

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

September 5, 2012

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Earl Fisher and Commissioner Henry Heimuller, together with Robin McIntyre, Assistant 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 March 21, 2012 Board meeting; August 22, 2012 Board meeting; and August 22, 2012 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Don Campbell, 75735 Price Road, Rainier: He is building a home on his property to replace an existing home. He has a 20 foot strip of road on the east side of his property, that he solely owns, with a paved apron at the entrance. The road has been repaired with 3/4 - and pea gravel. At one point many years ago, it may have been a paved road with protecting with an apron, but currently it's been maintained with gravel and rock. He has no interest in putting in pavement and is only used by Robert Ramey's household and his own. The trailer park does access through that road but they don't have a legal easement to do so and that is going to be legally dealt with in the near future. The County is now requiring him to put in a second paved apron on his property. He has some email correspondence between his attorney and the trailer park owner that he is not

interested in maintaining that road. He noted that there are no paved aprons that have ever been required from LDS anywhere else but Homeaway Road or Elderbark Road. There is no reason that he should be the first one that's required to have an apron. Don also has an estimate that to bring this road to paved standards would cost \$45-\$50,000. He is not interested putting in a \$50,000 driveway. When Don previously spoke with Dave Hill, Dave stated that he would reconsider the decision to require the apron. At this point, there has been no reconsideration on that requirement. In summary, Don does not feel he should be required to put in the apron.

Dave Hill, Public Works Director was present to report on this matter. He explained that in order to replace his home, Don needs to obtain an access permit from the County. Because the road is paved (for the most part), the access permit requirements are that his access also needs to be paved. LDS will not issue an occupancy permit until the access is paved or a deposit is made in the amount of \$2,000. Don does not believe that the County should require him to put in the apron for the number of reasons he just stated in his testimony. Frankly, Dave doesn't have a strong feeling about this simple driveway approach either way. He told Don early on that he would look to see if there was a way to waive this requirement, so if the Board can justify that, he is fine with it. That said, the main reason for the requirement to pave accesses is to prevent deterioration of the paved roadways.

After a very lengthy discussion, Commissioner Heimuller agrees with Don that the Board needs to set a standard and stick with it. The county has rules and standards however times change as do those standards. We can't measure one thing today by what happened years ago. He would say that the county should follow the currently set standards. Commissioner Fisher agrees that situations change over time, however, he feels that the Board needs to apply the rules and road standards as set.

In summary, the Board agreed that the requirement for the paved access should stand.

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 8/27/12 & 9/3/12.
- (B) Appoint Ellen Baily and Stan Mendenhall to the Civil Service Commission
- (C) Accept letter of termination from Cowlitz County for Intergovernmental Agreement on Juvenile Detention Services, terminating the IGA effective August 1, 2012.
- (D) Approve HMGP funds of \$208,560.95 for flood acquisition project for Nancy Schaumburg, 1328 Heather Lane, Vernonia, Oregon.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (E) Grant Agreement #28516 with ODOT Public Transit Division for Preventative Maintenance and Surveillance/Security.
- (F) Intergovernmental Agreement with Cowlitz County for Detention of Columbia County Juveniles in the Cowlitz County Juvenile Detention Facility.

The motion carried unanimously.

ODOT GRANT AGREEMENT #28859 FOR COMPLETION OF TRANSIT FACILITY:

Janet Wright and Bill Potter were present to discuss the ODOT Grant Agreement #28859 for the completion of the transit facility. County Counsel has reviewed the agreement and it is now ready for Board review and approval.

Janet explained that ODOT will be “pinning” this agreement with the Federal Transit Administration. When that occurs, they can draw down the money as the county sends in requests for reimbursement. She has been (verbally) informed by ODOT that, until that “pinning” takes place, they give their permission for the county to incur costs upon approval of this agreement. They anticipate mid September or early October for the pinning.

Bill explained that the planning process has been approved by the City of St. Helens, but the bidding process and contract season has passed for this year. That said, costs will start accruing within the next few months for project meetings. When asked, Bill would guess that, depending on the factors involved, all work should be completed by next summer.

After discussion, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve ODOT Grant Agreement #28859 for the completion of the transit facility. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Yesterday was the first day of school and Commissioner Hyde had the pleasure of handing out over 700 apples to the students coming in to the new Vernonia School. This is a huge success story and this is the only K-12 school in the country.

Tomorrow is the east coast airing of a PBS special that will include a segment on Columbia County with regards to our Forest Health/Human Health Initiative. This program is on the cutting edge of carbon sequestration.

He and Commissioner Fisher had to round up a couple of cows this morning that got out of the gate.

Things are moving quickly on an grant for the new EOC facility. The completion date of that facility is anticipated to be March 30, 2013.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher met yesterday with CCCC and a planning group to talk about the Early Learning Councils. They are still exploring ways on how these entities will be combined and how they will exist. They met last week with Washington County Commissioners about the possible collaboration in developing a model of an Early Learning Council. But again, they are still in the early planning stages.

He attended the CEPA meeting yesterday where they talked about the progress of the Hwy 30 Safety Education subcommittee. Each school will be provided a “crash” map, which was created by ODOT, so that the students can visually see the more dangerous areas along Hwy 30. September has been proclaimed “Traffic Safety Awareness Month” and materials will be sent to all schools for short safety announcements during their games.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller met this morning with Terry McMann, manager of the St. Helens Les Schwab store. Since the fire just a couple of weeks ago, they have already secured a temporary location in town and it's set to open next Monday. He was very impressed to learn that all of those employees lost only 5 hours of work during this whole event. The

preliminary plans are to have a new facility rebuilt on site and it should be open by next April or May.

He was on vacation last week but did attend the Oregon State Fair Association meeting in Salem, along with the Western Fairs Association and the Oregon Fairs Commission meetings. In the next legislation, they will be looking at combining the duties of the Oregon Fairs Commission into the Oregon Fairs Association, which is a private, non-profit, for more efficiencies. There is still a lot of unknowns and some bridges to cross among all of the players. At the end of that day, he was asked to sit on the committee, along with Senator Johnson and 8 others, to bring this all together.

He will be attending a meeting with Senator Johnson on 9/26/12 at 2:00 for a follow up on Dibblee Point discussion that was started several months ago. He understands that Louise Holiday of the Dept of State Lands is retiring in November. She is very focused on wanting to give the County control of that property before she leaves.

He attended the Traffic Safety Committee this morning. The big news is that the St. Helens School District has a new bus contractor.

Tomorrow he will be in Tillamook for the monthly Northwest Oregon Housing Authority meeting.

There was no Executive Session held.

//

//

//

//

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 5th of September, 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

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: _____

By: _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Jan Greenhalgh