

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUDGET HEARING

MINUTES

April 23, 2003

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met for a public hearing on the FY 2003-2004 Columbia County budget with Commissioner Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner Rita Bernhard and Commissioner Anthony Hyde, together with Ruth Baker, Director of Finance & Taxation and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary present. The meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. at the Columbia County Courthouse, 230 Strand Street, St. Helens, Oregon.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting to order and opened the hearing for public testimony.

BILL EAGLE, SWCD:

Bill Eagle, Treasurer for the Soil & Water Conservation District, approached the Board. He was asked to appear before the Board to explain why the SWCD needs the County's support. The SWCD has been instrumental in forming the watersheds in Columbia County. Last year, the SWCD brought in \$681,060 in grants to Columbia County. If they don't get support from the County, then they don't get support from the State. The SWCD would like some amount of support from the County so they can continue to bring more money into Columbia County.

Commissioner Hyde stated that there are some expected cuts in the co-chairs budget. However there is a cushion that may become available. If that happens, there could be some add-backs.

STATE FUNDING ISSUES:

Commissioner Hyde expressed his concerns with the County having to pay for State mandated services, without compensation from the State. He believes this has come to a point where legal action may need to take place. After some discussion, Commissioner Corsiglia moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to authorize Commissioner Hyde to pursue possible legal action at AOC to pursue lost contractual revenue from the State of Oregon. The motion carried unanimously.

With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

//
//
//
//
//
//
//

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2003.

NOTE: A tape of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: Joe Corsiglia
Joe Corsiglia, Chair

By: Rita M. Bernhard
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

By: Anthony Hyde
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

Recording Secretary

By: Jan Greenhalgh
Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary