

January 31, 2018

Curry County Commissioners  
Sue Gold, Tom Huxley, Court Boice

Re: Property at 97851 Hamilton Lane

I am here with six of my neighbors to update you on the situation at 97851 Hamilton Lane in Harbor.

- As you know, on Sunday October 15, 2017, the house caught on fire and was totally destroyed.
- People continue to live on the property even though there is no water, sewer, or electrical service to the property.
- Last week one of my neighbors saw two school aged boys entering the property. She was unable to see what they did there.
- My neighbors have observed people using flashlights and digging through the ashes in the house. Last Monday night, January 29, 2018, one of my neighbors saw four men on the property.
- At about 7:40pm last Monday night a camper van was parked on the property. We believe that one or more people are living in the van.

Pictures:

Fire—October 15, 2017

Hamilton Lane—January 31, 2018

Hamilton House—January 31, 2018







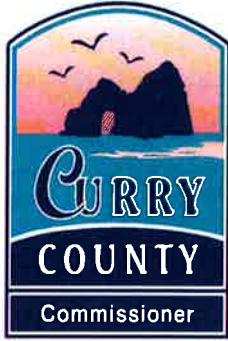




Statement by Tim Palmer at the Jan 32, 2018 County Commissioner meeting, in support of an effective Planning Commission.

From the agenda, I'm aware that the commissioners may consider new options for the makeup and functions of the County Planning Commission. I'd like to encourage you to support an effective Commission and to not disband or disable this public entity. Here are my reasons.

1. Planning issues are complex and time consuming, and the County Commissioners do not have the time or resources to address these issues alone.
2. Planning Commission review of private, state, and federal actions gives us leverage to positively influence those actions in ways we would not otherwise have.
3. State land use laws are set up with a presumption that counties will have effective planning commissions. If we don't, we would be surrendering a greater role to the state.
4. The Planning Commission is an excellent way to tap citizen expertise to address important problems in our county. We've had foresters, engineers, realtors, geologists, and other professional expertise available for free.
5. If we didn't have a Planning Commission, we'd likely soon begin thinking of ways for someone else to assume some of the burden placed on the County Commissioners, and other ways of tapping volunteer citizen assistance. Other solutions would not likely be as effective.
6. Disbanding our planning commission, or downgrading it, would be bad for Curry County's reputation across the state and across the economic spectrum. Responsible investors want to know that they and their employees will have a good quality of life, and that their investments here will be safe. Planning helps to give them that. If the lack of planning happens to appeal to some, it's likely because they don't want to meet the nominal thresholds of foresight that planning requires, and they are not likely to be good neighbors.
7. Altering the configuration of planning responsibilities should not be done unless we have compelling evidence that the outcome will be better than what we now have.



**Court Boice, *Commissioner***

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94235 Moore Street, Ste. 122

Gold Beach, OR 97444

Ph.: (541) 247.3229

**January 30, 2018**

**Re: Chetco Bar Fire, Burned Timber Salvage**

**Hi Ms. Kendall and Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative Members.**

**We all share in the number one responsibility of Public Safety and the protection of life and property.**

**As some would characterize, the ‘extreme environmental policies’ have had disastrous results for our County in particular and most of rural Oregon in general. Those Forest Policies clearly have not worked and now those with a greater voice are ‘doubling down.’ Further, many would argue that those same 30-year old directives to forest management have resulted in poverty for many of our small communities.**

**Let the committed USFS employees on both sides of the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest do the job most prefer to do, which is to produce and manage healthy, and more fire resilient forests. Those efforts may require occasional road construction along with proper road maintenance. Below, I list the five most basic reasons for an emphasis on roads as our critical ‘hub’ in greatly improved best forest and public land management practices.**

- Implementation of important forest projects**
- Future fire prevention and suppression access**
- Multi-use recreation**
- Law enforcement**
- Future timber harvest**

**I ask our WRCFC group to critically consider the recommendation of a substantially increased amount of proposed burned timber salvage acreage. With the very best of all harvest conditions, there still would be minor measureable impact considering the massive amounts of the actual volume available. Without reasonable harvest, there will be essentially no funds for crucial reforestation and rehabilitation!**

**Curry County and Oregon have a very serious public safety and private property protection matter before us. Allowing the burning of 191,000 acres—one-fifth of our County—is unacceptable and frankly horrible stewardship. We have a duty to do everything possible to reduce the odds of future mega-fires.**

**The crucial questions remains; will the members of this important body truly compromise their positions? Try a new way folks!**

**Sincerely,**

**Court Boice, Curry Commissioner**

Commissioner Boice



# JACKSON COUNTY

Oregon

## Board of Commissioners

Rick Dyer (541) 774-6118  
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10 South Oakdale, Room 214  
Medford, Oregon 97501

January 30, 2018

Jessie Berner, Chetco Fire Salvage Coordinator  
Gold Beach Ranger District  
29279 Ellensburg Ave.  
Gold Beach, OR 97444

Re: Chetco Fire Salvage Project

Dear Ms. Berner,

Jackson County appreciates the opportunity to submit comments on the proposed Chetco Fire Salvage Project (Project). While the proposed Project is not within Jackson County, we support the proposed Project and generally believe that the Project is in the best interests of the Rogue Siskiyou National Forest, Curry County, and local economies. While Jackson County continues to strongly encourage and support the supervision of the National Forests and other lands administered by Federal agencies in a manner which would prevent large scale disasters like the Chetco Fire, salvage logging as proposed in the Project provides a diminished opportunity to capture the timber value of the lands and forests impacted by the Chetco Fire. As identified in Forest Supervisor Rob MacWhorter's invitation to comment on the proposed Project, this Project would provide needed timber to local mills and economies.

While we generally support the proposed Project, we believe that the Project is too limited in scope for the following reasons:

- First, the current Project design indicates that no harvest would be conducted in any inventoried roadless areas. However, the Project design indicates that hand felling of trees and helicopter logging are options in areas with no road access. As the Project design specifically contemplates harvest in areas without road access, the elimination of any inventoried roadless areas from harvest needlessly limits the potential salvage timber which may be harvested.
- Second, the Project design indicates that only those areas with 50% - 100% canopy loss will be harvested. As the focus of this salvage harvest Project is to attempt to salvage some economic value from the trees killed by the Chetco Fire, the Project should be focused on harvesting fire killed trees, to the extent possible, regardless of the percentage of canopy loss. While downed trees in areas with less than 50% canopy loss do provide nutrients for the ecosystem, there may be sufficient organic material within any given area to provide for the necessary nutrients while still harvesting the marketable salvage timber from those areas.
- Third, while most of the currently scheduled timber harvest does take place within the Matrix lands, this salvage harvest is outside of the normal scheduled timber harvest process. As such, there is no reason why this salvage harvest should only be limited to Matrix lands. There is likely significant marketable salvage timber lying within the approximately 87% of the acres which are not Matrix lands that would greatly enhance the benefits realized from the proposed Project and for which there is not clear justification to exclude from the Project.



Ms. Jessie Berner  
Gold Beach Ranger District  
January 30, 2018  
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Finally, Jackson County incurred significant expense and dedication of its resources directly attributable to the Chetco Fire. For example, our Emergency Manager spent over 75 hours directly working on, responding to, and coordinating on, the response to this tragedy. We would ask that the Forest Service consider reimbursing Jackson County for this time from any proceeds realized from this Project. Additionally, other local governments, including Curry County should similarly be reimbursed for any financial losses or expenses incurred related to the Chetco Fire from the proceeds realized from this Project.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed Project. We would ask that we be included on any materials provided to interested parties or other governmental entities.

Sincerely,

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rick Dyer, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Strosser, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Colleen Roberts, Commissioner

JB:lf

Date: January 28, 2018

From: Commissioner Huxley

To: Administrator Hitt; Counsel Huttli

Subject – 'Gold Beach Jail Elevator' Operation Issues – Email String January 22 to 24, 2018

The following observations, comments, questions and recommendations are with regard to the above Subject – Gold Beach Jail Elevator and Timeline below.

**Timeline:**

- 1) January 22, 2018 10:19 AM: Eric Hanson, Curry County Facilities Director; email to Matt Olson – ThyssenKrupp conveying his opinion on electrical/mechanical problems encountered with the Gold Beach Jail Elevator. Cc: L. Kallstrom, Administrator Hitt and Sgt. Hensley.
- 2) January 23, 2018 9:27 PM: Matt Olson Account Manager – ThyssenKrupp; recap of ThyssenKrupp elevator mechanic inspection of the subject elevator and a conversation that afternoon with Eric Hanson regarding operation issues with the Gold Beach Jail Elevator in the County Courthouse building.
- 3) January 24, 2018 9:34 AM: Eric Hanson; various comments to Administrator Hitt; Cc: Sgt. Hensley and Sheriff Ward regarding the response from Mr. Olson in 2) above.
- 4) January 24, 2018 9:47 AM: Administrator Hitt advising he was not in a position to make a decision on the subject - forwarding the email string to Counsel Huttli, L. Kallstrom and D. Marshall: Cc: Commissioners Gold, Huxley, Boice, Sheriff Ward and Sgt. Hensley.
- 5) January 24, 2018 1:59 PM: Sheriff Ward putting Curry County Commissioners on notice that they have to fix this problem now – forwarding the email string to Administrator Hitt, Counsel Huttli, L. Kallstrom and D. Marshall: Cc: Commissioners Gold, Huxley, Boice, Sgt. Hensley and Captain Espinoza (E. Hanson was not Cc:).
- 6) January 24, 2018 2:49 PM: Administrator Hitt to Sheriff Ward advising he would convey that message to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) that afternoon. The list of recipients was the same as in 5) above. A commissioner Workshop was in process during this email correspondence the afternoon of Jan. 24.

**Observations, Comments, Questions**

**A:** In 3) above Hanson states he is available for recommendations but the subject/project is not in his budget nor is it in his responsibility parameters. He continues saying the contract the county has with ThyssenKrupp makes them the only outfit that can legally touch the elevator equipment and that he has attempted to withdraw from the contract every five years. He then provides another possible vendor and concludes with the elevator is still safe to operate so long as it functions.

No contract was provided or even a reference to the year of the most recent contract. An extensive search of the Commissioner Journals resulted in five documents spanning from 1996 to 2010. Only one

contract (1996) with Sound Elevator was located which included continued servicing of the Otis Traction Elevator and the Otis Hydraulic Elevator. Do either of you have the contract that is currently in force with a vendor for providing maintenance service for these elevators? If so, please provide the location where the contract may be downloaded, a copy of the contract and, your opinion on current options the county may have regarding the ability to choose from more than one vendor at this time.

**B:** No response to Sheriff Ward's comments in 5) above is warranted.

**C:** Funding source for repair/refurbishment/replacement of the Otis Hydraulic Elevator. July 5, 2017 an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) (Ref #5056) allowing Coos County Community Corrections to house inmates at the Curry County Jail was approved on a two to one vote.

- The agreement was effective July 5, 2017.
- Costs: Coos County to be charged \$99.37 per Bed Day, per Prisoner for **every** calendar day regardless if the beds are used or not.
- With a thirty (30) day written notice from Coos County, up to two (2) additional Bed Days may be added to all terms of the IGA, to be billed '**as used**'.
- Payment to be on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month following the end of each fiscal quarter. Oct. 15; Jan 15, etc.
- Revenue for the first quarter per the IGA is  $\$99.37 \times 3 = \$298.11/\text{day} \times 88 \text{ days} = \$26,233.68$ . This amount would be greater if Coos County exercised their option for additional Bed Days.
- The minimum revenue for the second quarter (92 days) payable January 15, 2018 is \$27,426.12.

**Question:** Has Coos County requested additional Bed Days and if so, what is the total Bed Days used for the first and second quarter of fiscal year 2017/2018?

**D:** As nearly ninety percent (90%) of the current Jail Budget is funded with General Fund dollars, revenue from this IGA was to go back into the General Fund.

October 2017 the following line item was added to Revenue & Expenditures - Sheriff Jail Revenue.  
1.10-421.26-337.10-000-00 IGA – Coos County Community Corrections: Oct. receipts were \$19,178.41.

**Question:** Per the IGA terms, why was this amount \$19,178.41 and not \$26,426.12?

### **Recommendation**

- Immediately determine exactly what (if any) contract is in force for maintenance and repair to the two Otis elevators in the Court House building. If one is in force, what is required to void the contract?
- Request estimates from at least two qualified elevator vendors for their analysis and recommended solution for correcting (up to and including replacement) the existing issues with the Gold Beach Jail Elevator (Otis Hydraulic Elevator).
- Utilize revenue generated from the IGA with Coos County Community Corrections to pay for the required work. On a short term basis, use general funds in excess of those currently available from the IGA to be paid back as that revenue from the IGA is received quarterly.
- Assign additional budget line item responsibility for the Gold Beach Jail Elevator to the Sheriff – Jail.
- Determine where and assign additional budget line item responsibility for the Courthouse elevator.
- Assign oversight responsibilities of the elevators located in the Courthouse to the Road Department.
- Assign budget line item for accruing funds for major elevator expenses.