

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 11, 2012

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:

Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2011 Board meeting and January 3, 2012 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The meetings of the December 13, 2011 Work Session and December 14, 2011 Board meeting were held over one week.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Tammy Maygra, 34319 Cannan Road, Deer Island: As the Board is aware, the CHD Board (herself and someone else), tried to file a document in the clerks office yesterday, and they refused to file it. She asked if the Board of Commissioners had any involvement in instructing the Clerks office to not accept filings from the CHD Board. Commissioner Hyde stated that the Board does not have any authority over the County Clerk as she is a separately elected official. Tammy stated that someone gave that office direction because an individual in the Clerks office said that they were directed by the Clerk to pass anything

that the CHD Board tries file to the County Counsel office. Since the Board of Commissioners did not give that direction to the Clerk, it leads her to believe that the County Counsel gave the Clerk that direction and therefore the county has a rogue counsel who is acting without the Board's direction. This is not the first time this has happened and she finds it insulting, against the law and discrimination.

Commissioner Heimuller feels it is inappropriate for the Board to respond to this under public comment and suggested Tammy make an appointment to discuss her concerns. Tammy feels this needs to be addressed publicly. It is totally unacceptable for a person to have sit at the courthouse for 3 hours to get a document recorded. Tammy is requesting that the Board respond to this publicly and in writing, and she doesn't expect to have this happen the next time she brings something in for recording.

Commissioner Fisher stated that Tammy can expect something in writing sometime after Friday.

Brady Preheim 195 Arch St., St. Helens: Just as a point of clarification, does the County Counsel work for the Board or for the county directly. Commissioner Hyde stated the County Counsel works for the county and is supervised by the Board of Commissioners.

HEARING: ORDINANCE #2012-2 AMENDING CIVIL SERVICE ORDINANCE:

This is the time set for the public hearing on proposed Ordinance No. 2012-2, "In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Civil Service Ordinance".

Jean Ripa, Human Resource Director, reviewed the changes to the existing ordinance and explained how these amendments will help streamline the hiring process, add better

clarification, brings the rules into compliance with the Oregon Public Records law, changes there term "examination" to "recruitment", increases the number of candidates on the hiring list that is sent to the department from 5 to 25, it will allow for more flexibility to transfer employees between jobs or departments and eliminates the ability for candidates to appeal when they didn't follow the prescribed application process. All county employees have seen these revisions and was given the opportunity to respond. She received only two questions, one asked why the need to amend the ordinance and the other was a misunderstanding, both were addressed. The Civil Service Committee has reviewed the amendments and is recommending approval. Jean noted that there is no emergency clause necessary.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

With no testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberation. Sarah gave the first reading of Ordinance No. 2012-2, by title only. Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to hold the second reading of this ordinance on Wednesday, January 25, 2012, at or after 10:00 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. With no 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 1/9/12.
- (B) Appoint Jeff Burch to the Transportation/Road Advisory Committee.
- (C) Approve the 2012 Social Gaming License for the St. Helens Moose Ledge #591.

- (D) Contractor's Payment Release for 58589 Nehalem Hwy S, Vernonia (Rose Marie Ruehmann) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (E) Owner's Certification and Acceptance of Improvements for 58589 Nehalem Hwy S, Vernonia (Rose Marie Ruehmann) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (F) Demolition Contract Change Order for Demolition Contract Addendum 10 for 58589 Nehalem Hwy S, Vernonia (Rose Marie Ruehmann) and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (G) Approve RFP for Payroll Outsourcing; Benefit Management and HR Outsourcing.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde attended an AOC legislative steering committee meeting in Salem on Monday where they discussed proposed legislation. There was a presentation from NACo on the prescription drug cards we currently use in Columbia County and is now an AOC statewide endorsed program. This program is available to everyone in Columbia County, with or without insurance.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher was also in Salem for an AOC meeting on Monday. They talked about the conditions of the Justice of the Peace courts throughout the state. There was a new fine system that was passed in the last legislative session where the fines collected would go to the state first. It appears from studies around the state that this may jeopardize the very existence Justice courts. If those courts go away, those cases would then have to go to an already clogged Circuit Court system.

Commissioner Fisher wanted to comment on the few citizens that continue come to the meetings to badger the Board and to belittle public employees. There are people that continue to try to file various kinds of documents under what he considers to be false names, people who no longer have a position but feel they still have legal authority. He believes there may be some criminal charges that can be brought and he has asked County Counsel to pursue that. This needs to come to head because there has been a lot of county time and money being wasted by a small group of people. That wasted money is being paid by all taxpayers in this county.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller mentioned that the Columbia County Rodeo Court held their coronation last Saturday at the Fairgrounds. It was one of best turnouts in years. Our Miss Rodeo America was not present because her calendar is being set by others and she might not even make it to the Columbia County Fair because of other commitments.

On Sunday, he attended the memorial service for Brice Stoneking, a local young man that was recently killed in an auto accident. He and his family have been big fair supporters for years.

This coming Saturday, he has been asked to participate in the Feast Project, a federal grant funded project, being put on by the State Food Bank at the St. Helens Senior Center. This is to help bring awareness of our local farms, local agriculture and farmers markets. Sharing information on how important personal gardens can be for our neighbors. With the economy the way it is and the need out there, it has really invigorated these discussions. He will keep the Board updated on this project.

Peggy Crisp wanted to respond to Commissioner Fisher's comments. If there are any criminal charges here, they should be against the old CHD Board for, among other things, taking money from the community and doing things under the table. She is very upset about this and stated that the Board needs to stand up for the voters.

The Board recessed the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m. in Room 331. Present were Commissioner Hyde, Commissioner Fisher and Commissioner Heimuller.

The Board met with David Kem, Larry McKinley, Brad Grimm ODOT and County Transportation Planner Lonny Welter, regarding general transportation issues and expectations between ODOT and the County in light of the recent changes to county ODOT regions.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 11th day of January, 2012.

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

BOC Minutes

1/11/12

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Recording Secretary:

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner