

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

October 16, 2013

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2013 Board meeting and October 9, 2013 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The minutes of the October 2, 2013 Board meeting were carried over an additional week.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde introduced Anton Yakovenko. Anton is an foreign exchange student from Moscow Russia who will be spending the school year in Vernonia and is job shadowing with Commissioner Hyde today.

POTENTIAL LOCAL EFFECTS OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN:

Jennifer Cuellar, Finance Director, came before the Board to report on the financial issues related to the federal government shutdown and the trickle down effect that has on local governments and specifically Columbia County. Already, Janet Wright has been

informed that FTA will be late in paying back reimbursements. Jennifer has auditors in the house and she is needing to be look at federal records but those web-sites are shut down. However, the most concerning issue to her is the debt ceiling. If the government defaults on its debt, that has a very real impact on our financial system and on the value of short term securities, treasuries and other bonds. The counties financial exposure is primarily with the cash we hold in the Oregon Local Government Investment Pool and with what is happening, she is worried. She has no concerns with the bank because, in Oregon, banks that hold government dollars are required to have 100% collateralization for those dollars. Although the actions she can take are limited, she believes it is prudent to pull funds out of the Pool account and move them into our bank account, both for liquidity reasons and also to shelter some of our savings from the potential loss of principal. In summary, her choice was to have 2 months of payroll and enough money to pay debt service payments that are due in December - in the bank and therefore pulled \$2 million out of the Pool and deposited it into the bank account. Fortunately, this is property tax time and there will be a lot of cash coming in over the next 30 days so that will allow for some flexibility in how that cash will be managed. She will continue to keep the Board updated.

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 10/14/13.
- (B) Approve the replacement of the life insurance carrier with LifeMap Assurance Company and retroactively authorize Jean Ripa to sign the implementation documents effective October 1, 2013.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (C) Managing Oregon Resources Efficiently (MORE) Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Equipment and Services and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde has been fighting the flu for the past two week and would strongly suggest people get their flu shot.

Last week, the Board held their final hearing on the Port of St. Helens Zone Change application and will be deliberating on that matter November 13, 2013.

On Friday, he attended the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO) meeting which he chairs. This is a regional disaster group made up of Columbia, Clackamas, Clark, Multnomah and Washington counties to address emergency management services. This basically takes the place of UASI.

On Monday and Tuesday he was in Salem for various AOC meetings.

He will be leaving tonight for an O&C meeting in Eugene tomorrow.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher met with the Rainier Chamber of Commerce last Thursday. They are a very active group in their community.

On Saturday, he attended the Town Hall meeting put on by Senator Johnson and Representative Witt. The main topic of discussion was PERS reform.

He was in Salem on Monday for various AOC committee and legislative meetings.

He commented on the Jail Operating Levy that will be on the November ballot. If this measure doesn't pass, the jail is likely to close.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller has been spending a lot of time working on the Jail Operating Levy.

On Saturday, he spent some time at the United Way retreat. Columbia County employees are one of their larger contributors in the county. That campaign will be starting up again soon.

After this meeting, he will be heading to the RSVP Advisory Board meeting. There has been some changes to the program with the new director on board and he is anxious to see what she's put together, as far as a plan to move this program forward.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 16th day of October, 2013.

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: _____

Henry Heimuller, Chair

By: _____

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh

Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: _____

Board Office Administrator

Earl Fisher, Commissioner