

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

November 5, 2003

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Rita Bernhard and Commissioner Anthony Hyde, together with John Knight, County Counsel, Sarah Tyson, Assistant County Counsel, and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary. Commissioner Corsiglia was not present.

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2003 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

GARY DINSMORE, BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE:

Gary Dinsmore, 33306 Bonneville Drive, Scappoose. He is here on behalf of the local chapter of the BTA to present a check in the amount of \$670 to Jan Kenna, on behalf of the Commission on Children & Families for the purchase of bicycle helmets. Gary read his prepared statement into the record and presented the check. The Board thanked Gary and the BTA for this generous donation.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard 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 11/4/03.
- (B) Ratify Personnel Action(s) for Jim Stewart and Cliff Multanen.
- (C) Ratify Partition Plat for Ron & Betty Steinke.
- (D) Order No. 69-2003, "In the Matter of Awarding the Contract for Supply and Delivery of Two New Kenworth Dump Trucks for use by the County Road Department."

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (E) Personal Services Contract with Graham Eberle Norman Architects, Inc.,
- (F) Amendment #4 to the 2003-2005 County Financial Assistance Agreement #05-001 with State Mental Health.
- (G) Amendment #5 to the 2003-2005 County Financial Assistance Agreement #05-001 with State Mental Health.
- (H) Intergovernmental Agreement #106137 to extend Tort Liability Coverage to Columbia County.
- (I) Amendment to contract between Columbia County and CCMH to extend Tort Liability Coverage to CCMH.

The motion carried unanimously.

PROPOSED SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGE:

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, came before the Board along with John Gilerduchi, consultant with Financial Consulting Solutions Group, Inc. John presented a Phase 1 draft report on the "Feasibility and Implementation Planning of Rural System Development Charges: Parks & Transportation". John did a brief review of this report. John feels that even with conservative fees, administrative costs can be covered. Commissioner Hyde feels it is important to include a comparison of SDC charges from the cities in Columbia County. There needs to be some continuity.

At this point, the Board needs to determine if they want to continue on with the next step of preparing the methodology report. Dave would like to see the County move forward with this. Todd Dugdale expressed his concerns with the fees and what will actually be collected. He understands that that may be answered in the methodology report. However, he would recommend that, if the Board moves forward on this, we look seriously at revamping the scope of work to include urban SDC's. This would help alleviate any disparity between rural and unincorporated urban users.

There was a consensus of the Board to move forward on the methodology phase of the development of rural SDC's but now include urban SDC's. Dave will bring back an updated work plan for the Board to review.

DELINEATION OF ASBURY ACRES:

Todd Dugdale stated that Ridgeline Resource Planning has completed the wetland delineation for Asbury Park, which the Board now has before them. The report documents the presence of 12.24 acres of wetland on the 27.2 acre site. Prior to finalizing the report, LDS arranged a

meeting that included the NRCS technical staff, Don Mehlhoff and his wildlife biologist and soils specialist, Ridgeline Resources and representatives of the Asbury Park Tax Force to compare perspectives and findings. It was concluded that the Ridgeline Resource delineation was very close to what NRCS has determined. NRCS did not do a delineation but concurred with the findings of Ridgeline Resources. NRCS and Ridgeline conducted a final field visit to discuss particular areas which had be delineated. At this point, Todd would like to submit the report to DSL for their review and approval.

After little discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to authorize Todd Dugdale to submit the delineation report prepared by Ridgeline Resources to DSL for review and approval. The motion carried unanimously.

YACHTS LANDING LEASE:

Sarah does not have any new information to present and asked that this item be carried over. The Board agreed.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Not present.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard was gone last week on vacation.

While she was gone, the Kiwanis held their annual Children's Fair at the St. Helens High School. Because of some comments she's heard, Commissioner Bernhard wanted to say that she has attended every one of these events since they began. The only reason she missed this one is because she was on vacation. She tries very hard to attend as many events, meetings, etc. as she can, however it is not possible to make them all.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde attended the Planning Commission meeting in Clatskanie last week.

On Thursday, he attended the Governor's economic summit in Portland.

On Monday, he taught an economic's class in Vernonia, which was very interesting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(1)(d)(h):

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(d)(h). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to hire Akin Blitz for labor negotiations with the Sheriff's Union. The motion carried unanimously.

Further, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to direct Jean Ripa to represent Columbia County in bargaining negotiations with the Courthouse union. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board recessed the meeting at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. Present were Commissioner Corsiglia, Commissioner Bernhard, Commissioner Hyde, together with John Knight, County Counsel, Janet Wright, Board Assistant and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting back to order.

PUBLIC MEETING: LEWIS & CLARK and 150 YEAR CELEBRATION PROJECTS:

This is the time set to solicit input from the public on two major upcoming events, the Lewis & Clark celebration and Columbia County's 150 year anniversary. The Board is interested in hearing ideas from the public on both of these events. The meeting was then opened for public comments.

Brian Little, City of St. Helens: The city has been partnering with the Historical Society of Columbia County on some projects, one being a water taxi to an interpretive area on Sand Island. Although Sand Island did not exist when Lewis & Clark was here, it does have a panoramic view of the area. In addition to that, they have secured the Core 2 Exhibit which will be in St. Helens for two weeks in March 2005. Also, there is the hope that the excursion train will be stopping in St. Helens when it starts up again next year. The city is open to working with any other agencies on additional Lewis & Clark projects. He stated that someone from the city would be interested in serving on a committee once it is formed.

Evelyn Hudson, Fair Administrator: In 2003, the fair theme was a tribute to Lewis & Clark. The 2004 theme will be discussed at the next fair meeting and understands Lewis & Clark will be suggested again for this year. She asked if the Board intends to combine Lewis & Clark and the 150 year anniversary together. When discussing that, it was suggested that the 2004 fair theme be the 150 year anniversary and then go back to Lewis & Clark for 2005. Commissioner Corsiglia has been working on the creation of a Commissioner's Ball and using a theme of Columbia County's 150 year anniversary. He noted that this would be a fundraiser for the local food bank. Hopefully it will be held sometime in March or April. Evelyn will share this information with the Fair Board.

Bonnie Shoop, Scappoose Bay Kayaking: She is here tonight to try and understand what the Commissioners have in mind for the Lewis & Clark celebration. There are numerous citizens in Columbia County that would love to be involved in setting up some type of Lewis & Clark event. Other states are putting Oregon to shame because we have simply dropped the ball on this. Again, there are a number of citizens that would like to see the Commissioners form a committee, to meet regularly and start work on some projects. How do they go about this. The Board explained that that is the purpose of this meeting. It is their intend to create a Lewis &

Clark steering committee tonight and hopefully, many of those present tonight would like to serve on this committee.

Bonnie also expressed some concern with using Sauvie Island and Sand Island because of the major obstacles it creates. You need to have transportation to get people over there and back. She would like to see something created in St. Helens that will be here for the long term, not just during the Lewis & Clark event. She asked if there is any funding available other than the Lewis & Clark grants. Commissioner Corsiglia feels that is something that the committee should look into. Bonnie stated that she would like to serve on this committee.

Rhen Christopher, 365 N. 3rd St., St. Helens: She teaches Indian education for the Scappoose & St. Helens school districts. She worked on the original grant that Bob Brown's group did, but she never heard from Bob. There are about 60 native Indian families in the Scappoose and St. Helens areas that are being served through a federally funded program. She has been working on this program for 9 years and this is the first full year of funding. She helped create a native American garden at the school and they celebrated their fifth year of traditional native foods that Lewis & Clark ate. They held their first traditional salmon bake last year. She would like to see that whatever is done, it is respectful to the Indians. She wanted to know if there is any funding for things like building a plank house, holding a pow-wow and for education. She expressed her willingness to help out and would like to serve on the committee.

Jan Rentenhour, Warren: She has been before the Board a couple of other times regarding her art work. She invited Rhen tonight because she is an important part of the Indian community. Jan talked about the art work she would like to do and the different materials she would use so that the art work would last longer. The more she has talked with people about putting her artwork on Sauvie Island, the more she thinks that might not be such a good idea. We may want to relook at where certain things are located, just because of the logistics, i.e., access, security, etc. She would like to see the botanical study be used by students and see more community involvement on these projects. There is a lot of history and knowledge in this community that could be utilized. She stated that she would like to serve on the committee.

R. J. Brown, Historical Society of Columbia County: He wanted to clear up a few things. First, this is not a celebration, it's a commemoration. He also has native american background. His great grandmother was a Sock indian from the Red River Valley. Rhen comments about not being contacted are not true. She was on the steering committee and they finished their work. Rhen submitted a paper where she had all of the details for her project in line and ready to go and was going to seek out other funding. Bob has that copy in the comprehensive plan that they put together. Rural Development Initiatives worked with him on the original outline for this project. The Sand Island and Sauvie Island project is a viable project and well on its way. Unfortunately, there has been some glitches on funding, but it's not something that can't be taken care of in the future. Education was brought up tonight. Bob spoke with a person at the learning center about setting up web pages and getting school involvement. They are just waiting for Larry McClure, who was the state coordinator for educational programs for the Lewis & Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. When we complete the Lewis & Clark commemoration at the end of 2006, that will

continue on as an educational program. It will be turned over to the city and the Department of Fish & Wildlife. Regarding the islands, he also heard that someone wasn't happy because the trails were not accessible. That is on purpose. They didn't want people out there until the trails are completed and there was a formal dedication. Commissioner Hyde explained that the Board was not aware of that and there have been concerns expressed. Bob stated that the whole rest of the county is crying for help. The Historical Society tried to move a museum down to Clatskanie to offer more to the visitors that will be coming out here, but that was squelched. The Historical Society is very pleased with the progress that they are making on their project. Commissioner Hyde asked Bob is he would be willing to sit on the new committee being formed. Bob stated that, if he has the time, he would be happy to. Bob noted that the Core exhibit will be here in 2006, not 2005. Lewis and Clark passed through this area in 1805 and described it in their journals. As far as any ideas that were done during the USDA Forest Service grant, that was just engineering, there was no infrastructure in that grant. Money that's been received came from the National Parks Service, the Oregon Heritage and the Johnson Foundation.

Cynthia Zemaitis, Rainier: She has had an interest in Lewis & Clark, specifically Sacagawega, since she was a child. She has been very anxious to see the county capitalize on the fact that we are right on the river, with a couple of landings sites. She has an idea she wanted to share. She would like to see an authentic encampment, with shelters, camp fires with salmon baking, canoes, etc. Perhaps some of the native indians would volunteer to ride in the canoes, be at the campsite, etc. Cynthia would like to serve on the committee.

Steve Gibbons, Scappoose Bay Kayaking: They hold the very proud recognition of actually being the first Lewis & Clark activity in the area, a year and a half ago. They have had over 600 people that have either ridden in their replica of a northwest native dugout canoe or have gone out into the waters to learn the history of the area. He totally agrees with the fact that there is not enough energy, interest or force behind this project. We are a long ways behind where we should be in this whole thing. He offered to serve on the committee. He believes that the fact that Lewis & Clark will be the meat of the conversation is very important, but doesn't feel that it should be the basis for the long term recognition of the history of the area. He would like to see something long term that would perpetuate education. There are motor coach trips around the country that are already planning trips that will be traveling down Hwy 30. Hopefully, they will be stopping here.

Dan Garrison, St. Helens: He his here on behalf of the Scappoose/St. Helens Chamber of Commerce. The business world in the county is looking for some leadership and guidance from the Commissioner's on what they can do on any Lewis & Clark projects. Lewis & Clark had an impact on Columbia County. The merchants would like to see the tourists stop in St. Helens. People use Hwy 30 to go to the coast and if we can give them a reason to stop in Columbia County, they would. Regarding the excursion train, he is surprised that there isn't a tour guide, video or something on board to inform the riders of what happened along the way. Perhaps that is something that should be worked on by the committee. He stated that the platform is now in place and no longer an excuse for the train not stopping in St. Helens.

John Brewington, Scappoose/St. Helens Chamber of Commerce: He suggested that, once the committee is formed, the Board should go on a train ride with all the committee members. He suggested that more signage be displayed showing what is available in the county to see. You can do a lot of things, but if they are not publicized, it does no good. Commissioner Hyde asked John to contact the other chambers to see if they have someone willing to sit on this committee. John stated that he would and that he would also be willing to be on the committee.

Theresa Knight, Columbia County: She would like to be involved and will serve on the committee.

Round table discussion was then held on what Oregon is doing, versus what Washington is doing, who the county contact will be for the committee, when and where the committee will meet, etc. Commissioner Corsiglia suggested that Courtney ask the Chronicle editor if the paper has any plans for publicizing anything for Lewis & Clark.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 5th day of November, 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