

JOINT (CITY/PORT) WORK GROUP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Meeting Notice and Agenda

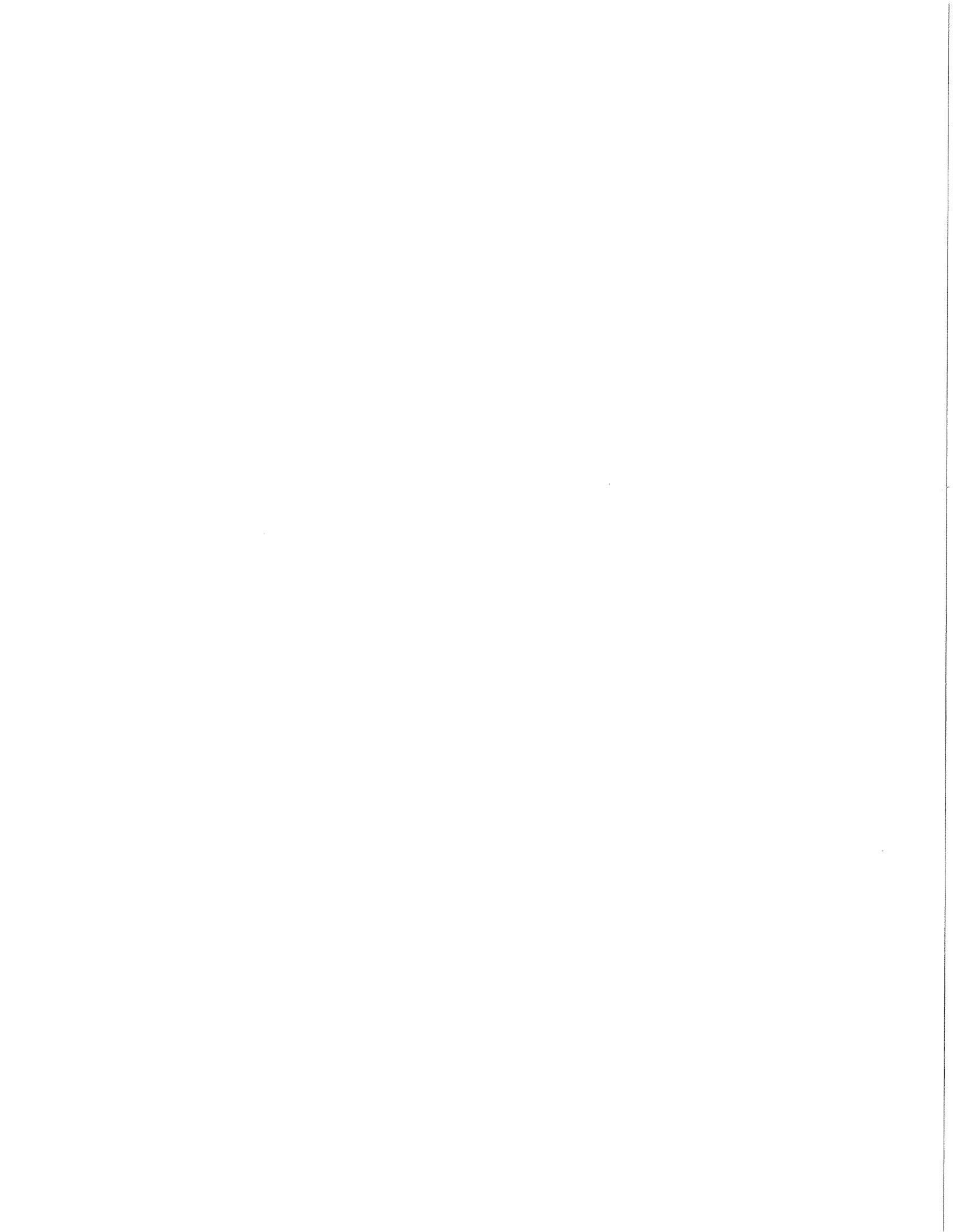
Thursday, March 31, 2016

7:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers

1. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance
2. Welcome and Self-Introductions
3. Adoption of meeting minutes of February 25, 2016.
4. Citizen Input
5. City/Port Issues:
 - a. Status Report on Port Economic Development Efforts.
 - b. Update on Water Transfer.
 - c. Update on Bridge of the Gods Toll.
 - d. Update on City Water Project.
 - e. Update on Parking.
 - f. Update on PCB's, pH Balance, and Alkalinity.
6. Reports from Other Agencies.
7. Other Matters
8. Next Meeting: April 28, 2016
9. Adjournment

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired, or for other accommodations for person with disabilities, should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting by contacting the City of Cascade Locks office at 541-374-8484.



1. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance.** The JWGED was called to order by PP Groves at 7:08 PM. Members present: Mayor Cramblett, PP Groves, PGM Paul Koch, Port Secretary Sally Moore, City Council Member Richard Randall, Mount Hood Community College (MHCC) President Dr. Debbie Derr, Citizen Member Bernard Seeger and Citizen Ray Cless.
2. Welcomes and Self-Introductions
3. **Adoption of meeting minutes November 5, 2015**
Motion: CM Randall moved, seconded by Mayor Cramblett to approve the November 5, 2015 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **Citizen Input:** None
5. **City/Port Issues:**
 - a. **City Economic Development Activities** Mayor Cramblett reported the City is moving ahead with the water project, and hopes to start the project by this summer, and finish by the spring of 2017. This is a huge project that will allow the City to get more water out to the Business Park for emergency services such as fire suppression. It will also eliminate most leaks the system has. Upgrades have not been done since 1969. There are 10 new housing starts in CL. The city continues to work with the POCL to create jobs. The City has received some monies to inspect the sewer system this winter. This will reduce water overflow into the Columbia River with heavy rain storms. Cameras were ran through the sewer system to see where ground water is entering the sewer system. There were a few that will be repaired. There was a secondary transformer bought from Skamania County. It is 12-14 megawatts. The line crew built that, and it is almost ready to go. PP Groves stated this will be discussed with the BPA on the PNWA Mission Trip to Washington, DC. Bear Mountain is increasing their power needs as they continue to grow. They are putting in two new electric dryers. Heuker Family Lands, LLC. will be using a half of a megawatt in their fish processing plant that is being built. The city will be doubling their electrical needs as these new projects transpire.
 - b. **Port Economic Development Activities** PGM Koch stated the Flex building has been fully leased by Renewal Workshop; a company that repairs outdoor gear that is flawed. It is bought from sporting goods companies, repaired and then resold. They leased 7500 square feet. Tenant improvements will start soon. In 2017, Columbia Gorge Racing Association (CGRA) will bring an international sailing event to CL. This event has only been held in Finland. It is projected to bring \$500,000 to the economy in a 5 day period to CL. PGM Koch also reported that. Heuker Family Lands, Inc. has been working with their architect working on their design for their building as required by the POCL Design Guideline Standards. The Commission is researching increasing tolls for customers. Locals pay one dollar only. Tourists and trucks may pay more. Discount books will disappear. Two axles and above will increase to .25 cents more. There are options for tourist hiked prices being discussed. There will be several public meetings regarding this subject, including in Stevenson. Toll Technology is being tabled for one to two years. There will action to approve the decision for toll increases on the agenda May 5, 2016. PGM Koch reported the Port through new leases and agreements, and economic growth has brought an estimated 59 new jobs in community. The Treaty Tribes sub-committee will meet with the Warm Springs Tribe on March 8, 2016 to discuss continuation of the Beach Project. PP Groves stated he has been working on crosswalks near the Post Office. He is on the Region One ODOT Action Team. The Port is working on their agenda for the annual Mission to DC. They will meet with certain legislators to lobby for Port and City plans including transportation and housing. Marketing and Development Manager Holly Howell is working on

a schedule to meet with legislators that will be distributed to each person attending the Mission trip starting March 12, 2016. The increase in tourism has increased dramatically stated CP Groves. CM Randall stated that he believes the City taking over Wa Na Pa Street should be kept alive and more research in the City obtaining the street should be done. The City would have to take over the maintenance of it. They had the chance a few years back, but the funding was not available stated CP Groves. Parking and safe cross walks are important for citizens and tourists as traffic increases in the Gorge.

c. **Fish Habitat Report PGM** Koch stated The Treaty Tribes sub-committee and other agencies met with the Umatilla Tribe Council and talked about the Nestlé project and the beach expansion last month. The tribe at that time stated they were concerned about the fish habitat at Herman Creek. There was meeting on February 18 with the tribes on the different options to improve the fish habitat in Herman Creek.

6. Reports from Other Agencies

a. **MHCC – Report from MHCC** - Dr. Derr, President of Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) stated she loves CL. MHCC is working on getting back in to serving communities and CL is one of them. She talked about the three most important things for CL. A year ago, Robert Weinman from MHCC was up here serving the community. He moved and now Aaron Sorenson will be the point of contact for the educational possibilities in CL. Dr. Derr stated the first most important thing is improving the quality of life here, having living wage jobs, good schools and a thriving community. The second thing is a strategic plan for education, training and workforce development. She added that MHCC would not be what it is without communities. Innovation was the third; recognizing the need for workforce and small business development. She stated the college is celebrating its 50 birthday this year. The buildings need to be maintained. They are looking at new types of facilities. Student tuition and the State support the college. They are building a new applied technology and resource center at the campus. A new program offered is a program called Mechatronics. It is a multidisciplinary field of engineering that includes a combination of systems engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering computer, telephone and computer engineering. This is a need for a skilled workforce. MHCC has been working with business and industry people to create this new program. It will offer certifications. They will expand automotive programs, including Subaru technicians and other auto programs. The main piece she reported is that the growth in the region is manufacturing. She believes these programs are relevant to CL. She stated there may never be full time person in CL. There is a concept of creating a technology type of classroom in CL offering GED, work readiness, etc. There may be one person in CL one day a week. CL is part of the MHCC plan. CP Groves asked about some of the classes and asked if they would be taught on a regular basis. Dr. Derr said through webinars, online teaching in CL with the class in Gresham, a teacher one day a week with a virtual classrooms are all possibilities. Dr. Derr stated they are also working with HR County and that Workforce is in Hood River. She would like to bring some of those services here as well. She talks to State Representative Mark Johnson often about how important the college in CL is. Mayor Cramblett stated that his son started at MHCC and then graduated from Oregon State University. It is often a good first step for college. Dr. Derr stated that online courses are also increasing and may be good for some students. There is online tutoring available as well.

7. **Other Matters:** CP Groves stated he attended the ODOT Region One Act meeting and due to increase traffic and tourism “hop on and hop” off buses will be used in the Gorge this summer. CL has a need parking for them to come to CL. The Port has some property on Moody Rd that

may be able to put in a parking lot. He would like the Commission to think about this to get the buses to come to CL.

- 8. Next meeting: March 31, 2016**
- 9. Adjournment: Mayor Cramblett motioned. Seconded by CM Randall. The motion was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.**

Prepared by
Sally Moore Port of Cascade Locks

APPROVED:

Jess Groves, Port President

