

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES
September 8, 2004

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2004 Work Session; September 1, 2004 Board meeting; and September 1, 2004 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Bruce Hugo, Scappoose, came before the Board representing his client, Sierra Pacific. Sierra Pacific is involved in a land partition which has been halted due to a law suit filed in Clackamas County. The result of the suit says that before a partition can be signed by a county Surveyor, notice must be given to people within 100 feet of the property. This has taken all cities and counties in Oregon by surprise. The Surveyor has to assure that all state and local land use ordinances have been complied with. The Surveyor is really not qualified to do this and hopefully the legislature will change this law in the next session. In the meantime, the County has provided 14 days notice to all people within 100 feet. There has been only one response, from Scott Parker, who has no problem with the partition, however, if the property is ever subdivided, he would like to see a notice of remonstrance be recorded so that any buyer would know that there is a mine existing across the road. Sierra Pacific has no problem with that. Normally, if there were any objections, the county would have to wait an additional 21 days to allow any appeal to be filed with LUBA. Mr. Hugo is asking the Board to consider waiving the 21 days because there have been no objections from the Planning Commission and no objection on the 14 day notice. Should there be an appeal, Sierra Pacific would assume the costs of defending the county.

After some discussion on the process, John explained that Sarah is working on this issue and recommended the Board discuss this with her at the staff meeting this afternoon. John noted that the Board does not have the authority to direct the Surveyor to sign the plat but was sure he would listen to a Board recommendation.

PUBLIC HEARING: COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM GRANT RESULTS:

As scheduled, a public hearing was held to review the results of the CDBG grant for the Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program. The hearing was opened for testimony.

Beverly Danner, Community Action Team, came before the Board to explain that the Community Development Block Grant Housing Rehabilitation program now requires a post public hearing when close to closing out the project. The hearing is to give a brief summary of the results and take public comments. Beverly then presented the review of the project. The purpose of this program was to provide zero interest, deferred loans to low income home owners to do necessary repairs on their homes. The total amount of loans made was 22, with an additional 16 projects with leverage funding, for a total of 38 projects through the program. The total amount of people served was 92.

With no public testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed. No action was required by the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard read the consent agenda in full. John pulled Item (D) and it was held over. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify Select-to-Pay for 8/7/04.
- (B) Order No. 68-2004, "In the Matter of Transferring Certain Access Approach Deposits from the County Treasurer's Deposit Fund to the County Road Fund".
- (C) Order No. 69-2004, "In the Matter of Transferring Certain Access Approach Deposits from the County Treasurer's Deposit Fund to the County Road Fund".

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (D) Agreement with the State Department of Corrections for the Housing and Care of Inmates. (*PULLED AND HELD OVER*)
- (E) Ratify Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Columbia County and the Columbia County Development Agency.

The motion carried unanimously.

RAINIER CEMETERY DISTRICT - PET CEMETERY:

Paul Giepel, Rainier cemetery District, approached the Board. With declining revenues, the cemetery district is trying to find ways to increase revenues. So what they would like to do is un-dedicate a portion of Hudson Cemetery to make it a pet cemetery. They did not know that there was really a need for this, but it does exist. The closest pet cemetery is in Medford. The district feels they can generate some revenue by doing this. He presented a map, photos and cost estimates for the Board to review. Paul has a letter from Tom Linhares, County Assessor, that

the property would remain tax exempt. They were informed that the property would need to be re-dedicated. John briefly reviewed the statutes and believes this would fall under the vacation process, however he will need to do some further review of the statutes. The Board feels this is very creative and have no problems with it, it just needs to go through the appropriate process.

JOHN KNIGHT - ODFW MONEY FOR ASBURY ACRES:

John Knight presented a modification to a Cooperative Agreement with the US Department of Fish and Wildlife Services. Some time ago, the department gave the County \$6,000 for a project at Asbury Acres. That project is no longer feasible so the Fish & Wildlife Service looked for ways to keep this money in the County. They contacted the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council and they can use the money to replace some culverts with bridges. The Department of Fish & Wildlife agreed with that and sent this modification for approval. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the Modification #1 to the Cooperative Agreement No. 1448-13420-2-J248 and authorize the Chair to sign. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the memorial service for Norma Olson last week. It was a lovely service and many are still in shock over her passing. She has done a lot of work in this community and she will definitely be missed.

The Board attended the Rainier City Hall work session last night. They are dealing with REDCO issues, USG, bonding and taxing issues. It was a very informative meeting.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde attended a meeting held last week on the Santosh Landfill. It was very informative and a lot of issues were cleared up. Looking forward to seeing what the test results will show.

He has been working on the Mist gas fields.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Commissioner Corsiglia had a nice long weekend and spent it getting his yard ready for winter.


There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 8th day of September, 2004.

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: 
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh