

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

December 20, 2006

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, Sarah Hanson, Assistant County Counsel, and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2006 Board meeting and December 15, 2006 Emergency Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None

COLUMBIA COUNTY LITERACY EVENT:

Jan Kenna, Director of Children & Families, introduced Sally Norbom, RSVP Volunteer, Ronda Dunn, Administrative Assistant for CCCC; Woody Davis, Commission member and his daughter Lexi Davis. Jan wanted to say a few words about the Literacy Event recently held in Columbia County and to thank Sally and Lexi for their help on this project. Lexi stated that her teacher drew gingerbread men on the bags then passed them out to the class with markers to decorate the books bags any way they wanted. Other classes were also involved in this. Jan wanted to thank the kids, who decorated 100 bags. Sally also did hours and hours of work stuffing the book bags and Ronda also helped a great deal. The bags were distributed yesterday to the Department of Human Services who will pass them out to low income people. This was a fun thing to do and hopefully it will improve literacy in the county.

The Board thanked everyone for their hard work on this project and presented Sally with a fruit basket and Lexi with an individual carrot cake (her favorite). Commissioner Bernhard serves on the Commission on Children & Families and wanted to personally thank Sally for all the hard work she has done, not just on this project, but for all the work she has done for the county.

LOCAL 697 - SHOP SUPERVISOR POSITION:

Dean McMann, Chief Steward for Local 697; Stacy Chamberlain, AFSCME representative; and Michael Dunning, Local 697 President, were present to address their concerns with the Shop Supervisor position. Michael stated that they were not aware of the new Shop Supervisor position until it was approved. The union has some issues with this position and explained why.

One concern is that the Board is removing a union position to create this position, essentially eliminating the lead worker mechanic position from the union. The lead mechanic has always been a union position and the union does not want to lose any more members, because they are already a small group. This new position, at the St. Helens shop, already has a District supervisor in the same building. Prior to the creation of the new position, the lead worker would report to this supervisor for any personnel and work related issues. This system has been in effect for a number of years and has been working without any problems. He went on to explain the number of different district supervisors and how many employees they supervise. In looking at the job description, this position would still report to the district supervisor. Therefore, the union does not see the need or the merit for creating a new supervisory position. All this does is create more middle-management.

Dean McMann referenced the job description for the Lead Mechanic position. As Michael pointed out, the Lead Mechanic position has been in place for a number of years now and has been working very efficiently. When the last contract was negotiated, the union wanted to make a clear line between what a lead worker is and what a supervisor is, so there was no confusion on what their duties are. Dean was union president at the time and worked extensively with Dave Hill and Jean Ripa to rewrite the job descriptions to clarify duties. At that time, both Dave and Jean did not see any reason for this to be a supervisor position. So the union was very surprised to see this position approved. Again, the new position just adds middle management, when it is not needed.

Stacy reiterated that the Lead Mechanic's job description was just created a little over a year ago. In comparing the two job descriptions, there is not much difference. The only real difference in the Shop Supervisor position, is that this position would be providing recommendations on disciplining employees, addressing complaints, grievances and resolving problems. There is no reason why a lead worker cannot do that, in fact a lead worker should have input on disciplinary issues, hiring, firing, etc. No issues of concern have been brought to the union that the current situation is not working. This new position will just cost more, when the county is already short of funding. Stacy reiterated that the union is opposed to the Board approving this position.

Before leaving, the Board wanted to pass on their thanks to the Road Department for their work during and after the recent wind storm. The Board has received a number of compliments from the citizens on the great job the Road Department did.

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 12/19/06.
- (B) Ratify Order No. 99-2006, "In the Matter of Claim No. CL 06-24 for Compensation under Measure 37 submitted by Penny Leader".

- (C) Ratify Resolution No. 103-2006, "In the Matter of the Declaration of a State of Emergency due to Severe Weather Events".
- (D) Resolution No. 105-2006, "In the Matter of Acquiring Right-of-Way for Mayger-Quincy Road Improvements from Gary and Loretta Viuhkola".
- (E) Appoint Vernae Christophersen to the Region 1 Workforce Investment Board, as business member for Columbia County.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (F) Approve annual Contract with Cardinal Staffing Services.
- (G) Approve Bruer/Flora Buffer Area Gas Storage Lease.
- (H) Approve Calvin Creek Buffer Area Gas Storage Lease.

The motion carried unanimously.

ACCESS DEPOSIT FORFEITURE APPEAL FROM CINDIE DAVIS:

Sarah Hanson reviewed a request that was received from the Davis' after the hearing last week. They were planning to construct the access by December 19th. It has not been completed yet, however, they are very close to getting it done. Based on recommendation from staff, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to deny the appeal by Cindie Davis, but grant a 60 day extension. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Commissioner Corsiglia wanted to say how very impressed he was with the work done by the Emergency Management Director, Vicki Harguth, Janet Wright for getting press releases out, and the Road Department crew for all their work during last weeks wind storm. Everything seemed to go very smoothly. A big pat on the back to all.

There is a lot going on today and the Board is working on wrapping up the rest of the year.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard commented on the recent wind storm and stated that Friday was a bit hectic, but it all ended up well. She feels it depends on where you live on how you rate the severity of the storm. There are still some on Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy without power. She also wanted to thank everyone involved on the work they did to make this go as smoothly as it did.

Last week, she attended the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council meeting in Clatskanie. The main topic was they were appointing the Columbia County Commissioners as the Special

Advisory Group for the proposed Summit Westward IGCC project. There was also some discussion on other Port Westward projects. Afterwards, they did a tour of the site.

She did bell ringing again at Safeway last weekend, which is always fun.

On Saturday, she went to the Watts House, which is decorated every year by the League of Women Voter's.

She also attended the Donut Day at both the Scappoose and St. Helens Police departments. They collected a lot of food for the Food Bank.

She attended the Parks Advisory Committee meeting last night. They voted on a new member and is recommending that the Board appoint Bill Goodwin from Rainier to the committee. With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to appoint Bill Goodwin the Parks Advisory Committee for a full term. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board received a letter from the Fair Board requesting the reappointment of Deloris Bellingham to the Fair Board. She has been on this Board for some time now and is doing a very good job. She is from Vernonia and would be representing that end of the County. With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to reappoint Deloris Bellingham to the Columbia County Fair Board. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde commented on the storm and how it effected Vernonia for 3 days. Although this was not as bad as the flood of 1996, it was very comparable to the wind storm of 1995. Kudos to the Road Department for they hard work during and after the storm.

As of yesterday, Columbia County was the only county that had declared a state of emergency with the Governor's office. Commissioner Corsiglia stated that Tillamook County has also declared a state of emergency and understands that was recently sent off to the Governor's office.

Commissioner Hyde attended a meeting on Friday in Portland with NW Natural Gas.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS:

The Board presented service awards to the following employees for their years of service to Columbia County: Stan Mendenhall - 30 years; Jan Greenhalgh - 15 years; Todd Dugdale - 10 years; Jenni Jordan - 10 years; Dan Koch - 10 years; and Janice Faltersack - 10 years.

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

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(f)(d)(h). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Hyde moved and

Commissioner Bernhard seconded to direct Human Resources to prepare a letter to Local 697 stating that the Shop Supervisor position will stand. The motion carried unanimously.

For the record, Human Resources will prepare letters of commendation to the Emergency Management Director and Road Department Director regarding the wind storm of 12/14/06.

John Knight will bring back proposed membership agreements for the NACo prescription drug program; he will draft a letter to the Columbia Health District stating that the Board wants to amend the contract for health services for next July. Order No. 104-2006, Measure 37 Claim for Smejkal will be added to next weeks consent agenda.

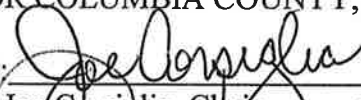
The Board noted that the December 26, 2006 Work Session has been canceled; there will be no Staff meeting at 2:00 pm today and the first meeting of 2007 will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 20th day of December, 2006.

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

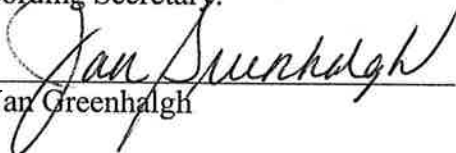
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Chair

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh