

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

April 1, 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. She announced that, beginning today, the Wednesday Board meetings are now live on KOHI.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2009 Work Session, March 25, 2009 Board meeting and March 25, 2009 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard read the consent agenda in full. With the addition of the number of leases on Items (E) and (G), Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select-to-Pay for 3/31/09.
- (B) Reappoint Chuck Parks to the Columbia County Parks Advisory Committee.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (C) Approve the Public Services Contract with TouchPay Holdings, LP.
- (D) Amendment #1 to the Memorandum of Understanding between Columbia County, the Commission on Children & Families, Columbia County Juvenile Department.
- (E) **(49)** Oil and Gas Leases with Enerfin Resources Northwest Limited Partnership.
- (F) Memorandum of Oil and Gas Leases with Enerfin Resources Northwest Limited Partnership.
- (G) **(83)** Oil and Gas Leases with Klabzuba Oil and Gas, FLP.
- (H) Memorandum of Oil and Gas Leases with Klabzuba Oil and Gas, FLP.
- (I) Underground Gas Storage Lease with Northwest Natural Gas Company for the Adams Storage Area.
- (J) Memorandum of Underground Gas Storage Lease with Northwest Natural Gas Company for the Adams Storage Area.

GRANTS & APPLICATIONS:

- (K) Approve the submission to the Oregon Department of Transportation -Public Transit Division of grant application for the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) 5311 Capital Discretionary Grant Application in the amount of \$574,764 and authorize Janet Wright to sign.
- (L) Approve the submission of a grant application for "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) InterCity funding to the Oregon Department of Transportation - Public Transit Division for funding to complete a building remodel in the amount of \$125,000 and authorize Janet Wright to sign.
- (M) Approval the submission of an application under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to the Oregon Department of Transportation - Public Transit Division for \$25,131 For the Longview Service Apportioned Funds to remodel the Rainier Transit Center and authorize Janet Wright to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST BY DAVID ROUSH FOR FEE WAIVER:

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, came before the Board regarding a request from David Roush for a waiver of the fee for a minor septic repair permit. The system is failing and is in need of repair. Mr. Roush has completed a waiver application outlining his financial hardship. Todd noted that there is an additional \$60 for the State that cannot be waived. After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the request by David Roush to waive the county portion of the application fee. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the Traffic Safety Committee meeting this morning. They continue to look at the Gable Road to Berg Road stretch of highway because of the problems identified in that area.

Last night she attended the Democratic Central Committee meeting. Discussion was held on the upcoming election on special districts.

Monday she attended the CAT Board meeting. They continue to deal with the increased demand on services due to the downturn in the economy. One positive thing is that more funding will be made available for low income housing.

On Monday, she went to the 5 area senior luncheon at the St. Helens Senior Center. Janet Wright and Henry Heimuller were there to talk about the transportation plan. Seniors are big users of our transportation system.

She mentioned that the county is continuing to look at sites for the community gardens. There is a great deal of interest in this project and people who have existing gardens and fruit trees want to participate.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde attended an O&C meeting. Discussed the stimulus funding, RAC projects, re-authorization efforts, etc.

He attended the OECD meeting in Wilsonville. They talked about issues surrounding the reorganization of the department. Another topic was renewable energy projects.

He was at the Oregon Solutions Team meeting yesterday. The Vernonia School is the project they are currently working on.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher also attended the 5 area senior luncheon at the St. Helens Senior Center. This is a good opportunity to network with the other centers and have a good meal.

This past week, he has been working on the county website. The Board is looking at hiring a consultant to update our website and make it more user friendly.

He met with some people in Clatskanie over the weekend to look at ways to bring health care services to the area.

He has also been working on broadband issues and how to get it to the outlying areas and improve services the local areas.

Yesterday, he met with the Museum Committee. It was a very productive meeting and hopefully within the next couple of months, the inventory will be done and we can get the museum back up and running.

Employees may have noticed the food barrels around the courthouse. This is because the Port of St. Helens has challenged the county to a competition food drive for the Columbia Pacific Food Bank.

He has met with people from the high school about an intern project for next year. Commissioner Fisher is very interested in seeing this happen. This is very good education opportunity for the students and beneficial to the county.

Commissioner Bernhard wanted to add that the State legislators are looking at grouping public health and mental health services together. Discussions are being held on the pros and cons about this. She has great concerns that if these are put together, services may suffer. In Columbia County, which is unique, our services are working good they way they are now. As a member of the AOC Human Services Committee, she will be participating in the hearings process.

There was no Executive Session held.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 1st day of April, 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

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: _____
Jan Greenhalgh