

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 25, 2009

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Rita Bernhard and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary. Commissioner Hyde was not present.

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

MINUTES:

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

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Frank Oliver, 33015 School Street, Rainier. He moved to the City of Prescott back in September. He has been attending the city council meetings because of the water quality in the Prescott area. The city seems to be totally overwhelmed with their water system and they need help. The water is not drinkable and has been determined by the State to be unhealthy for children, which means to him, unhealthy for all. He has to purchase his water at the store. He understands there is a "certificate of need" that the city can prepare and use to apply for grant funding, but he's not sure anyone knows how to do that. As a citizen of this county, he

wants to know what can be done to help improve the water problem in Prescott and is just looking for some help.

Commissioner Bernhard explained that the county doesn't have jurisdiction in the city, however, she would assume that the city could go to the State Water Resources Department to look for help and that grant funding may be available, especially if there are health issues with the water.

Commissioner Fisher agreed that there is little this Board can do, without being asked by the city council, but will check into what the county may be able to do to help out. He made some suggestions to Mr. Oliver on who to contact for help, i.e. Senator Johnson, Representative Witt, and the State.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard read the consent agenda in full. With no changes, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select-to-Pay for 3/24/09.
- (B) Order No. 19-2009, "In the Matter of Adopting a Form License and Indemnity Agreement for the Columbia County Firearms Range Complex".
- (C) Approve By-Laws for the Homeland Security Emergency Management Commission.
- (D) Approve Personnel Action for Ruth Baker.
- (E) Approve the elimination of the rank of Corrections Corporal and authorize the Sheriff to promote three positions to Corrections Sergeant.
- (F) Appoint Steve Knebel to the Columbia County Fair Board, Position #5, to complete the term of Rick Swart, term to expire on 1/1/11.
- (G) Approve the 2009 Liquor License Renewals for:
 - Vernonia Golf Course;
 - Mark's on the Channel;
 - Wayside Inn;

- Alston Country Store & Video

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (H) Professional Services Agreement with Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt for Trust Lands litigation and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (I) Amendment #1 to the Firearms Range Lease.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the Community Action Team Finance Committee meeting to address their audit. There were some changes last year on how agencies are audited, but CAT has always done an excellent job.

On Thursday night, the Board hosted the City/County meeting in St. Helens. It was very well attended and is always a good venue to share comments and concerns.

She had the opportunity to meet with Representative Brad Witt and Donna Nyberg to discuss the issue of broadband to improve services for the county.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Not present.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher attended the City/County meeting. It was a good opportunity to talk with the different agencies about how we can work together, support each other and the possibility of sharing resources.

Commissioner Fisher wanted to announce that, beginning next Wednesday, the Board meetings will be broadcasted on KOHI.

The Community Garden project continues to move forward. He visited the Scappoose Senior Center, which is very active, and they are also considering a community garden at their site. He received a call this morning from the Port of St. Helens and they have people looking for property that can be used for a community garden.

Commissioner Fisher is looking to put together a challenge for all county and state employees, along with other agencies to do a food drive for the Columbia Pacific Food Bank. We are all

aware of the food shortage and increased need and hopefully everyone will accept this challenge.
This is just another way of how we can all work together.

There was no Executive Session held.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25^h day of March, 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: _____ Not Present

Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

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Recording Secretary:

By: _____
Jan Greenhalgh