

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

June 11, 2003

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner Rita Bernhard and Commissioner Anthony Hyde, together with John Knight, County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2003 Staff meeting and June 4, 2003 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2203-2: ESTABLISHING CLE/CTOP FUND FOR JUSTICE COURT:

John Knight reviewed the process. The Board held a hearing on this matter on June 4, 2003, the hearing was closed and the ordinance was read twice by title only. Action was held over one week to review with the Justice of the Peace and is now ready for approval. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2003-3, "In the Matter of Adopting the "Columbia County Justice Court CLE/CTOP Ordinance" to Fund Continuing Legal Education and Court Operation Expenses of the Columbia County Justice Court(s)". The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Corsiglia read the consent agenda in full. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for 6/10/03.
- (B) Approve Public Event Permit for Cascade Bicycle Club for June 21, 2003, **and refund the \$10.00 application fee.**
- (C) Order No. 37-2003, "In the Matter of Calling an Election to Consider the Columbia County Law Enforcement Local Option Tax".

- (D) Order No. 42-2003, "In the Matter of Directing the Columbia County Tax Collector to Cancel Personal Property Taxes on Personal Property Account #0108 P 206598 Pursuant to ORS 90.675 and 311.790".
- (E) Resolution No. 43-2003, "In the Matter of Columbia County Approving the Exchange by the State of Oregon - Board 2003 of Forestry of Certain Lands for State Forest Purposes".
- (F) Resolution No. 44-2003, "In the Matter of Responding to Issues Raised in the Fiscal Year 2001 - 2002 Audit Report"
- (G) Authorize Bill Potter to move forward with contract negotiations with MTC for coffee concession.
- (H) Authorize staff to move forward with procurement of the Transfer Station Site and authorize the Chair to sign related documents.
- (I) Approve the promotion of four Correction Deputy positions to Corrections Corporal positions.
- (J) Authorize Sheriff to fill two vacant Corrections Deputy positions.
- (K) Authorize Human Resources Director to release hiring lists to Sheriff as needed if currently filled positions become vacant due to other internal hiring.
- (L) Approve creation of the position of Chief Deputy District Attorney and assign to exempt salary range 12.
- (M) Approve reclassification of Dale Anderson to the position of Chief Deputy District Attorney effective immediately.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (N) Amendment #5 to the Oregon Juvenile Crime Prevention and County Diversion Intergovernmental Agreement.
- (O) Amendment #50 to the 2001-2003 County Financial Assistance Agreement #05-001 with State Mental Health.
- (P) Lease Agreement between Columbia County and Freeman and Lois Ryder, dba Scipio's Goble Landing.
- (Q) Amendment #2 to contract between CCCC and Columbia Health District for "Healthy Start" program.

- (R) Amendment #2 to contract between CCCCCF and Community Action Team for "Health Start" program.
- (S) First Amendment to Extended Enterprise Zone Exemption Agreement between Columbia County, City of Rainier and City of Clatskanie.
- (T) Transportation Improvement Agreement between Columbia County and Cascade Grain, LLC.

The motion carried unanimously.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR SACAGAWEA:

The Board agreed to send a letter to the National Health Foundation in support of the Sacagawea Health Center.

RESOLUTION REQUEST TOUR TRAIN STOPS IN COLUMBIA COUNTY:

Commissioner Corsiglia discussed the resolution adopted by the Port of St. Helens requesting the Lewis & Clark Tour Train make stops in Columbia County, specifically St. Helens, Rainier and Clatskanie. Does the Board want to adopt a similar resolution? Commissioner Hyde and Commissioner Bernhard both feel that now is not the time for this and explained why. The Board held this over to the next work session for further discussion.

RWIB REQUESTING CHANGES TO THEIR CHARTER:

Commissioner Bernhard explained that the Regional Workforce Investment Board is requesting that the County approve changes to their Charter, which she reviewed at this time, basically the terms of office. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the requested changes to the RWIB Charter as presented. The motion carried unanimously. A letter will be sent to RWIB.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

On vacation last week with beautiful weather and the fishing was great.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard was in Redmond over the weekend at a golf tournament.

She has been attending the transportation meetings being held throughout the County. Another one will be held tonight in Vernonia. There hasn't been a real good turnout, but hopefully attendance will increase.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde has been spending a lot of time in Salem trying to help put the budget together. Education will clearly get a boost, but the question is how much and where will the money come from. Still looking at a transportation bill that may bring in around \$500,000 to Columbia County, which will help. SB1145 was cut, but \$30 million may be added back which is 60% of the cut added back. He will continue to spend a lot of time in Salem working on these issues.

COUNTY COUNSEL COMMENTS:

John has been spending a lot of time working on the transportation issues. He's been attending the forums being held throughout the County. Although not really well attended, the discussions have been good. John reported what transportation issues he's been working on and who he has met with. With regards to insurance on the vehicles, the County can only insure the buses that the County has title to. The County cannot insure the buses owned by the Council of Seniors.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(1)(d) - BARGAINING:

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(d). Upon coming out of Executive Session, no action was taken by the Board.

The Board recessed the meeting at 11:00 a.m.. The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with all Board members present.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting back to order.

NW NATURAL GAS PRESENTATION:

Todd Thomas, Ron Hordichok, Jack Myer and Bill Rodgers of NW Natural Gas came before the Board to discuss NW Natural's plans for future expansion of the underground storage facilities in the Mist gas field. Mr. Thomas conducted a Power Point presentation depicting a summary of these plans.

The Board recessed the meeting at 2:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened on Tuesday, June 17, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. All Board members were present.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting back to order.

DEAN McMANN GRIEVANCE:

John Knight briefed the Board on the grievance procedure. This hearing is step 3 of that process. He gave some background information on the reason for this grievance. He advised the Board to listen to the testimony, then take the time to review all information before making a

determination. He further recommended that the Board's decision be put into writing and submitted to the union.

Dean McMann, Road Department, 76940 Delena Mayger Road, Clatskanie and Tom O'Day, 123 NE 3rd Avenue, #505, Portland, Oregon, 97223, approached the Board.

Dean explained that in the union contract, under Section 11.6b, it provides for promotional positions. It states that .. *"the employee with the greatest seniority shall be selected when qualifications are deemed essentially equivalent"*. Dean believes he and Jeff Peterson scored identically and, based on that, seniority should have prevailed and he should have been promoted into this position. Further, Dean presented a resume, a letter of recommendation and dressed appropriately for the interview. He read section 11.6b and believes that the rules in this section were violated. Seniority doesn't ever seem to be taken into account.

Commissioner Hyde feels that appropriate dress does not carry much weight in determining the best qualified person.

John explained that the principal question here is whether both applicants were "essentially" equivalent. That is what the Board needs to determine.

Tom agrees that "equivalent" is a slippery word, but one way to look at it is the same as the school grading system. "A" is 90-100; "B" is 80-90, and so on. He would suggest the Board use that methodology when determining "essentially equivalent". Dean and Jeff would be in the same range and therefore essentially equivalent. The tie breaker would be seniority, which Dean has.

Dean pointed out why the union values seniority so much. There are very few opportunities for promotion in the department. When they do come up, the union wants to see seniority given broad consideration.

Dave Anderson, Slavens Road, St. Helens: He believes that seniority means a lot to the employees, not just for promotional purposes, but also for moral. The Board needs to consider the moral of the employees when making their decision.

Jean Ripa agreed that the County is lucky to have two very qualified employees for this position.

Commissioner Corsiglia asked how the interview committee is selected. Dave stated that it is made up of Road Department supervisors. Dave stated that the interview committee agreed unanimously when selecting Jeff Peterson for the position.

Jeff Peterson feels that he is the most qualified person the this job. He has been doing this type of work for over 15 years and his this is this 11th year on the stripping crew. His qualifications speak for themselves.

Dean pointed out that line stripping is not part of the sign maintenance work. Dean has spent most of his time in the shop and worked with the sign maintenance worker. Line stripping is done by the road crew.

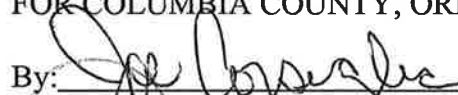
With no further testimony, the Board decided to make their determination on this matter tomorrow at the Board meeting. John feels it is important for the Board to take the time to review the entire packet.


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

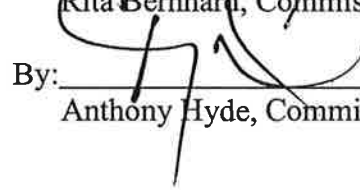
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 11th day of June, 2003.

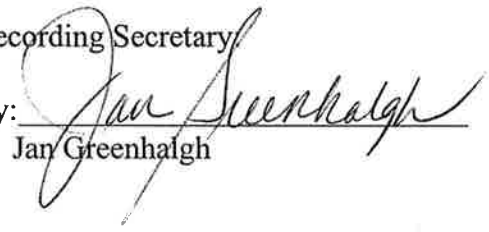
NOTE: A tape of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Chair

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

Recording Secretary
By: 
Jan Greenhalgh