

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES
September 22, 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 September 14, 2004 Work Session and September 15, 2004 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

FAMILY DAY PROCLAMATION:

Commissioner Bernhard read a proclamation, proclaiming September 27, 2004 through October 2, 2004 as "*Family Week, A Week to Eat Dinner with Your Children*".

Jan Kenna, CCCC, came before the Board, and introduced Micki Lansing, Executive Director of the Oregon Commission on Children & Families; Cecelia Haack, Oregon State Extension Nutrition Educator; Jill Dale, Columbia Community Mental Health Prevention Manager. Micki read a message to the Board on behalf of Governor Kulongoski, who could not be present.

Jan also wanted to introduce Terri Dodson, CCCC Staff, Carol Wires, Deputy Director for the Oregon Commission on Children & Families, Pam Ruddell, Operations Manager for DHS, Sharon Keizer, DHS, and Doreen Hofcrafter, CASA Director. These are just a few of the 49 people who have participated in this program. Jan went over the calendar of events that are being held through Family Week.

Cecelia stated that they stuffed 1,000 bags with food, crayons, color books, reading books, tooth brushes, cook books and recipes, along with a lot of emergency services resources for lower income people within our county. This is all to encourage families to eat together. The bags will be distributed through our emergency food pantries in St. Helens, Rainier and Clatskanie, through Head Start, DHS and many other agencies within the our community.

Jill stated that families typically spend less than 15 minutes per day with their kids. This makes a real important statement about how important families are. This is a way for families to have less stress, both for parents and children. Kids who have less stress do better in school and are less likely to use alcohol and drugs.

Micki just wanted to thank Jan Kenna and all the other community partners for doing such an event like this and highlighting the importance of parents spending time with their children. It is an honor and a privilege to be here and participate.

With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to formally approve the proclamation as read. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Stephanie Klepel, 34067 Sykes Road, St. Helens, representing St. Helens nursery, came before the Board to ask some questions regarding Resolution No. 70-2004, which extends the property tax exemption to PGE. It is her understanding that, based on the assessed value for 2003-04, the Board has waived for five years, between \$2 million and \$2.5 million in tax dollars.

Commissioner Hyde stated that the Board is aware of that. In the resolution, it indicates that the proposed investment is expected to provide approximately 17 full time jobs within the zone. Did the Board give PGE a time limit on employment, is it for one year, three years or what.

Commissioner Hyde stated that, according to the zone agreement, which is a state statute, they have to meet certain guidelines and their projections must be in place. If they don't meet those projections, then they lose their qualifications. He suggested that Stephanie check with Mr. Fish, who is the zone manager for the state. Stephanie asked if the Board is aware that, under the Homeland Security Act, there is criteria that needs to be met for the qualifications of these jobs. She asked what those qualifications are. Commissioner Hyde stated that the Board is aware of that, but don't know what the qualifications are, but PGE does because they need to be compliant. Stephanie asked if, when the Board is in negotiations about this, do they keep notes. Commissioner Bernhard stated that they have to comply with enterprise zone law.

Commissioner Hyde feels that Stephanie is under the impression that there are meetings to negotiate this. With an Enterprise Zone Sponsorship, the first three years are a given. The last two years, the County has some discretion. Their focus in that discretion was around wages for construction. We wanted prevailing wage and local people hired. Commissioner Corsiglia stated that the Board does not meet in a quorum to discuss this, they depend on staff to bring them information and hold negotiations. Stephanie requested copies of whatever notes, staff recommendations, staff reports, etc. that she is entitled to under the Freedom of Information Act. Stephanie asked what Janet Wrights qualifications are as Zone Manager, and asked that she be provided a copy of her job description. Commissioner Bernhard stated they would get that for her. The reason she brings this up, it because as a small business owner in Columbia County, she would like to request a five year exemption on her property taxes so she can afford to hire the employees she desperately need. Commissioner Hyde stated that first, Stephanie is not in an Enterprise Zone area and secondly, hers is a retail business and under state statute, a retail business is not allowed an Enterprise Zone exemption. Commissioner Corsiglia suggested that Stephanie meet with Janet Wright to see what she qualifies for. Going back to the 17 qualified positions. There is no one in Columbia County that qualifies. Is PGE allowed to bring in their own employees as long as they become county residents. Commissioner Hyde feels that is possible. After discussion, the Board thanks Stephanie for her comments.

Tammy Maygra, 34319 Cannan Road, Deer Island, came before the Board because she has heard there is a potential LNG plant going in at Port Westward. She asked if the Board has considered the extra security, medical services, police, etc., in Clatskanie should there be an accident if this plant goes in. Commissioner Hyde responded. There have been no less than 3

companies that have approached the County about a liquid natural gas plant. There have been no plans submitted or negotiations held as of yet. Tammy then requested that she be given any and all information that comes in on a potential LNG plant, under the freedom of information act.

Another issue, is the October 12th work session where discussions will be held on the way the public can address the Board. Commissioner Bernhard stated that there has been no proposal presented yet. When there is one, it will be discussed at a public meeting. Tammy feels it is important for the people to be able to address government. Read the first amendment

Peggy Crisp, 34571 Millard Road, was told by the Road Department to come talk to the Board about her concerns with the bridge on Ross Road near where the church being built. Commissioner Bernhard informed Peggy that she needs to talk with Dave Hill.

While present, Peggy asked about the sewer problem out at the Fairgrounds. The Board stated they are still waiting for a report on that. Peggy reminded the Board that there is a creek close by and doesn't want to see that contaminated.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- (A) Ratify Select-to-Pay for 9/21/04.
- (B) Order No. 71-2004, "In the Matter of the Petition by Columbia Hills Development Corp. to Rename a Public Road Located in the Hillcrest Subdivision as "Moon Ridge Court". **(PULLED AND HELD OVER)**
- (C) Appoint Charlotte Kocher to the Mental Health Advisory Committee, term to expire on December 31, 2007.
- (D) Reappoint Pam Ruddell to the Mental Health Advisory Committee, term to expire on December 31, 2007.
- (E) Approve the following reappointments to the Columbia County Housing Authority and term dates: Peggy Howell, expires 12/31/2009; Wally Lambert, expires 12/31/2008; Sykes Mitchell, expires 12/31/2008 and Geneva Shadley, expires 12/31/2009.
- (F) Reappoint James Fery and James Tierney as Pool members and James Fery, James Tierney, Eric Sellix and Patricia Fail as Non-office Holding Pool members to the Board of Property Tax Appeals.

- (G) Approve updated 2004 Liquor License for Birkenfeld Country Store.
- (H) Authorize Sheriff Phil Derby to fill one Patrol Deputy position.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (I) HIPAA Memorandum of Understanding between Emergency Services Dispatch and Columbia County for the CAD System to be connected in EOC.
- (J) Amendment #1 to the Special Public Works Fund Agreement with OECDD for Port Westward road improvements.
- (K) Contract with TFT, Construction for the overlay project on Scappoose-Vernonia Road and Blaha Road.

The motion carried unanimously.

STAFFING IN SHERIFF/JAIL:

Jim Gibson, Jail Manager, sent an e-mail to the Board regarding the need to replace two vacant positions. After discussion and explanation by the Sheriff, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to authorize the Sheriff to fill one Corporal position and one Corrections Tech position. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the Sauerkraut Festival last weekend and helped coordinate the parade. Unfortunately, the weather was bad and it effected the attendance. She wanted to acknowledge everyone who worked on the festival.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde has been out sick that last two days but came in for the meeting. He will also be attending the Emergency Mitigation Planning meeting today.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Commissioner Corsiglia was gone last week on vacation. It was very restful and enjoyed traveling around Oregon. He found that Columbia County is not the only county suffering from tight budgets.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

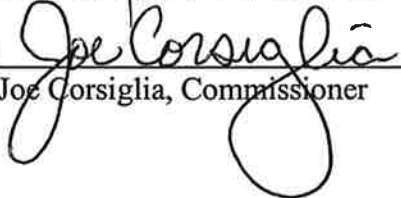
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 22nd day of September, 2004.

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

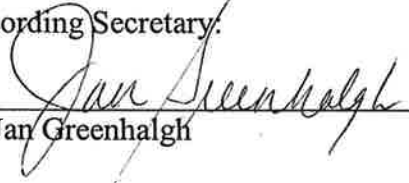
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh