

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

December 12, 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 and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

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

MINUTES:

The minutes were held over one week.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard read the consent agenda in full. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select-to-Pay for 12/11/07.
- (B) Ratify the letter to Wauna Federal Credit Union to establish the Columbia County Flood Victims Fund.
- (C) Approve new Liquor License for Warren Country Inn.
- (D) Approve Vicki Harguth's request for one day of bereavement leave for Friday, November 30, 2007.
- (E) Authorize the County Sheriff to fill one Corrections Deputy position.
- (F) Order No. 153-2007, "In the Matter of Declaring an Emergency and Awarding a Public Contract to Kynsi Construction for Emergency Construction and Repair Work."
- (G) Order No. 154-2007, "In the Matter of Authorizing Reduced Development Permit Fees for Victims of the 2007 Event".
- (H) Authorize the Finance Director to hire one full time temporary worker, duration unspecified.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (I) Ratify the Memorandum of Understanding for Columbia County Integrated Treatment Court.
- (J) Ratify the Inter-County Mutual Aid Omni-bus Agreement for Emergency Services.
- (K) GIS Data License Agreement with Hancock Forest Management **and authorize the Chair to sign.**
- (L) Approve the Ford Family Foundation Grant Agreement for Crown Zellerbach Trail Improvements and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (M) First Amendment to Cooperative Assistance Agreement by and between Columbia County and Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue for Emergency Management Services.

The motion carried unanimously.

2007 SEVERE STORM DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Bernhard reported on the damage to the county due to the recent flooding and the slide on Hwy 30. She asked that the citizens be patient during this time. ODOT and the County are working hard to clear the slide near Clatskanie and other flood related issues.

Commissioner Hyde stated that ODOT has confirmed that the slide is worse than originally thought. The good news is that families were evacuated. ODOT is going to have to cut the highway and install a new culvert, which will take some time and will be costly.

Commissioner Corsiglia went down to the slide area last night. He has never seen anything as devastating as this before up close and personal. ODOT did a great job in warning the homeowners to evacuate. There was one house that had 5 vehicles under the mud. It's good to see that we have made it past the last couple of weeks with no fatalities. If we get a lot more rain, it could create more sliding damage. There is also damage to the dike roads that were being used as detours and they have now been shut down. This is the beginning of a long winter.

Vicki Harguth stated that a Red Cross shelter was set up in Clatskanie last night. There were 10 homes evacuated because of the slide. The donation management is coming together.

Commissioner Bernhard stated that this has been a very tragic event for a lot of people and this may not be over yet.

Vicki spoke with the National Weather Service this morning and they are providing the county with spot weather reports on specific areas of the county. They will continue to do that on a daily basis.

Todd Dugdale brought up the fee issues for removal of debris at the slide area. ODOT is trying to get rid of this debris as soon as possible. There are those who want to help remove it and use it as fill. Does the county want to charge a fee to these types of permits? The Board firmly agreed that the permit fees should be waived. It's a benefit to everyone to get that mud and debris out of there. Sarah stated that she would draft an order for the 2:00 pm staff meeting to approve this waiver.

A couple other updates - they will be moving the dump site in Vernonia to the Transfer Station. Currently, there is approximately 2,000 tons and Commissioner Hyde feels this may be premature. The curb site dumps stop today and the inmates are gone as of today. He mentioned that the inmates have been working long and hard, putting in 12-14 hours per day and doing a great job.

The current report on damage to the schools in Vernonia is over \$3 million so far and is not yet complete.

Regarding the waiver of fees - the Board will not be meeting at 2:00 pm today so Sarah will prepare an order for the Chair to sign, which can be ratified at the next formal meeting.

It was noted that there is a tentative town hall meeting set up for Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at the Grange in Mist. There is another town hall meeting on Saturday at 6:00 pm at the Washington Grade School in Vernonia.

Commissioner Bernhard wanted to publicly thank all the agencies, other counties and our employees for all the effort they have put forth during this emergency situation.

Commissioner Bernhard mentioned that the Board did a partial tour around the county last week the Governor, looking at the damaged areas so they understand the extent of damage.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the Toy & Joy fundraiser Friday night. It seemed to be another successful event. She also attended the Fair Board meeting and Parks Board meeting. There are some real good members on both of these Boards and she is impressed with how they are moving forward.

Stephanie Klepel, St. Helens, expressed her concern with the Fair Board charging Kiwanis and other non profits during this devastating time for the County. She feels that the Fair Board should waive the rental fees during this month only. Commissioner Corsiglia suggested that Stephanie contact Henry Heimuller, a Fair Board member, regarding this suggestion. Commissioner Bernhard stated that she will call out to the Fair to see if there can be a reduction in costs for this month.

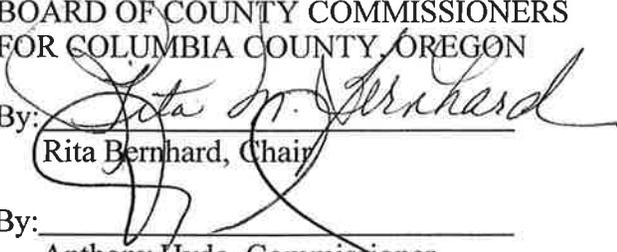
COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

None.

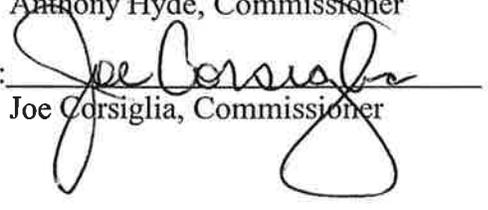
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 12th day of December, 2007.

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

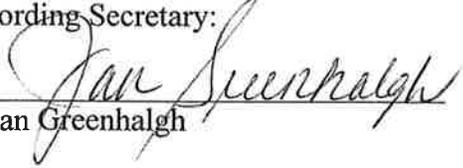
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh