

June 28<sup>th</sup> 2016 Public Comments

My name is Cassie Heckenkamp and I reside at 41404 McKenzie Hwy, Springfield OR 97478. I am a constituent of Commissioner Stewart.

As you may know, my family purchased this property in Dec 2015. We were expecting to build a Recreational Marijuana business on it. It's double gated, our barn and building are more than a quarter mile off of the road and from the nearest neighbors... I'm sure you saw the pictures of it in last weeks article in the Register-Guard, and learned my story in more detail.

In December, despite a large appearance and request by our fellow farmers asking you not to put an outright ban on all RR zoned properties, you did so anyway. You did so with the promise to relook at this issue. To quote commissioner Bozievich from the Dec meeting... "I don't think that's just some nebulous promise," "We're making this in public, to a lot of people, so it's pretty hard for us to back away from it."

But that is just what you did. That day, you asked the room to hold you accountable. Well, that is what we are doing here today.

I think you can all agree that I followed up diligently asking how I could be a part of that process. I was told to sit and wait. So I did.

Then when I asked again, I was told "There would be implications to the current high-priority work that the Board adopted into our long range work plan. Land Management is not staffed to manage a task force so putting that on the long range work plan would have required re-prioritization of the ongoing code update work. "

To put it nicely, I took that to mean "We lied and we aren't going to do anything about it now go away." Quite rude in my book and quite a disappointment. I'm not out to create a big protest or to cause the board issues. I only want a fair opportunity to compete in this new industry.

Many, if not all of you, have started businesses of your own. You know firsthand how hard it is to create and make a business succeed. It takes blood, sweat & tears. And that's with the benefits of luxuries like banking, and tax breaks that I don't get. Your personal biases against my crop has no place here. I'm very sorry that some of my fellow entrepreneurs have personally treated some of you unfairly. A few bad apples don't spoil the bushel though. We deserve a fair chance.

Give me rules to follow and I will. But don't shut me out. I brought these people together today to show you we aren't going away. This is an important issue that demands to be looked at, and amended immediately. Follow through with your word commissioners.

Thank you