

MINUTES OF THE METRO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

November 8, 2000

Council Chamber

Councilors Present: Rod Monroe, (Chair), Bill Atherton, Ed Washington

Also Present: Susan McLain, Peggy Coats

Chair Monroe called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

1. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Motion: **Councilor Atherton** moved to adopt the minutes of the September 6, 2000, Metro Operations Committee meeting.

Vote: There were no amendments or revisions to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously with Councilor Washington abstaining due to his excused absence from the September 6, 2000, meeting.

Motion: **Councilor Washington** moved to adopt the minutes of the October 18, 2000, Metro Operations Committee meeting.

Vote: There were no amendments or revisions to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously with Councilor Atherton abstaining due to his excused absence from the October 18, 2000, meeting.

2. Resolution No. 00-3007, For the Purpose of Adding a New Job Classification of Exhibits Technician 2 at the Oregon Zoo.

Ruth Scott, Assistant Human Resources Director, explained that under Metro Code any new classification added to any salary plan needed Council approval. Due to the unique requirements of this job, it has become necessary to create a new Exhibits Technician 2 classification in the laborer's salary schedule at the Zoo. Currently, the work of this position, fabricating new exhibits, is being contracted out and could be completed exclusively in-house at less expense. A budget amendment by ordinance will be proposed by the Zoo if this position is approved. **Ms. Scott** said that there is definitely sufficient work for one position. Zoo staff, HR staff and the union have agreed with the need, requirements and placement of this request. **Tony Vecchio**, Zoo Director, said new exhibits and offerings were part of the Zoo's business plan, and this position would be added to the in-house staff who design and build exhibits, so the maintenance staff can return to on-going preventative maintenance. New exhibits or renovation of older exhibits invite more visitors and create more revenue.

Motion: **Councilor Washington** moved approval of Resolution No. 00-3007.

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously. **Councilor Washington** will carry the resolution to Council.

3. Resolution No. 00-3006, For the Purpose of Appointing Shannon Turk and Gil Cobb and Re-Appointing Darren Pennington to the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI).

Karen Withrow, MCCI office, said this resolution represented two new appointees, one each in Districts 1 and 7. Both have been interviewed by MCCI members. Mr. Pennington was mistakenly placed in the wrong district and position when first installed, and his is merely a correction.

Motion: **Councilor Washington** moved approval of Resolution No. 00-3006.

Vote: The motion was passed unanimously. **Councilor Atherton** will carry the resolution to Council.

4. Resolution No. 00-3005, For the Purpose of Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Portland For Reforestation on Metro Open Spaces Properties.

Charlie Ciecko, Parks and Greenspaces Director, said that, for the past two years, Metro has been notably impressed with the work of the City of Portland Watershed Re-Vegetation Program and would like to extend the current IGA for a three-year period of time, rather than the customary one-year extension. It would be cost effective, secure the expertise of specialized contractors, and provide better long-range land management decisions, but will still remain subject to annual budget appropriations and approval of each project.

Jim Morgan, Natural Resources and Property Management, said this was the third time Parks Department has brought forward this request, having worked for two years with this IGA. A three-year commitment has been made to Metro properties under the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Approving a multi-year IGA eliminates cost increases and utilizes the bidding process in place by the City of Portland to obtain contractors.

Councilor Atherton asked about the use of volunteers. **Mr. Morgan** responded saying volunteers are continually used, however, the scale of this work, reforestation obligation of over 800 - 1,000 acres, exceeds the reasonable dependability of volunteers. **Mr. Ciecko** stated that the volunteer program is in its second year, and the number of volunteers is anticipated to double this next year.

Motion: **Councilor Atherton** moved adoption of Resolution No. 00-3005.

Vote: The resolution passed unanimously. **Councilor Atherton** will carry the resolution to Council.

The Council Operations Committee was recessed and the Council Contract Review Board was convened.

5. Resolution No. 00-3004, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Executive Officer to Execute a Natural Area Management Agreement with the Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve For the Management of Property in the Jackson Bottom – Dairy/McKay Creeks Target Area.

Charlie Ciecko, Parks and Greenspaces Director, stated that Metro has entered into a purchase and sale agreement for a 62-acre property adjacent to the Jackson Bottom Wetlands area. It has frontage on the Tualatin River, a residence and two outbuildings. A condition of sale approval is the allowance of the Jackson Bottom Wetland Preserve, a non-profit organization, to manage the property. Metro often seeks partners to manage acquired sites.

Jim Desmond, Parks and Greenspaces, said the management agreement presented for approval works like an IGA. The other parameters of the acquisition meet the work plan standards. The Executive Officer approved payment of \$50,000 above appraised value, as he is allowed to do by Code. There is a landfill between the Jackson Bottom Wetlands property and this site which, when completed, will be reclaimed and donated to the preserve in the relatively near future. The Preserve will be responsible for management of the entire property, payment of taxes and insurance, indemnification of Metro with regard to liability, and division with Metro of any rental income or farm income. A capital maintenance account will be established by the preserve for needed maintenance. The property seller will remain in the home on the property, rent free, as caretaker.

Councilor McLain, asked about the length of time the landfill will be opened. **Barbara Edwardson**, Real Estate Negotiator, replied that in 20 years it should be completed. **Councilor McLain** stated that given the extra amount of money paid, it was important to document that the property contained a valuable Tualatin River access rather than only a connection to the Jackson Bottom Wetlands - Dairy/McKay Creeks. She asked if the property fit the established Tualatin River access criteria. **Jim Desmond** responded that the creeks are part of the Tualatin River system and will not detract from any future endeavors at Dairy/McKay Creeks. It is not being purchased because it is a Tualatin River access point, as Washington County has several river access points. **Councilor McLain** said it was important that our purchases use the established criteria, and that the purchases are consistent between sites.

Ms. Edwardson responded that this is Tier 1 property. **Councilor McLain** said she just wanted to be sure that this was the strongest criteria that we had, in that the Tualatin River flowed through the property.

Councilor Atherton asked if the property was a good fishing area. **Mr. Desmond** responded that the Tualatin River was noted for marginal fishing. **Councilor Atherton** asked why the \$50,000 was paid over the assessed value. **Mr. Desmond** said that the Executive Officer had been contacted directly, and chose to exercise his right, as the property would not have been acquired otherwise. **Mr. Ciecko** stated that, with the management responsibility turned over to the Preserve, it is premature to determine whether or not the public will have access for fishing until after a management plan has been established, so resource protection and access, use and enjoyment can be balanced.

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Motion: **Councilor Washington** moved approval of the resolution.

Vote: The resolution passed unanimously, with Councilor Washington carrying it to Council.

The Contract Review Board was recessed, and the Operations Committee was reconvened.

Councilor Communications - Chair Monroe stated the next Operations Committee meeting would be held Tuesday, November 21, 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Mannhalter
Council Assistant

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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 8, 2000

Document Number	Date	Document Description	RES/ORD