

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
STUDY SESSION
MINUTES**

DATE: December 15, 2003

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Max Golladay, Perry Huston, Bruce Coe

DEPARTMENT HEAD: David Taylor

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Kimball, Nancy Goodloe, Clayton Myers, Paul Bennett

TOPIC:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ronald Coal Fire2. Departmental Issues3. Comp Plan Fees4. Water Policy
DISCUSSION:	<p>1. At the request of Commissioner Huston, Nancy Goodloe, Paul Bennett and Clayton Myers attended the study session to discuss the Ronald Coal Fire. Perry Huston asked Nancy Goodloe to explain what she knew about anything to do with the Ronald Coal Fire. Nancy Goodloe stated that she had received a creosote smell complaint on November 12th and on Thursday December 11th John Wolpers received a call from David Chase about the coal fire/possible contamination. John sent Holly Duncan to the site and to test both the Roslyn & Ronald water supply. She added that John contacted the DNR & DOE on Friday, December 12th. Bruce Coe stated that David Chase recently mentioned that people had been complaining of a "smell" since June and that the fire had possibly been burning since the fall of 2002. Bruce added that we should obtain all of the information we can in order to make a defensible argument. David Taylor stated that the DOE was on site as we met.</p> <p>Perry Huston said that he received a phone call from a Fire Commissioner on Thursday, December 11th asking why the County wasn't doing anything about the coal fire. Perry said that he should have never have had to ask about it, rather that he should have known before anyone from the public questioned him; what should have happened is when the first complaint was made to Nancy Goodloe, she should have reported it to the Board and acted upon the complaint accordingly. Also, that both the Fire Marshal, Derald Gaidos and Holly Duncan (EH) should</p>

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have reported their findings immediately to their supervisors and appropriate action should have been taken at that time. Perry said that he does not want to see any further departmentalized thinking by Department Heads. Perry added that common sense should have kicked in and the incident/complaints should have been immediately reported to the Board.

Max Golladay said that on Friday, December 12th he asked Bill Boyum (DNR) and he said that he already knew about it, but that the DNR did not want to contact the DOE. Perry added that we need to have our ducks in a row and keep everyone notified at all times. Bruce Coe said that there are no surface veins in the area. David said that currently the property owner Nathan Weis is pumping 2000 gallons of water per hour on to the "pit" which is approximately 40'x 80'x 20' deep in size. Bruce Coe said that primarily we need to figure the confines of the pit, the historical & geological data. Max said that someone should be contacted who has experience with coal fires. Perry added that anyone having anything to do with the coal fire must document everything and keep those that are involved updated with reports; also to make sure that Clayton Myers gets a copy of everything. He instructed Clayton to make a press release to the Daily Record, with the newspaper deadline being 10:00am the following day. He added that a press release should be giving to the neighboring residents. Bruce Coe told Nancy Goodloe that a little PR goes a long way. Perry stated that he does not want to ever have anything like this happen again. Nancy Goodloe, Clayton Myers & Paul Bennett were dismissed from the meeting.

2. David Taylor presented a document regarding Subbasin Planning. Perry Huston said to put it before the Board for acceptance.

3. David Taylor illustrated the current structure of CDS and his proposed structure for the department in the coming year. Perry illustrated over David's what the Board would like to see happen, making the two department lateral rather than the administrative supervisor supervising the operations supervisor. He stated that the Board would like to see more cross training amongst all employees and that the two supervisory positions should be interchangeable between the two employees. Perry said that they would discuss it further and he would be composing a memo to confirm their ideas.

4. David Taylor said that CDS will be proposing an increase in the Comp Plan fees.

5. David Taylor discussed the Water Policy meeting, regarding what is going to be dropped. Max said to keep the Board informed.

ACTION:

1. Clayton Myers will prepare a press release and all others involved were instructed to document & report.

2. Perry Huston will compose a memo for further discussion.

3. No action.

4. No action.