

**WALLOWA COUNTY
BOARD of COMMISSIONERS
STATE of OREGON**

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STACEY FREGULIA, E.A.

CHAIR SUSAN ROBERTS
COMMISSIONER TODD NASH
COMMISSIONER JOHN HILLOCK

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January 22, 2018

**Wallowa County Board of Commissioners (BOC)
Special Session Board of Commissioners Meeting
Alder Slope Cemetery District Hearing
10:00 a.m. Thornton Conference Room
Wallowa County Courthouse**

MEMBERS PRESENT: CHAIR SUSAN ROBERTS
COMMISSIONER TODD NASH
COMMISSIONER JOHN HILLOCK

STAFF PRESENT: STACEY FREGULIA, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

OTHERS PRESENT: RICHARD HOBBS, GARY LIMBAUGH, DALE BONER,
JIM MCCORMACK, SUE RADFORD, REID KOOCH,
MILDRED O'CALLAGHAN, RENE LAYTON, RON
TYE, CHARLEY PHILLIPS

10:00 a.m. – Chair Roberts opened the hearing. She stated that this hearing is to take testimony on petitions from land owners to withdraw from the Joseph Cemetery Maintenance District and to be annexed into the Alder Slope Cemetery Maintenance District. The Board will review the testimony and information, come to a decision regarding the petitions and adopt a proposed order regarding the Board's decision in this matter.

Chair Roberts stated that the public hearing is open for the purpose of entertaining testimony regarding the proposed action to change cemetery district maintenance boundaries filed by Reid Kooch, Ron Tye, and Gary Limbaugh.

The order of presentation will be as follows; the petitioners will testify followed by other members who wish to speak in favor of the petitions, then the Board will entertain testimony from members of the audience who are opposed to the petitions followed by those who would like to give testimony but are neutral, lastly the petitioners can rebuttal any argument brought forth during this hearing. The hearing will then be closed.

Chair Roberts asked the other Commissioners if either of them would wish to

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disqualify themselves from this hearing due to any personal or financial reasons in the matter of this hearing. None spoke up at this time.

Chair Roberts asked if any of the Board members have had any significant ex parte contact or prehearing contact and explain what that would be. Commissioner Nash stated that he had visited with Reid Kooch about the withdrawal and annexation of the land owners. Commissioner Nash also stated that he had spoken with Charley Philips who manages the Joseph Cemetery Maintenance District. Commissioner Hillock stated that he did not have any ex parte contact. Chair Roberts noted that she has also had ex parte contact with most of the members and petitioners. She noted that she has also worked with Mr. Hobbs on the process that needs to take place in order to satisfy ORS.

Chair Roberts asked if anyone seated here today would like to challenge any members of the Board of Commissioners to sit in judgement on this matter. None came forth.

Chair Roberts asked the audience if anyone questions the Boards jurisdiction to make a ruling on this decision. None came forth.

Chair Roberts turned the floor over to the petitioners for testimony.

Mr. Richard Hobbs stated that he is the attorney for the petitioners and explained that after reviewing the correct process is complicated as there is a need to withdraw from the Joseph Cemetery Maintenance District and be annexed into the Alder Slope Cemetery Maintenance District. Mr. Hobbs then explained the process and submitted a letter into the record summarizing his testimony. This initial hearing is to seek acceptance from the Board on both petitions and seek an order of approval of the petitions and schedule a second hearing in which the order will be considered.

Ms. Sue Radford stated that she is part of the Alder Slope Budget Committee and in the Alder Slope Cemetery Maintenance District. She stated she knows the petitioners and has worked with them for years and that they are very dedicated to the district. She understands there is a need to follow process and she is in favor of the petitions.

Charley Phillips stated that he is the Chair for the Joseph Cemetery Maintenance District. He and the Board of Directors of the Joseph Cemetery Maintenance District do not see the decrease in revenue as a detriment to them and are in favor of the petitions as well.

Rene Layton stated that she has family members who are buried in the Alder Slope Cemetery and she is in favor of the change in the properties from one district to another.

Chair Roberts then asked if there was anyone who would like to speak in opposition of the petitions. None came forth at this time.

Chair Roberts then asked if there were any neutral persons in the audience who would like to speak on this matter. None came forth.

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Chair Roberts closed the hearing and asked for Board discussion.

Commissioner Hillock moved to approve both petitions presented. One to withdraw from the Joseph Cemetery Maintenance District and the other to annex those properties into the Alder Slope Cemetery Maintenance District.

Commissioner Nash seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.


Chair Roberts noted that the next hearing will be on February 19, 2019 at 10:00 am. Mr. Hobbs noted that he will work with Stacey Fregulia to form the Orders and Notices for the next meeting.

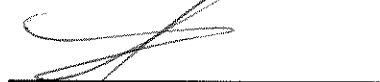
No further business was brought before the Board of Commissioners at this time.

Adjournment: The official meeting ended at approximately 10:18 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Stacey Fregulia, Executive Assistant

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Chair Susan Roberts


Commissioner Todd Nash


Commissioner John Hillock


ATTEST: Stacey Fregulia, Executive Assistant