



Central Cascades

Fire & EMS

To: Postal Regulatory Commission

Re: Motion of USPS to Dismiss Proceedings (May 6, 2010)

In the matter of Crescent Lake Post Office, Crescent Lake, Oregon

Docket No. A2010-4

Greetings,

Having received a copy of the above listed Motion, I submit the following for your information and consideration.

The "proposal to close Crescent Lake Post Office" may, or may not have been posted, as claimed, at the Crescent, Oregon Post Office for the time listed. Likewise the "Final Determination to close the Crescent Lake, Oregon Post Office" may also have been posted as claimed. It may as well have been posted in Washington DC as it would have provided the same benefit and notification to the residents of Crescent Lake, Oregon. These documents were NOT posted at the Crescent Lake, Oregon Postal Facility until I personally posted the "Final Determination" document there several days after meeting with Postal Managers Scott Foster and Marilee Spitsnogle, in Eugene, Oregon on February 17, 2010. During the course of this meeting, Mr. Foster provided the "Final Determination" document to me at the request of Manager Kim Anderson. Neither Mr. Foster nor Ms. Spitsnogle could assure me that the "proposal, and Final Determination, to close the Crescent Lake Post Office" had, in fact, been posted anywhere. They assumed that it had been posted at the Crescent Post Office due to the attachment with posting and removal date stamps, but could make no claim as to posting in Crescent Lake. There were also cover documents with the Final Determination paperwork but they would not provide those to me.

I took it upon myself to post the "Final Determination to close the Crescent Lake, Oregon Post Office" in the interests of public information, several days after the meeting with Mr. Foster and Ms. Spitsnogle in Eugene on February 17, 2010. This posting was the first public posting of the "Final Determination to close" document in Crescent Lake, Oregon, regardless of any other claim or exhibit. That being said, the appeal of Ms. Carol Goevelinger appears to fall well within the 30 day window allowed for appeals under the rules cited; ie; "any person regularly served by the affected Post Office may appeal the decision to the Postal Regulatory Commission within the first 30 days after the written determination is made available." The Motion to Dismiss goes on to further cite the Irwin case, ie: "Within thirty days of receipt of notice of final action taken by..." Again, the Final Notice was not provided to me until February 17, 2010 and I then posted it for public review. Individual notices to local Crescent Lake Postal Patrons were not provided by the USPS until some time after the meeting of February 17, 2010. These notices were dated March 4, 2010 and stated; "This is to advise you that the Crescent Lake Post Office was officially closed on February 25, 2010." Signed by Scott Foster, Manager Post Office Operations, Area 4.

The Motion to Dismiss states that residents are now required to use the Crescent, Oregon zip code of 97733 rather than the old Crescent Lake, Oregon zip code of 97425. This is further explained in footnote 5 noting that "the Crescent Lake ZIP Code (97425) was "recalled"... "because of a shortage of five digit options in the 974 three digit ZIP code." This is in direct conflict with the reasoning provided by Mr. Foster and Ms. Spitsnogle who stated that the zip code was changed to 97733 to ensure that mail was routed through Bend to Crescent thereby providing a shorter, safer, travel distance for residents to obtain Postal Services in Crescent. Good sentiments to be sure, but apparently not quite accurate or honest.

The Motion to Dismiss, page 6 para.2 states; "Petitioner argues that the Postal Service did not follow it's regulations in closing the Crescent Lake Post Office and discontinuing the 97425 ZIP Code, and that "(t)he USPS representatives were confused as to the location of the alleged posting of the Final Determination." But exhibit 2 contradicts these arguments." Ms. Goevelinger's statement is correct and I can assure you that on February 17, 2010, neither Mr. Foster nor Ms. Spitsnogle could tell me with certainty that the Final Determination had been posted, nor where, until they found the exhibit page attached to the back of the documents and they were still confused as to whether or not the document had ever been posted in Crescent Lake, which is why, presumably, they were instructed to provide the document to me.

In reviewing this letter, you will notice numerous references to Crescent and Crescent Lake. These two communities, separated by approximately 17 miles, have their own unique identities but due to proximity and similarity in name are regularly confused with each other. This was less prevalent when they each had a unique ZIP Code identifier. Now that they have the same ZIP AND similar names it has the potential to be life threatening due to confusion regarding emergency services response. The Central Cascades Fire & EMS District changed it's name from Crescent-Odell Lakes RFPD because of the similarity to, and confusion with, Crescent RFPD. The USPS has placed us right back in

that situation. This has created confusion in emergency response and will continue due to the lack of a unique ZIP Code identifier.

In closing, the Motion to Dismiss is nothing more than manipulation of the rules and regulations by the US Postal Service to further their own agenda without regard to the needs and interests of this community. Any cost saving realized by this move are of little consequence compared to the bad PR created by the treatment of this community and the manner in which the USPS has handled our concerns.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter and for any assistance that you can provide to return adequate postal service, and a unique ZIP Code, to the community of Crescent Lake, Oregon.

Tim Cramblit, Chief

Central Cascades Fire & EMS

20400 Crescent Lake Highway

PO Box 1065

Crescent Lake, Oregon 97425-1065

[e-mail: 1201ccfems@centurytel.net](mailto:1201ccfems@centurytel.net)