

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 26, 2008

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2008 Board meeting and March 19, 2008 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Bill Eagle and Scott Gall, representing the Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD), came before the Board to ask for their support, help and advice because the SWCD will be going out for a tax levy this year. The amount would be 10¢ per \$1,000. SWCD has previously asked for support from the county, and appreciate what they have given, however that money is not always going to be there. There are other SWCD's in Oregon have tax levies and Bill feels this is a very modest request. Bill explained how the SWCD has put millions of dollars back into the county and cities and they would like to continue doing what they do.

Commissioner Bernhard asked if this group has discussed the current economy. Bill stated that they have and that is why it's such a low amount. She felt the SWCD would need to do a lot of educating the public to see this gets passed. Bill agreed and noted that, if SWCD isn't successful, the program may end up going away.

The Board stressed that education is the key for a successful levy and suggested that more discussion be scheduled for an upcoming work session.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- (A) Ratify the Select-to-Pay for 3/25/08.
- (B) Ratify Order No. 21-2008, "In the Matter of the Proposed Transfer of Jurisdiction over Knott Street to the City of Vernonia".
- (C) Order No. 24-2008, "In the Matter of the Application of Garr Harrel for a Major Variance to the Setback Requirements of the CCZO for the Rural Residential (RR-5) Zone".
- (D) Order No. 25-2008, "In the Matter of Authorizing the Appropriate Response During a Power Outage".
- (E) Resolution No. 26-2008, "In the Matter of Creating a New Fund to be Called the Columbia County Unmet Needs Committee Fund".
- (F) Approve the request for a refund of Partition and Stormwater Plan fees in the amount of \$1,155 to Marc & Shirley Crull.
- (G) Authorize the mailing of letters to existing Amateur Ham Radio volunteers.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (H) Ratify approval of Amendment No. 18 to Agreement with CCMH (implementing Agreement #121518 with DHS).
- (I) Approve Amendment #19 to the Agreement with CCMH.
- (J) Approve Amendment #1 to the Oregon Commission on Children & Families 2007-2009 IGA #COL0709 for Healthy Start-Medicaid Administrative Activities.
- (K) Approve Amendment #1 to State Grant Agreement #24263 with ODOT Public Transit Division.
- (L) Approve Department of Land Conservation and Development Grant Agreement for the preparation of the County's Coordinated 2030

Population Projection.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde attended a meeting last week at USG in Rainier. Russ Moon put together an Economic Development meeting to meet with the businesses in the area. There is a lot going on in Rainier and it was a very positive meeting. They also talked about the re-authorization of the Lower Columbia River Enterprise Zone.

On Thursday, he attended at O&C meeting in Salem. They met with the Governor's Chief of Staff. They discussed how O&C lands are different from other federal lands in the State of Oregon. The feed back was that they didn't even realize the difference.

On Friday, he was at a stakeholders meeting with existing businesses looking to site out at Port Westward. They talked about the Hermo Road issue and funding.

He also met with FBI regarding the shooting range they're building.

On Monday, he spent the day with his wife who turned 50.

Yesterday morning, he met with Wydens' congressional staff to talk about markups. Discussion was specifically centered on the issue of Presidentially declared disasters. The idea was to articulate our needs regarding the flood.

Directly afterwards, he met with the Governor, as part of the OECD commission to formally give the Governor our ideas of reorganizing the department. Immediately following that, the OECD Commission and Governor held a press conference to unveil those ideas to the press.

That same day, he met with Ray Naff and Mark Ellsworth, of the Governor's office, in Vernonia to talk about implementing the Oregon Solutions project that the Governor has agreed to for Vernonia, most specifically around the schools - a \$30-\$50 million dollar issue.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Commissioner Corsiglia commented on the joint meeting held last week with the Fair Board. He felt it went very well. He looks at this as the first step in increasing communication. The meeting allowed both to voice concerns and also provide comments on potential opportunities for both the county and the Fair Board. He is hoping that this continues.

Last week, he met with PGE's staff to discuss Prescott, Trojan and Port Westward. Discussion was held on where we are at now and potentials for the future.

He had the opportunity to meet with Sho Dozano last week. Directly after Sho made the announcement that he is going to continue seeking the Mayors post, Joe spoke with him about where Columbia County is in relationship to Portland and some things we could work together on should he achieve office. He seems to me interested in the same things we are concerned about.

Last night, he attended the Democratic Central Committee meeting. It went very well and one of the smoothest meetings they've had in a long time.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard also commented on the joint meeting with the Fair Board. She felt it went very well and there were some good ideas that came from it.

She attended the Grant Watts music program last week. It's always fun to watch the kids perform.

Commissioner Bernhard was In charge of the Kiwanis program last week. Joanna Rau, Assistant Principal of Curriculum at St. Helens High School, came to the meeting with one of her students and one staff member, to talk about the Senior Project program they have. This program is for extended learning beyond the classroom that will help the kids determine where they go after high school. A lot of different types of trades are offered, i.e., plumbing, construction, etc.

On Saturday, she attended the Megga Easter Egg Hunt. There was record attendance and the weather was great.

Last week, she attended the CAT meeting. Jim Tierney was there to give a flood update and a presentation on the recovery process, mitigation, raising homes, etc.

Last night, she attended the Democratic Central Committee meeting. The group was very cordial and presented their thoughts very well.

She informed the Board that there is going to be a special needs emergency planning meeting next Monday, in joint cooperation between Public Health and the County EOC. This will be a good opportunity for individuals and providers of these services to get an understandings on how to take care of special needs people during disasters.

RES: CO-SPONSORING AN APPLICATION FOR RE-DESIGNATION OF LCEZ:

After a brief discussion on Resolution No. 22-2008, Janet Wright recommended approval. This needs to be included in the packet to the State by April 4th. With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve Resolution No. 22-2008, "In the Matter of Co-Sponsoring with the Port of St. Helens, the City of Rainier, the City of Clatskanie and Clatsop County an Application for Re-designation of the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone". The motion carried unanimously.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 26th day of March, 2008.

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: _____

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____

Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: _____

By: _____

Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Jan Greenhalgh