

**April 21, 2010**

The SPECIAL Joint Meeting of the Woodland City Council, Woodland School District and Port of Woodland was held on the above date at the Woodland High School Commons, Park Street, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m. by Paul Cline, Port Commissioner.

**Mission Statement** - *Community stakeholders promoting common values, visions & goals for Woodland and the Lewis River Valley.*

**City of Woodland:**

Mayor Chuck Blum  
Councilmember John Burke  
Councilmember Marilee McCall  
Councilmember Al Swindell  
Councilmember Aaron Christopherson  
Councilmember Susan Humbyrd  
Councilmember Benjamin Fredricks  
Clerk-Treasurer Mari Ripp  
Public Works Director Steve Branz

**Woodland School District:**

Superintendent Michael Green  
Boardmember & Chair, Jim Bays (absent)  
Boardmember Bill Woodard  
Boardmember Tina Caton (absent)  
Boardmember Janice Watts  
Boardmember Steve Madsen

**Port of Woodland:**

Executive Director Nelson Holmberg  
Commissioner Dale Boon  
Commissioner Paul Cline  
Commissioner Jerry Peterson

**Cowlitz Co.:**

Commissioner Kathleen Johnson (absent)  
Commissioner George Raiter

**Cowlitz Wahkiakum Council of Governments**

Executive Director Steve Harvey, Facilitator

**WORKSHOP**

**Steve Harvey, CWCOG welcomed everyone to the meeting.**

**1. Welcome & Introductions**

- Introduction of Nelson Holmberg, Port of Woodland, Executive Director
- Thank you to Kim Seay and Creative Chef class at Woodland High School

**2. Progress by subcommittee(s) to prioritize goals/strategies**

- a. "We Are Woodland" 2010 event report by Dale Boon
  - i. Working on the 2010 summer event; want to coordinate with the Hot Summer Nights and Farmers Market; next meeting in 2 weeks of committee
  - ii. Grover Laseke, DEM, will be coordinating with "We are Woodland" event for preparedness and for disasters  
Also they are the lead agency for the Big MAC exercise on June 10<sup>th</sup> in Cowlitz Co.

**b. Movie Night**

Marilee McCall reported that the equipment can be used from the City of Vancouver, but it has to be coordinated when Vancouver is not using it. Concept is to hold it after a music night event after dark. More follow up will occur relating to the details and to look at dates.

**c. Middle Term (2-3 year range-Parks & Recreation)**

The sub-committee is still working on it.

**d. Long Term (5 year range – Library facilities)**

Goal it to meet with the Friends of the Library and continue their involvement. Al Swindell reported that the City of Woodland in conjunction with the Fort Vancouver Regional Library have submitted a grant application for the purchase of the Centennial building at 147 Davidson for the Cowlitz Co. Rural Public Facilities grant. Mayor Blum presented information on the priorities of the council with the Library being one of them. This project would draw people to the downtown and assist with revitalization thus economic development. It would expand the current facility from 2500 sq. ft. by increasing it 3,500 sq. ft. +/- for a total facility of 7,500 sq. ft.

**3. Reports on projects and programs by each entity**

**a. City of Woodland**

i. Update on 2010 Farmers Market by Chuck Blum

**b. Port of Woodland**

i. Ring of Fire changed to Mt. St. Helen's scenic loop #1. It is a joint county venture, Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania. Meetings have been held, committees formed and discussion on the route and expansion of the loop and roads.

**c. Woodland School District**

i. Proposal to close the budget gap for coming fiscal year  
Michael Green reported that the school has to cut \$620k for the ensuing year. Options are staffing reductions (through attrition), reduce District fund balance, pay expenses with state forest funds, targeted adjustments, across the board adjustments. The consensus of the team was to utilize a blend of approaches. They reported with a summarized table of 6 options.

ii. "Embracing Diversity"  
Recent events at the school. Discussion ensued on education and outreach.

**d. Cowlitz County**

i. Update on Commissioner Kathleen Johnson. Recovering at home. She is staying in communication through email.

ii. Rural Development grant funding. It is .09% of XXX. The county to retain and give in grants. The key is job creation. From the funding source, \$600k is allocated annually for bond payments, plus a retained amount for the reserve balance which is to maintain bond rating.

iii. Tourism. Funded Hot Summer Nights and the Yale Valley Art Festival. The 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mt. St. Helen's is coming. The tourism dept. will

be holding 10 videos on the website. They invited entities and businesses to share information on their communities that can be added.

- iv. Dike Certification. Grover Laseke gave an update. Nothing much has occurred. Ken Stone is still working on the funding matter.

**4. Other topics**

- a. April 29<sup>th</sup> a mock trial will be held at the school. It will provide legal education (reported by Steve Madsen.)
- b. Request from Chamber to host After Hours (Nov) – joint venture  
Each entity will discuss it and talk to their boards and get back with the City.
- c. CWCOG will be updating the County Comprehensive Plan. They will have a lot of public involvement and meetings. They may want to participate in the “We are Woodland” event.

**5. Next meeting July 21<sup>st</sup> to be hosted by City of Woodland**