

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

February 25, 2009

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2009 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Scott Groves, 57218 Old Hill Road, Scappoose: Scott presented the Board with a letter he received from Roger Kadell regarding the loop hole in his nuisance complaint. To explain, this was a response to Scott's call to Commissioner Fisher regarding guns being fired near and towards his property. Again this weekend, the neighbor he has been complaining about for years, left all day and left the dogs out to bark all day. Roger has stated that he is unable to issue any nuisance violations until the issue of her license is finally settled. Scott feels it is totally inconceivable that something cannot be done on this continuing nuisance.

Commissioner Bernhard firmly stated that the Board has heard this complaint a number of times and the county is doing what they can under the current law and that counsel is working to see what can be done to rectify this matter. The Board is sympathetic to his situation, but the county is working on this and asked for his patience. Hopefully, something can be done fairly soon. Scott asked that the Board also look at the loop hole addressed in Roger's letter and encouraged the Board to get that fixed.

Mike Dennis, Oregon Aero, Inc., 59845 Oliver Heights Lane, St. Helens. Mr. Dennis read a letter he previously sent to the City of Scappoose and shared that with the Board here today. He is here with many of his colleagues who are affiliated with the Scappoose Airport to ask for the Board's help. Even in normal economic times, running a business successfully is challenging and these are certainly not normal times. All of us in the private sector are struggling. On behalf of his company, Oregon Aero, and the other businesses at the Scappoose Airport, they would like to thank the Scappoose City Council for its interest in the airport and for its willingness to explore all economic growth opportunities. Although the airport lies within the boundary of the City of Scappoose, it is owned and managed by the Port of St. Helens. Unfortunately, the Port has not demonstrated an interest in development at the airport. During the past two years, we have all witnessed the lack of communication and sense of common purpose between the city, private investors and the Port of St. Helens. While nearly every community in the nation is doing everything in its power to attract new investment and new family wage jobs, the Port has demonstrated a persistent unwillingness to act as a full partner. The Port's decision to bring a lawsuit against the City of Scappoose for the adoption of a new land use zone, even though the new ordinance provides complete protection for the Port, is indicative of the constant strain between the Port and those who are working diligently to help the community's economy grow. The concerns of the businesses at the airport are that the Port's negative actions regarding the airport are becoming

widely known. They are scaring away business. The businesses grow as the airport grows, but the airport is not growing. At the same time, the Aurora Airport has greatly increased its job base, with new businesses around it. Mike personally knows of several companies, Vans Aircraft, Pacific Coast Avionics and an aircraft restoration center, that wanted to move to Scappoose, but established operations at Aurora instead because they could not "get to first base" with the Port of St. Helens. These are companies that would be in Scappoose now, if not for the Port's inability to get a deal done.

The Scappoose Airport Business Association, as well as others who would like to see the potential of the Scappoose airport fully developed, are in agreement that the airport would be better served under the management of the City of Scappoose. They would like to ask the voters within the Port District to approve the amendment of the Port District's southern boundary, which is now the Columbia County - Multnomah County line, to be changed to Church Road in Warren. It is their hope that this question could be placed before the Port District voters on the May 2009 election ballot. In order to meet the election time line, they have asked that the Scappoose City Council refer the measure for consideration to the voters. We can no longer afford to waste and squander economic opportunities due to the inattention and ineptitude of the Port of St. Helens.

Commissioner Hyde can understand the concern, however, he does not believe the county can remove the Port's ownership with the vote of the people, any more than removing Mike from Oregon Aero.

Mike explained that there are ways to accomplish this and is willing to share that information with the Board.

Ed Freeman, 9385 Locust, Tigard, OR, 97223: As a business owner, he supports Mike and other business owners request. They have tried to work with the Port, and while some things have been successful, others have hit a stone wall. This is something that the voters should be allowed to consider.

Judy Ingram, 51836 SE 6th St., Scappoose: She is a Scappoose Council member but not here representing the council. She is aware of the many concerns of the business owners at the airpark and the inability of the Port to manage it. She does not feel the Port owns this property, the people do as the tax payers that support the Port. The frustrations, the stale mates, not talking, has got to stop. She would encourage the Board to seriously consider the request made by Mike Dennis.

Philip Barlow, City of St. Helens Council Member: He first wanted to welcome Earl Fisher as a new Commissioner. About a year ago, he came to the Board on an economic development issue. The city of St. Helens held a meeting about a week ago and there was presence from about every city in the county. It went well and he encouraged the Board to attend these meetings.

HEARING: WITHDRAWAL OF KERRY & BOECK ROADS:

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of the Proposed Withdrawal of County Road Status from Kerry Road and Boeck Road".

Spencer explained that the Board initiated this process on November 25, 2009. Notice was sent out and one response was received, which is part of County Counsel's hearing file, marked Exhibit "1".

Lonny Welter, Transportation Planner, reviewed his report to the Board. This procedure is not an "abandonment" or "vacation" of the roads. This is a "withdrawal" and under this procedure, the road continues to exist as a road in public use. The only change would be in the county's responsibility for maintaining the road.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

With no testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberation. After little discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to tentatively approve the withdrawal of County Road Status from Kerry Road and Boeck Road and direct staff to prepare the final order. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard read the consent agenda in full. With the removal of Item (D), Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select-to-Pay for 2/24/09.
- (B) Order No. 11-2009, "In the Matter of Exempting a Personal Services Contract for the Provision of Flood Recovery Administrative Services from the Screening and Selection Procedures of the Personal Services Contracting Rule".

- (C) Approve exemption from vacation accrual maximum retroactively from January 1, 2009 until May 1, 2009 for Dale Anderson, Ruth Baker, Todd Dugdale, Stan Mendenhall and Janet Wright.
- (D) Approve the sale and transfer of the Rainier area solid waste collection franchise from Rainier Sanitary to Waste Connections, Inc., dba Hudson Sanitary, effective immediately. (***PULLED FOR DISCUSSION***).
- (E) Approve updated job descriptions for Finance Director and Juvenile Director.
- (F) Approve Letter of Agreement with FOPPO regarding Jim Stewart, effective 2/25/09.
- (G) Approve Letter of Agreement with AFSCME Local 1442 regarding updated Wage Appendix, effective 2/25/09.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (H) Intergovernmental Agreement #3950 with the Oregon Department of Corrections.
- (I) Amendment #57 to the Intergovernmental Agreement #119925 with DHS and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (J) Amendment #58 to the Intergovernmental Agreement #119925 with DHS and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (K) Amendment #59 to the Intergovernmental Agreement #119925 with DHS and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

ITEM (D) ORDER #12-2009: TRANSFER TO HUDSON GARBAGE:

After a brief explanation by Spencer, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 12-2009, "In the Matter of Approving a Transfer and Name Change from Rainier Sanitary Service to Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc., dba Hudson Garbage Service". The motion carried unanimously.

PSC WITH COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM:

After a brief review by Sarah, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the Personal Services Contract with Community Action Team for Flood Recovery Administrative Services. The motion carried unanimously.

BOC Minutes

2/25/09

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PAROLE/PROBATION POSITION:

This request will be put on hold until a later date.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended an Economic Development Committee meeting in Scappoose last night. Many businesses were there and it was a very productive meeting.

The Board held a joint meeting with the Parks Committee on Tuesday to discuss Board expectations, future plans, update on projects, etc. The Parks Department is doing well in managing the parks and, with the downturn in the economy, people are staying local which helps increase our revenue.

The Board attended a Stimulus meeting with the cities and reviewed requests for funding.

She attended a United Way Retreat on Saturday. As with most agencies, there is a huge demand for services.

On Friday, she attended a Cornelius Pass meeting. They went over the entire Hwy Commission Report and what safety measures will be taken.

She also attended the CAT meeting. This is another situation where numbers are increasing for services.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde was in Salem last Wednesday to meet with the Ways and Means Committee to talk about funding and the restructuring of the OECDD department.

On Thursday, he was in Salem attending an O&C meeting

On Friday, he attended an Oregon Way Commission meeting which was recently created by the Governor, to address stimulus funding requests. He also attended an Oregon Solutions meeting that day.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher was in Salem last Thursday, Friday and Saturday, attending the County College put on by AOC for those who are new to the Commission.

He attended a meeting at the Scappoose High School regarding the intern program.

Tomorrow, ESD, Information Technology representatives will be here to look at the county needs and how resources may be combined.

Commissioner Fisher wanted to respond to the comments made today regarding the Port of St. Helens. This is a time when we all need to be working together. It is in everyone's best interest to work together and, if we don't, a negative perception could effect future funding.

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There was no Executive Session held.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25th day of February, 2009.

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

Recording Secretary:

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: _____
Jan Greenhalgh