who have difficulty with the railroad to present their cases at the open house? Board answered that would need to be decided.
 - Friends of Clark County won their appeal case and does the board have a comment about how this may impact the railroad's potential for income? Board has no comment.
 - A statement was made earlier that new people who purchased homes in Clark County don't understand the railroad or are opposed to it. Jim said those people who buy homes and pay taxes have just as much right as those who have lived here for 30 or 40 years.

Good of the Order – Dan Weaver - None

4:56pm Meeting Adjourned (Motion by Gerald Jacobus, Second by Neil Chambers)

Submitted by Chris Walker

Upcoming Meeting:

Date: April 14, 2025

Time: 4:00pm to 5:30pm

Location: Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin St., 6th Floor Training Room and virtual