

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 13, 2013

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde moved seconded to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2013 Board meeting and March 6, 2013 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for week of 3/11/13.

- (B) Order No. 6-2013, "In the Matter of Setting the Number of Positions on the Columbia County Fair Board".
- (C) Appoint Randy Larson and Paul Pulliam to the Elected Officials Compensation Committee for a one year term.
- (D) 2013 Liquor License Renewals for Scappoose Creek Inn; Yankton Store and Restaurant; Island Cove Café & Market; Bing's Restaurant; St. Helens Golf Course
- (E) Approve Surety Bonds for the following Columbia County Fair Board members: Deloris Bellingham, Michael Warren, Randy Hanson, Kyle Stroda, Amanda McFeron, Mary Ann Guess and Henry Collins.
- (F) Public Road Event Permit for the Oregon Road Runners Club for the Vernonia Marathon and Half Marathon to be held on April 4, 2013.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (G) Indemnity Agreement with the Oregon Road Runners Club for Vernonia Marathon and Half Marathon to be held on April 4, 2013.
- (H) Addendum #3 to the Agreement with David Evans & Associates for the Northwest Oregon Transit Alliance, Regional Transit Project DEA #COLC000000004 and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

VEHICLE GRANT FOR TRANSIT SYSTEM:

Janet Wright, CC Rider, updated the Board on two ODOT agreements/applications that will be coming before the Board for action after final review by County Counsel. The first is for the purchase of one new 43 passenger bus and one new van for the transit system. The grant is for approximately \$270,000 and the match will come out of the transit budget.

The other is the 5311 grant application with ODOT for transit funding that needs to be submitted by 4/1/13. This is an annual application she applies for and is the biggest source of funding for the operations and maintenance for the transit system. The total

amount is for \$696,628. This will be coming before the Board within the next couple of weeks for approval.

OUT OF STATE TRAVEL - JANET WRIGHT:

While present, Janet is requesting approval for out-of-state travel to attend the Community Transportation Association Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in June. Funding for this travel will come out of the transit budget but she will also check to see if scholarships are available. In the meantime, she would ask for approval so she can get registered before the deadline. After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to authorize the out of state travel for Janet Wright to attend the transportation conference this June in New Mexico. The motion carried unanimously.

CC RIDER BUDGET:

Janet addressed her concerns with the transit budget showing an IT allocation for 3.5 work stations. When transit moved to their new facility, she was told that the IT department would no longer be handling the transit computer system because they didn't have the capacity, yet it went from 2.5 stations to 3.5 stations. Janet contracts with an outside agency for the transit IT services, with the exception of the Groupwise email system and the remote access for Springbrook. She agrees there should be a cost for that, however, it should be minimal. The Board felt this discussion should be held during the budget process with Jean and Jennifer present.

SUNSET TRANSPORTATION:

Next week, Janet and Commissioner Heimuller will be meeting with Sunset Empire about the possibility of Sunset coming into Columbia County to provide a meet point for transit services. Commissioner Hyde suggested that a topic for that discussion might include the possible transport of inmates from Clatsop County to Columbia County Jail, as we have more space available, but transportation has always been an issue. Just thinking outside the box. Janet expressed her reservations with Sunset coming into Columbia County because when the situation was reserved some time back, Sunset did not want CC Rider coming into Astoria. Commissioner Hyde feels that Janet should bring that up, but it should not be a stopper for them coming here. Commissioner Heimuller stated that, at Sunset's request, CC Rider has been providing service to their end of the county for years. He looks forward to this meeting to determine where we go with it.

UPDATE ON EOC FACILITY PROJECT:

Renate Garrison, Emergency Management Supervisor, became before the Board and presented the original and revised version of the EOC budget. She wanted to confirm that the Board is aware and still comfortable with the county contribution of \$35,000. This is still a work in progress and she pointed out that landscaping is not part of the grant. Bill Potter estimates that to be approximately \$20,000. The amount for the building was originally listed at \$350,000 but now \$500,000. Bill informed her that the bids will be coming in and decided on 3/28/13, so she contacted the State for an extension. She just heard this morning that the have granted an extension through the end of May - however the Feds have not approved an extension.

Commissioner Heimuller asked Renate to explain the significant difference in the overall cost of the project. Renate gave a brief detail of the project costs. She double checked every value and checked with all service providers to get a good, conservative estimate of

costs and worked with Jean Ripa on more realistic IT costs. On the building itself, the original was for a 3 modular and what went out for bid was a 4 modular structure. It is estimated that substantial completion is anticipated to be by the end of September.

Commissioner Heimuller questioned the \$20,000 budget for landscaping because there just isn't that much space and it's mostly asphalt. Renate has the architectural design showing the detail and will get a copy to the Board. Commissioner Heimuller feels there are a lot of unnecessary costs involved with landscaping/maintenance and could be done for less by choosing different plants - may be worth asking the questions. Renate will look into that.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde just returned from a week in Washington, DC attending the NACo conference. He, along with many others from Oregon did a lot of work on the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding. The visits this year were a little different where they secured an office in the House building and the federal delegation came to them. They also met with some of the lobbyists who are working on federal timber issues. It was a very busy week and he feels it was a very productive week.

He will be attending the O&C meeting next week in Salem.

On Monday he was in Salem for various AOC legislative meetings. A lot of discussion on the State budget of which has a direct effect on how we do business here in Columbia County.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher and Commissioner Heimuller had a good visit last Friday while meeting with constituents during the “Commissioners Coffee” in Clatskanie.

On Monday, was in Salem for AOC legislative meetings. One of the biggest discussions was on the public safety budget, specifically House Bill 3194 that deals early release of prisoners. The governor believes \$100 million can be saved by 2016 but it comes at the expense of law enforcement, county jails and other law enforcement agencies. This will have a direct effect on Columbia County.

There was also continued discussions on the Early Learning Council. There has been discussion on creating a hub set up as a pilot or an on-going system. There is still a lot of uncertainty and it's a very contentious issue. Based on some of the suggested hubs, Commissioner Fisher would support going with either ESD or Washington County as the best options if hubs were decided on.

There was also discussion on if we will or will not have a state medical examiner. Many counties, like Columbia County, don't have a coroner and depend on the state for that service. So this could effect our county.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller was also in Salem for the AOC meetings. This big piece of discussion around transportation was the Columbia River Crossing. The Governor did sign the bill and now it's up to Washington. His concern is that, with all the contention over this, it could still possibly be scrapped - with the loss of millions of dollars.

Commissioner Hyde heard in Washington DC that there is no money for this bridge

without light rail. With Clark County not supporting the project if light rail is on it, it could very well go away, wasting hundreds of millions of dollars.

While in Salem, he also attended the Public Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, of which he is a member. This group is very actively involved in all of the public transportation issues around the state, both urban and rural.

He and Commissioner Fisher attended the Traffic Safety Committee meeting last Wednesday for discussion on the ODOT proposal for safety improvements to Millard Road and Bennet Road on Hwy 30.

He also attended the CEPA meeting and Fair Board meeting this week.

Yesterday, he participated in the Mass Gathering Task Force meeting yesterday morning. They are getting close to a final draft of the amended ordinance. He wanted to thank Cynthia Zemaitis for all of her work on staffing this group.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13th day of March, 2013.

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

BOC Minutes

3/13/13

Page 8

FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: _____

Henry Heimuller, Chair

By: _____

Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh

Board Office Administrator