



## Environmental Issues Advisory Committee (EIAC)

### MINUTES

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EIAC)

Nov. 7, 2019

**Avery Large Conference Room  
360 SW Avery Ave., Corvallis, Oregon**

**Committee Members**

**Present:**

Debra Higbee-Sudyka  
Jan Napack

Elizabeth Waldron  
Jennifer Ward – Chair

**Guests:**

Peggy Lynch, Corvallis Women’s League of Voters  
John Sarna

**Staff Members**

**Present:**

Jen Brown  
Kathy Goss (Recorder)

Laurie Starha  
Sean McGuire

Meeting Called to Order at 12:04 pm by Jennifer Ward.

**I. ADMINISTRATION:**

- Intro of Guests and Members
- Approval of October Minutes: Debra moved to accept the October 3, 2019 Minutes as corrected; Elizabeth seconded and the Motion carried.

**II. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2019 Legislative Session: Peggy Lynch, Corvallis Women’s League of Voters, Natural Resources Coordinator (peggylynchor@gmail.com)
  - There are local leagues around the state in addition to the state and federal leagues.
  - They study an issue, present it to the membership and then ask for the League’s position on the issue. Many issues can be found on their website.
  - There are 14 natural resource committees in the State and she is involved in most of them.
  - In between sessions, the committees have stakeholders meetings. She is able to be a part of the meetings and help build the budget.
  - HB2085 is related to dam safety. The government is responsible for the safety and there are two people who oversee it. There are 90+ high risk dams in Oregon; two dams in the Newport area are high risk. They have received \$4 million to assess the dams.
  - Peggy works on the budget with Rep. Rayfield.
  - She is involved with the following policy issues:
    - Air quality for cleaner air Oregon: Funding was made available to make it happen in 2018. They are beginning to look at various businesses who need to be evaluated.
    - Climate change: She doesn’t know if it will pass in 2020.
      - Statewide group wants to have a climate bill in Oregon. Eastern and Southern Oregon are very much opposed to it. Misinformation said it would raise everyone’s gas to \$5 per gallon. The timber industry’s effectiveness and influence has decreased, so this could help them get more involved.
      - Renew Oregon has put in some threat initiatives: 40% of climate change issues are about transportation issues and none of the three current initiatives address it.

- Cyber security and pesticides: Current subjects the League is investigating.
  - Land use: HB 2001 will require all cities with a population over 10,000 to allow duplexes on lots zoned for single family residences to address infrastructure issues.
  - Rural residential areas could have ADUs, what should we be doing about fire control?
  - Budgets: In 2019, more money was received for water quality.
- League of Women Voters is asking the BOC for a Resolution.
    - The BOC is asking EIAC for feedback and a Resolution by the beginning of December.
    - Sean McGuire brought the issue to the Committee and updated the EIAC on the Board's meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 5th. Is it an "emergency crisis" with regards to climate change?
    - The first resolution would set a new goal and a new action plan.
    - Jennifer asked for clarification about approving the resolution or wanting more information such as specific items the County should do in the future.
    - Debra said New York just passed a resolution. Corvallis is calling it a "climate crisis" rather than an "emergency crisis".
    - Jennifer asked if the Committee is able to get together within the next month to study and make recommendations.
    - Does the Committee believe there is an "emergency crisis"? Does the Committee support the BOC's position? It would be helpful to review the 2040 and 2017 goals that were set.
    - The League came to the BOC in 2017 saying there was an issue, but since then things have changed drastically and more needs to be done.
    - How does this fit into the 2040 Plan – does it go along with it, or will it be changing it?
    - What does the County want to accomplish? What will the County's new moto be based upon? Internally, the County is focusing on two big areas – Facilities and Fleet (electricity, water, and natural fuels). The County is hiring a new Waste Coordinator.
    - Jennifer is willing to put together some language and distribute it to the Committee so they can work on it prior to the next meeting.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Future of EIAC and Project Accomplishments on Google Drive: It was decided to have a second meeting in December to finish up the project list. It would be a work meeting only, no action would be taken. The meeting will be on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 - 1:30 pm.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Kathy to schedule a conference room.

### **IV. NEXT MEETING:** December 5, 2019

### **V. ADJOURNMENT:** 1:35 pm