

Minutes
Port of Siuslaw
Board of Commissioners
Florence Oregon Ocean Resources Coalition Committee
Regular Meeting
Thursday, 15 October 2009

Committee Chair Pazar called the regular meeting of the Port of Siuslaw FOORC Committee to order at 5:03 p.m. in the Port office conference room located at 1499 Bay Street, Florence, Lane County, Oregon.

Attendance: Committee: Al Pazar (Pazar), Larry Nixon (Nixon), Gunter Bahr (Bahr), Nola Xavier (Xavier), Keith Tymchuk (Tymchuk); Absent: Melonie Rollin (Rollin), John Schaefer (Schaefer). Staff: Recording Secretary Susy Lacer (Lacer). Audience: Gus Gates (Gates) of Surfider, Peggy Meyer (committee alternate).

Minutes: On the **MOTION** made by Nixon, seconded by Xavier, the Committee voted (Tymchuk abstained) unanimously to approve the minutes of September 17th 2009, as submitted.

Old Business: Members need to select alternates. Lacer stated Rollin was working on an alternate. Tymchuk stated he had not yet worked on finding an alternate.

Mission Statement Update Tymchuk apologized and stated he had not done anything on drafting a mission statement. Tymchuk noted he is naturally leery of mission statements, but believed that FOORC needed to be clear on what was expected. Tymchuk stated the needed focus for FOORC has been addressed to a large extent by HB3013 and its references to community teams. Pazar agreed. Pazar suggested that all committee members review HB3013 and bring their ideas for a mission statement to the next meeting.

New Business: Discuss Goal 19, MMS Requirements, HB3013. Nixon reported on his attendance of recent ODFW and OCZMA meetings. Nixon stated ODFW is overseeing the formation of community teams as outlined in HB3013. Nixon stated FOORC is far ahead of the other community groups already, many of which are still being formed. Nixon noted the FOORC membership provides a good bridge of the multiple counties affected by our ocean resource issues. Nixon stated this overall process is being called zoning of the oceans and is being watched by state, federal and international entities. Nixon stated if all proposed wave energy projects were approved it would cover about 5-8% of the territorial sea area. Tymchuk noted the Reedsport wave energy project was a catalyst for creating a process to deal with these applications and it has created a map for future proposals to follow.

Pazar noted it's good to remember FOORC is not a single issue group and that the committee will address wave energy and marine reserve proposals, in addition to other potential uses. Pazar stated the Cape Perpetua/Heceta Head marine reserve proposal is a good example of the need for bottom-up reserve proposals. Tymchuk asked how willing the local fishing community will be to be part of the ocean use mapping process. Pazar stated the southern fishermen have signed off on the SOORC mapping project and the map is looking good, but the Newport/Depoe Bay fishermen are more resistant at this point. Pazar noted the new marine reserve proposal for this area will likely come from FOORC. Pazar stated he believed Florence area fishermen

would be responsive to mapping. Pazar shared a new website which addresses sizing and spacing of reserves,

http://www.cafisheriescoalition.org/video/ray_hilborn_votes_no.wmv Pazar noted the need for FOORC to use all current information to make its decisions.

Pazar stated the group needs to prioritize what information/resources to learn first, but he was unsure of where to start. Xavier stated the focus of a mission statement could help determine where to start. Xavier stated she did not believe our geographic area was high on the list of desirable locations for a marine reserve. Pazar stated he disagreed because the Cape P/HH project is a serious proposal and there are some applicable potential reserve areas within FOORC's geographic area. Pazar stated that unless the Florence area receives a direct wave energy proposal, marine reserves should probably be the number one focus for the group. Pazar read portions of the statement he gave to Nixon to be read at the OCZMA meeting (attached to these minutes).

Pazar stated the FOORC group is looking for a win-win solution regarding marine reserves. He noted there is not a lot of high-relief rocky bottom in this area, but there is a lot of interest in siting a reserve in this area. Pazar estimated the proposed Cape P/HH proposal included about 90% sandy ocean bottom. Tymchuk noted that during discussions on the Cape Arago reserve the state made clear to that group that saying no to a reserve in a particular area was an option. Xavier stated that while FOORC might arrive at no, it was important to begin with an open mind and arrive at a decision that is well supported by facts. Pazar stated since there was no mapping data when the Cape P/HH proposal was created, there was not good data available to include. Pazar stated he did not believe the proposal would have gone as far as it did if more complete data had been available. Pazar stated FOORC needs to look at what is directed by HB3013 and ODFW to know what the group can and cannot do. Xavier noted Goal 19 was recently reviewed by the City of Florence as part of the City plan, and that it was retained within the City plan with little change from the state version. Xavier stated the City of Florence had made changes in the City plan regarding State Goals 16-18.

Pazar had the audience members introduce themselves.

Pazar noted it would be nice for FOORC to have the Ecotrust mapping result from SOORC since their geographic area adjoins ours. Tymchuk agreed but noted it might be difficult to get the data shared. Pazar suggested FOORC should begin working with Siuslaw Fishermen's Association (SFA) and have Ecotrust begin the mapping process here. Pazar suggested FOORC request the SOORC aggregate mapping data. Pazar noted Ecotrust is funded and ready to go with mapping this area. Xavier suggested FOORC invite Ecotrust here to meet with the fishermen and FOORC and explain the mapping process. Pazar suggested FOORC ask SFA to convene a meeting with Ecotrust to get the mapping for this area organized so that FOORC will have the data it needs to make decisions. Nixon suggested Lacer contact OCZMA/Ecotrust to see what mapping information FOORC can get. Nixon asked when side scan sonar data would be available. No one knew. Nixon stated the other community teams required by HB3013 are supposed to be formed by the end of October and that he does not expect ODFW to give the groups any work to do until after that. Pazar stated it may be premature for FOORC to agonize over a focus direction at this point if ODFW will provide that direction. Tymchuk suggested FOORC's mission is to make an informed

decision based on current data for the best use of an ocean area. Tymchuk noted a specific mission statement can provide leverage for acquiring the needed data to make informed decisions. Nixon stated the community teams process is expected to be an 18 month process for ODFW. Pazar asked Lacer to invite Cristen Don from ODFW to speak to FOORC at the next meeting to provide direction for FOORC. Pazar stated all committee members need to read the materials on Goal 19, HB3013 and the MMS requirements.

Tymchuk stated the settlement process with OPT in Reedsport is nearly finished. Gates stated there is a preliminary permit for the Douglas County jetty project, and a preliminary permit off Tillamook. Gates stated Surfrider is doing recreational use mapping in some areas and that they are working to expand the idea to the entire coast. Pazar noted it is good to document recreational use as well as commercial, to find reasonable locations for all uses. Tymchuk noted the approved reserve areas were both very small, and that the proposed Cape P/HH site was much larger than the others at nearly 40 sq miles. Pazar noted there is lots of crab use in the proposed area.

Xavier asked about the side scan surveillance data. Pazar stated our area is completed and he will ask Chris Goldfinger for that data. Xavier suggested using the leverage of HB3013 to request the needed data. Pazar stated he would talk with the Surfrider contact person about getting the recreational survey information as well. Gates stated Surfrider is working with Ecotrust and Natural Equity on the recreational mapping. Pazar noted he was pleased to hear about the recreational mapping and that he hoped FOORC might be able to set an example on this process and help ODFW achieve its goals. Gates clarified that Surfrider is mapping recreational nonconsumptive use and that they have been working with Prof. Flaxen Conway with OSU. Pazar stated he will contact both Conway and Goldfinger for more information.

Discuss December scheduled meeting date. Pazar directed Lacer to try and schedule Cristen Don for the November meeting and to cancel the meeting if Don was unavailable. The December meeting was noted as 24 December and it was decided to cancel that meeting.

Adjourn: Pazar adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm.

Chair

Alan Pazar
Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission (ODCC)
Chair, Florence Oregon Ocean Resource Coalition (FOORC)
Commercial Fisherman

Onno Husing
Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association

Onno,

Please accept my apology for not attending today's OCZMA meeting. I am very involved in the derelict gear recovery program and the weather tells us to go to sea. So we go.

Larry Nixon has agreed to represent the FOORC group in my place; I am sure he will do a good job. I would, however, like to make a few comments for the folks that are wondering what the Florence group is up to.

FOORC was born of a need to represent our coastal area in many arenas: marine reserves, wave energy, zoning issues, etc. It is comprised of a great cross-section of interests in the marine area and is looking at expanding our roster. We are still in our infancy and are working on a mission statement. We are gathering information to allow us to have our discussions for future management decisions to be made with the most complete and best information available. This has not always been the case in past proposals. This "rush to propose" has been the downfall of many proposals as evidenced by OPAC's short list of promoted marine reserves.

The territorial sea is undergoing a tremendous mapping effort. Side scan sonar mapping is occurring in a previously unprecedented scale. Economic mapping (Ecotrust) shows invaluable and critical information. Other science and data gathering projects continue to bring to light information almost daily. All of this information is necessary to consider in the dialogue that ultimately leads to management decisions we may have to live with for a very long time. We had better do it right.

FOORC is currently reviewing existing laws: Goal 19, MMS guidelines, HB 3013, Federal Zoning rules, etc. to understand how to combine the new-found science with what is legal to best proceed in the Cape Perpetua area and arrive at a win-win solution. This is sure to be a long process.

I believe FOORC is committed to not just "doing it", but "**doing it right**". The members of FOORC know that positive results will come only with a thorough and complete discussion conducted in a respectful manner. I encourage communities with long-term connections to the marine environment to form groups to create a forum that enables them to control their own destiny.

Thank You, Al Pazar