

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

September 26, 2007

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Rita Bernhard, Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Commissioner Joe Corsiglia, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel, Spenser Parsons 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 19, 2007 Board meeting and September 19, 2007 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Robert Crain, Code Enforcement Officer, came before the Board with Alta Lynch. Alta Lynch lives on Scappoose Vernonia Hwy along the CZ trail. He was asked to go out to her property and look at any possible encroachments along the trail. Alta has some questions for the Board regarding an easement and access to her property.

Alta Lynch, 32961 SV Hwy or PO Box 369, Scappoose, Or. 97056: She questions how she is going to get in and out of her property because she has big trucks and will not be able to park in front of her facility anymore. She has concerns with security, fencing and lighting because people cross her property to get to the creek. Commissioner Hyde stated that the first thing they need to determine is if she can utilize the lower access that they talked about earlier. Commissioner Corsiglia asked Alta if she has ever had any easement agreements with prior owners. Alta stated that she has just always used the existing access because it was there, but not sure about any easement. She had previous contact with the logging company and they didn't want anyone to come back with an "adverse possession" claim against them. Commissioner Hyde asked if Alta could meet with him after the meeting and they could go down to LDS to check into this. Robert stated that Lonny has looked at the access issue and feels that can be mitigated.

PUBLIC HEARING: COLUMBIA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PLAN:

This is the time set for the public hearing to solicit input on the Columbia County Transportation Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan. Janet Wright and Mary McArthur have worked very hard together to develop this plan and has had many discussions with the Board during that process.

Mary McArthur, Col-Pac, presented a brief report on the Transportation Plan. This plan specifically addresses the special needs population, i.e., low income, seniors and those with disabilities. The process started last fall and there has been a series of public meetings over the

past year meeting with many of the special needs population and agencies who serve these populations. Since presenting the plan to the Board two weeks ago, she has received some updated information. On page 25, first bullet - linking with the Sunset Empire/Columbia County Rider in Clatsop County. They do not currently have service to Portland through Columbia County on Hwy 30. However, Sunset has received a grant to look at the feasibility of how to link up with Columbia County Rider. That change has been incorporated into the plan. Another recommendation is looking at coordinating the volunteer programs because, particularly in Columbia County, that is a real mainstay, because we don't have a publicly funded system. Mary is amazed at the increase of ridership just in the last year. Commissioner Corsiglia talked about the gap in service when COLCO disbanded and now, we have surpassed where COLCO was when they ended their service. Commissioner Bernhard stated that there has also been an increase in population in Columbia County and the need is growing. Commissioner Corsiglia asked Mary if there is an actual written description on what a special needs person is versus a disabled person? Mary stated that there is a criteria for that and some districts even have a certification card, and believes that is obtained from a physician or community agency.

After some comments, the hearing was opened for public testimony.

Thelma Bonar, 56734 Way Lane, Warren: She is here today to compliment the bus service in Columbia County and doesn't want to see anything happen to mess it up. She cannot say enough about the tremendous service they provide and feels it should be advertised more. She knows that the Rider is operating on a shoestring and has even gone to the Port to see if they could do something to help support this program. Maybe an initiative could be put out to help support it. Commissioner Bernhard told Thelma that if the County went out for a transportation service district, she could be very helpful in that. Commissioner Hyde feels that one way to ensure longevity of the program is to get it out of government operation. Again, Thelma just wanted to say that this is a great service.

With no further testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberation.

The Board has reviewed this plan and is impressed with the final document. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to adopt the revised Columbia County Transportation Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan. The motion carried unanimously. The Board thanked Mary McArthur and Janet Wright for the hard work they put into this plan.

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 9/25/07.
- (B) Ratify Partition Plat Johanna Condominium Subdivision & Port Westward.

- (C) Appoint Holly Barbour to the Commission on Children & Families for a (4) year term.
- (D) Approve increasing one Deputy District Attorney position from .7 FTE to 1.0 FTE, effective October 1, 2007.
- (E) Authorization the County Assessor to fill one vacant GIS Programmer/ Cartographer position in the Assessor's Office.
- (F) Authorize the Parks Department to submit a County Opportunity Grant application with the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department for Camp Wilkerson RV sites and restroom/shower facilities improvements.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (G) Amendment #63 to the 2005-2007 Intergovernmental Agreement #113022 with DHS.
- (H) Amendment #67 to the 2005-2007 Intergovernmental Agreement #113022 with DHS.
- (I) Amendment #3 to the 2007-2009 Intergovernmental Agreement #119925 with DHS.
- (J) Amendment #4 to the 2007-2009 Intergovernmental Agreement #119925 with DHS.

The motion carried unanimously.

AGREEMENT WITH BLM FOR PHASE 2 OF SCAPPOOSE-VERNONIA OVERLAY:

Spencer Parsons presented an agreement with BLM for the overlay project on Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy. This is a three phase project and the agreement now before the Board is for Phase 2. Dave Hill has requested authority to sign the agreement. After little discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the agreement with BLM and designate Dave Hill to sign the agreement, subject to County Counsel review and approval. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Last night, she attended the City/County meeting in Columbia City. There was a very good turnout and good discussion. Mike Simek was there to speak about the fire suppression plan. It made it clear to people that we are in danger of fire in Columbia County. Afterwards, she went over to the Democratic Central committee meeting.

On Monday, she attended the Community Action Team meeting. She mentioned that there has been some changes in the Board members. The new Family Resource Center is under construction and, once opened, they will be able to move all of their offices into one location. That should happen around the first of the year.

On Saturday, she attended Judge McLean's memorial services in Vernonia. It was a very nice service. He was a man that was very well respected in this community and touched a lot of lives.

The CZ Trail volunteer project was held on Saturday. There were around 30-40 people volunteers out there to clean up the section of the trail between Hwy 30 and the B& B Market.

She attended a budgeting workshop on Friday - to look at outcome based budgeting. A new way to look at how we plan our budget and implement it. It was put on by representatives of Multnomah County.

She attended the CCCCCF meeting on Thursday. They continue to do excellent work and putting a lot of emphasis on after school programs. These programs are proven to help kids, particularly "at risk" children.

The other day, she went to the "Clatskanie Together" meeting. They had a presentation on Drug Free Work Place policies and medical marijuana as it applies to employers. It was a good presentation and hopefully this will be expanded to go throughout the county.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

On Thursday, he was in Salem for an O&C meeting. A lot of discussion was held on the Fly-In held in Washington DC the prior week, where 175 Oregon representatives were sent to work the halls on the re-authorization of PL 103. The report back was very positive. There are 3 bills out there, which are basically the same.

He attended a kickoff of the Homeland Security Emergency Management meeting. They are starting to put together the strawman for the HSMC ordinance.

He has been spending a lot of time recently with his mother and father-in-law, dealing with medical issues. Because of this, he has had to work a lot with the VA Services. He cannot say enough about how well his family was treated.

Yesterday, the Board, Sarah, the Port of St. Helens and the State spent a lot of time on 11th hour issues on an agreement with OECD for a \$3 million loan for the rail loop at the Port Westward property. It has been approved by the Commission.

He attended the City/County dinner meeting in Columbia County. These are always good ways to share information on what is going on around the County.

Tomorrow night, the BLM will be holding an open house in Scappoose to present the Resource Management Plan.

Commissioner Hyde mentioned that the Oktoberfest is going on this weekend out at the Fairgrounds.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Commissioner Corsiglia enjoyed visiting with the volunteers who worked on the CZ Trail last Saturday. While there, he took some good pictures of them in action and already sent them off for their promotional writeups.

He also attended Rod McLean's memorial service on Saturday. It said a lot about the man. He definitely impacted a lot of peoples lives.

Last night, he missed the City/County meeting because he was inducted as the Kiwanis President for the next year.

Commissioner Hyde wanted to say some words about Rod McLean. He worked with Rod in the logging industry for years. They didn't always agree, however they were always good friends. Missing his service was very hard, but he had to be in California with his mother. This was a real shock to the community.

Regarding the CZ Trail - he wanted to mentioned that Saturday was a ground breaking, not a ribbon cutting. It is not open at this time and not formally sanctioned as a trail at this time. There is still a lot of work to be done before it is opened. He knows some are using it, but they always have.


There was no Executive Session held.

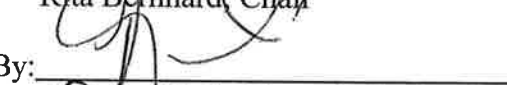
With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 26th day of September, 2007.

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