

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

November 30, 2011

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Earl Fisher and Commissioner Henry Heimuller, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel, and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

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

MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 22, 2011 Work Session and November 23, 2011 Board meeting were held over one week.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. Item (B) was pulled for discussion. With no other changes/additions, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for week of 11/28/11.
- (B) Resolution No. 84-2011, "In the Matter of Authorizing David Stocker to Sign an Extended Enterprise Zone Agreement with Rightline Equipment, Inc.". (***PULLED FOR DISCUSSION***)
- (C) Approved the updated job description for Emergency Management Director.
- (D) Contractor payment release for 600 Jefferson Avenue, Vernonia (Naron) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (E) Owner's Certification and Acceptance of Improvements for 600 Jefferson Avenue, Vernonia (Naron) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (F) Demolition Contract Change Order for 600 Jefferson Avenue, Vernonia (Naron) and authorize the Chair to sign.

- (G) Buyer's Estimated Settlement Statement for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (H) Estimated Settlement Statement for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (I) HUD Settlement Statement for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (J) Sale Escrow Instructions for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (K) Statutory Warranty Deed for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (L) Preliminary Title Report for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (M) Hazard Mitigation Grant Deed Restriction for 1098 Heather Lane, Vernonia (Hopkins) and authorize the Chair to sign.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (N) Consent to Assignment of Jail Medical Service Contract with Correctional Healthcare Management, Inc., to Correctional Healthcare Companies, Inc.
- (O) Second Amendment to Personal Services Contract by and between Columbia County and Correctional Healthcare Management, Inc.
- (P) Hold Harmless Agreement with the City of St. Helens to decorate the Plaza for the holiday season.

The motion carried unanimously.

ITEM (B) - RESOLUTION #84-2011:

David Stocker was present to discuss the this matter. Briefly this is a standard enterprise zone issue. Rightline Equipment Inc. is a manufacturer of material handling equipment based just north of the Rainier city limits. They currently have about 60 employees and are planning an expansion which includes the construction of a new warehouse building to allow more space for production equipment. The total expansion is estimated to be valued at \$1.5 million and they have committed to 6 new employees as part of this expansion. The company plans to break ground on this project January 2012. As the Board is aware, Rainier is within the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone. The company has expressed interest in taking advantage of the enterprise zone incentive, including the extended abatement benefit which would extend their property tax abatement period from 3 years to 5 years.

This is simply a brief summary and David will get the additional information to the Board for review and possible action next week as he will need Board approval to sign the EZ Agreement with this company. When asked, David confirmed that the 2 year tax abatement is only on the expansion, not the entire facility.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde commented that with the holiday season here and the food banks can use help from everyone who can. Understanding that there are some who have been cut back on wages, there are those who have no jobs at all and are in real need.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher attended the Kiwanis meeting last night and there was a presentation from north county who talked about the number of kids that go to school hungry everyone and nothing to eat over the weekends. The numbers are staggering in this county, with 30-40 percent of kids not having enough food to eat in their households. This group put together a program whereby those kids in need are identified and given food to take home. He just wanted to encourage those who can assist in these types of programs to help feed our kids.

Commissioner Fisher is setting up a breakfast meeting for 12/15 with some of the health providers in our community to talk about what we can do to help provide better health coverage in the county. There has been a lot of discussion at the state level regarding Community Care Organizations and how they might function, where the county and local service providers might come into play. This meeting with the providers will help us to understand the issues.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller stated that the Board is continuing work on the dissolution of the CHD and hope to get that wrapped up as soon as allowable.

He commented that Joe Pyle, Veterans Service Officer, has resigned. He will be going to work at the VA Hospital. Under Jim Tierney's leadership at CAT, the State will be sending out a VA Services officer a couple of days per week to help back fill the program until the local position can be filled.

With regards to CAT, they are looking at taking over about 140 low income housing units in south Columbia County that are all at the end of their tax break. In order to ensure that they remain affordable housing, CAT, NOHA and others, look for ways to bundle those under their umbrella.

Yesterday he attended the NW Ride Center Advisory Committee meeting in Astoria. They are the broker for medicaid trips in the tri county region. That contract has been overseen by Sunset Empire Transportation District. There has been some severe financial problems the past year, almost leading to their collapse. It was reported yesterday that the NW Ride Center books have been removed from Sunset and they are now healthy again.

He mentioned that he will be attending a NOHA meeting tomorrow in Tillamook. As a NOHA Board member, he has been pushing for coordination between all housing agencies regarding property management, maintenance, insurance, etc. Working together would be much more efficient and could provide better service for a better price.

With regards to the holiday season and the needs in our communities, he wanted to give a shout out for the Clatskanie Kiwanis gala this Saturday night, the St. Helens Fire District Toy n Joy fundraiser at the Fairgrounds on Saturday night. These are huge events that bring people out with the purpose of taking care of the kids in the community. There are also a number of other events throughout the county that help those in need. He encouraged everyone who can to come out to these events and give what they can.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon, this 30th day of November, 2011.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

BOC Minutes

11/30/11

Page 5

By: _____

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Recording Secretary

By: _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary