

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Study Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: January 19, 2010 Time: 10:00am Length: 30 mins

Presentation Title: Authorize vote to form Hamlet of Molalla Prairie

Department: Public & Government Affairs

Presenters: Carine Goldin, Pat Ross, Joyce Kolkmann, Chief Petitioners; Christine Roth, staff

POLICY QUESTION

Has the formation committee for the proposed Hamlet of Molalla Prairie fulfilled the requirements outlined in Ordinance 03-2007 to form a hamlet?

ISSUE & BACKGROUND

In June 2009 a group of interested citizens requested County staff visit the Molalla CPO to discuss possible formation of a hamlet in the rural Molalla area.

After discussions, a core group of eight people formed a Formation Committee. Carine Goldin, Pat Ross and Joyce Kolkmann became the Chief Petitioners. Susan Hansen, Sue Heublein, Harlan Shoher, Bob McCallister, and Mitchell Ross comprise the other members of the committee.

Since June 2009, the committee has drafted bylaws, developed goals and work projects, created a boundary and a map, held seven community meetings to inform the community about hamlet formation and purpose, and had discussions with other community groups and governmental jurisdictions.

The formation group gathered signatures as required by County Ordinance 03-2007. Formation of a hamlet requires either 10% of the citizens in an interested area or 100 signatures, whichever is less. The group turned in 169 valid signatures on their petition.

Bylaws were drafted using the Bylaw template developed and recommended by the County. They have been reviewed by County Counsel Dan Chandler and approved as to form with minor modifications. They have also been reviewed and approved by the citizens attending two community meetings. A copy of the bylaws is attached.

The initial discussion about boundaries was based on the idea that the hamlet would have the same boundary as the current Molalla CPO. As discussions progressed, a group of citizens in the northern portion of the hamlet decided that they did not wish to be a part of the hamlet. Their request was honored and they are not included in the hamlet boundary.

Three areas outside of the current Molalla CPO requested they be included in the hamlet even though two of the areas are part of currently active CPOs. Those areas include the eastern portion of South Canby CPO, which has not been active in many years, a small portion of western Colton CPO and a small northern portion of South Clackamas CPO closest to the southern boundary of Molalla CPO. The citizens who requested inclusion felt that they were more affiliated with the Molalla area and wished to participate in the hamlet. Inclusion of these areas will not have any effect on the CPOs since the hamlet is not assuming any CPO functions. There is no Memorandum of Understanding with Molalla CPO, South Clackamas CPO or Colton CPO. There is no South Canby CPO currently in existence. The South Clackamas and Colton CPOs have been notified of the inclusion of portions of their CPOs. A map outlining these boundaries is attached to the staff report.

Since the Hamlet of Molalla Prairie is not assuming any of the CPO functions, areas in the Hamlet do not need to be withdrawn from their current CPO. This hamlet is the rough equivalent of an overlay zone and does not affect the current CPOs' functions. The area within the hamlet will continue to be represented in land use discussions by the CPO that currently represents it. No changes in boundaries are necessary.

Projects for the hamlet were developed at a community meeting and the draft list was approved by citizens at the meeting. The projects are wide ranging. Some of the projects involve partnerships with jurisdictions such as the City of Molalla and the Molalla Fire District, Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District, and Clackamas County. The list is attached to this report.

The formation group has met with the City Manager of Molalla, the Molalla City Council and their Planning Director to discuss their goals and possible areas of cooperation. The City Manager has asked the City Council to pass a resolution in support of the formation of the Hamlet of Molalla Prairie. It is scheduled to be approved January 13, 2010 at their regular Council meeting.

QUESTION(S) PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION

If the formation committee has met the requirements outlined in the Hamlet & Village ordinance, does the Board of County Commissioners choose to accept the application for formation of a hamlet? If the BCC does accept the application, does the BCC wish to modify any of the proposed bylaws, boundary or work projects?

OPTIONS AVAILABLE

- Approve request to conduct a vote on formation of a hamlet
- Approve request with modifications
- Deny request to form a hamlet

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board of Commissioners approve the request to hold a formation vote in March 2010 to create the Hamlet of Molalla Prairie.

SCHEDULE FOR STUDY SESSION

Division Director/Head Approval _____
Department Director/Head Approval Mary Schmitt for Elissa Gertler
County Administrator Approval _____

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Christine Roth @ 503-742-5920