

Depoe Bay Near-Shore Action Team  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, December 21, 2006 – 6:00 pm  
Depoe Bay City Hall

PRESENT: Chair L. Goddard, R. Davilla, M. Fitzpatrick, M. Grover (AR 6:13 pm, DPT 7:07 pm),  
J. O'Brien, L. Robison (AR 6:10 pm), V. Sovern

ABSENT: B.Fasciano, C. Newell, F. Robison, F.C. Robison, J. Rose, J. Tate, P. Taunton

STAFF: City Recorder P. Murray

Chairman Goddard called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 6:06 pm.

Approve Minutes: November 16, 2006 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Sovern moved to approve the November 16, 2006 meeting minutes as written.  
Fitzpatrick seconded the motion.

Goddard said it is moved and seconded and called for discussion. O'Brien clarified that he'd volunteered to speak with both Chris Chandler DiTorrice and the city regarding funding opportunities of the socio-economic study.

VOTE: Motion passed.

AYES: Davilla, Fitzpatrick, Goddard, O'Brien, Sovern

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Terry Thompson Presentation – Wave Energy

Thompson's presentation included the following points: 1) Lincoln County's application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has been submitted and has gone through the initial comment period, the problem with the process is there is no public input until after all department reviews, Lincoln County filed the preliminary application to obtain input first, the support letter phase is just completed; 2) he along with other commercial fishermen have mapped traditional fishing grounds, creating a chart to show FERC problems to be addressed in locating wave energy sites; 3) the Governor's action team is focusing on sites in the Reedsport area, ODFW is raising questions; 4) scheduling is for one buoy next year, thirteen in the following year, may be up to two hundred ultimately; 5) the federal government is communicating with the state, only minimally with the county, the county is drafting a memorandum to the state to encourage working together; 6) lack of data is a problem, baseline data is needed; 7) the goal is not ocean zoning but protection of fishing grounds; 8) wave energy will require zoning because buffer areas will be requested around each buoy, underwater cables did not require zoning since fishing can occur over the top of the cables; 9) there are no facilities on the coast able to maintain large buoys; 10) the Makah tribe want out of the sanctuary off Cape Flattery; 11) OSU wants to create an ocean test site, there will be one main line with trailer lines, a linear generator may be the answer, this test center and experimentation will be invaluable; 12) in Portugal smaller buoys are used, their generators can produce electricity for 1,500 homes; 13) the county will be involved in locations for shore support facilities.

Dick Johnson, present in the audience, spoke about OSU testing, buoy location, delivery method to shore, and shoreside equipment. Thompson noted that the ocean power companies want buoys at 25 fathoms, mostly more than 3 miles offshore, due to wave shape and action at that depth providing premium power generation. He also commented that current FERC law is designed for rivers and lakes, not oceans, revising the law is a lengthy process. FERC may welcome an offer of assistance in this endeavor. Experience shows that it is better to present the concept and let them draft proposed law.

In response to the question of what can NSAT do, Thompson replied nothing now, currently Newport is forming a group, to which NSAT has been invited, so there is a representative group for contact, Bob Jacobsen, extension agent, is in charge. OSU's first buoy, a small experimental model, will be placed off Newport (South Jetty).

Thompson discussed the occurrence of a catastrophic earthquake, loss of electricity on the coast for 3 months to 2 years. Wave action generators could be the energy provider for Lincoln County. Tidal action (river) generator permits are flooding in, FERC wants to lump together with wave energy permits, but they should be kept separate since they are very different technologies. An agreement was just signed with China for another cable into Portland, the same type of agreement could be used between fishermen and ocean power companies, with problems being worked out in negotiations prior to installation. Ocean power technology is proposing buoy buffer areas approximately 2 miles long by ½ mile wide. The area between Yaquina Head and Depoe Bay may be an ideal location, although the buoys would probably be within 3 miles of the shore. Positive economic impacts include better power systems, more cost efficiency, research and job opportunities. There will be maintenance needs, possible manufacture of components, increased visitors coming to see and learn about the technology. An indirect benefit is fewer dams on rivers. OSU is developing a National Research and Development Center, the availability of cheap power could generate a desalinization industry. OSU is already being encouraged to work with local fleets during the experimental process.

On another subject, Sovern asked Thompson about support for Depoe Bay's possible Urban Renewal. Thompson, clarifying that he was speaking only for himself and not the board, said he would be supportive as long as the money is used for infrastructure improvements, not for new city halls or convention centers. He is interested in investments in the future, infrastructure for more homes, increasing future tax bases.

#### MEMBER AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Everyone thanked Thompson for his presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

---

Loren Goddard, Chairman

Pery Murray, City Recorder

