

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 22, 2014

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2014 Board meeting and January 15, 2014 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS:

Thelma Bonar, 56734 Way Lane, Warren: She sits on the Scappoose CPAC and believes the fees for home occupancy and temporary permits are not priced right. She is not against businesses, but the permit fees are high not enough. Discussion moved to business licenses which the County doesn't have but is something that could be looked at again.

Robert Bristo, 32204 Sam Blem Road: First, he stated that we are supposed to be a free nation and he is totally against restrictions on what a person can or cannot do on their own property. His purpose for being here today is because our community needs help. We need to get back to a time when neighbors helped each other. Up until a year ago,

he was district commander of militias in 5 different states. Although frowned upon by the federal government, militias are constitutional and he would like the opportunity to build a militia here in Columbia County. If all Oregon counties were to come together on this, then they would control what the State does. A local militia would be a group of unpaid, volunteers to would be training for emergency situations, search & rescue and in defending this county should the need arise.

Commissioner Hyde explained that there are currently citizen corp groups in every community who are trained to respond to emergencies. He suggested that Robert contact the County Emergency Management Services to get more information. There has also been a lot of talk about establishing neighborhood watches.

PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 2014 AS “KIWANIS CHILDREN’S CANCER CURE MONTH:

As a past Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis, Commissioner Fisher read this proclamation into the record. After some comments, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to proclaim the month of February 2014 as *“Kiwanis Children’s Cancer Cure Month”*. The motion carried unanimously.

HEARING: AMEND BOUNDARIES OF SOUTH COUNTY ENTERPRISE ZONE:

This is the time set for the public hearing, “In the Matter of the Request to Amend the Boundaries of the South Columbia County Enterprise Zone”.

On December 10, 2013, the Board received a request from Chuck Daughtry, CCET Director, to approve the proposed expansion of the South Columbia County Enterprise Zone into the City of Vernonia, which would include 301.73 acres of land in the city, In response, the County set this hearing to take public comment.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

Noni Anderson, Vernonia resident submitted an email for Commissioner Hyde to read into the record.

Chuck Daughtry, CCET Director, gave a brief presentation and explained that the map before the Board was created by the county and based on the tax lots submitted by the City of Vernonia. The tax lots that are being added is a result of the request by the City of Vernonia for economic development purposes. Commissioner Hyde clarified that, if the land is included in the Enterprise Zone, any land use applications would still have to go through the permitting process.

Thelma Bonar, 56734 Way Lane, Warren: Thelma asked if this is under the Port of St. Helens? Commissioner Hyde explained that this is simply an expansion of the zone so that the City of Vernonia can enjoy the same privileges as the other enterprise zones. The Port of St. Helens is not the zone manager, only one of the zone sponsors.

With no further testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed. It was noted that all other sponsoring agencies of the SCCEZ have already approved this by resolution. After deliberations, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Resolution 2-2014, "In the Matter of the Request to Amend the Boundaries of the South Columbia County Enterprise Zone". The motion carried unanimously.

HEARING: CITY OF SCAPPOOSE WATER LINE EXTENSION - DUTCH CANYON:

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of the Application of the City of Scappoose for a Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment to Allow a City Water Line

Extension on Certain Resource Zone Land and to Adopt the Service Area Map for Dutch Canyon Water Line”.

Robin McIntyre, Assistant County Counsel, gave a brief overview of this application and noted that this is on the record of the Planning Commission, unless the Board votes to open the record to allow additional testimony. The Board declared no conflicts of interest. Robin then read the pre-hearing statement into the record as required by ORS 197.763. She then entered County Counsel’s hearing file into the record, marked Exhibit 1, and listed all contents. The Board did not open the hearing for any additional testimony.

Glen Higgins, Chief Planner, came before the Board to give the staff report. The City of Scappoose was ordered by the court to provide water serve to properties in the rural Dutch Canyon area, outside of the city limits and the Urban Growth Area. In 2009 and 2010, the city constructed a booster pump station and 3.2 miles of water distribution line to the nine properties with rights to city water. The new water main along the Dutch Canyon Road, passes in front of several other properties who would like to be connected to city water. The city is willing to serve other customers in addition to the nine with water rights. Generally, cities do not extend water or sewer services to customers outside their city limits or UGB. In this instance, a court order requires the City to provide water service that extends beyond the city’s jurisdiction and into the County’s jurisdiction. For those properties not part of the nine in the judgement, the City and the County must therefore cooperate and agree on the extent of city water service outside their jurisdiction. Columbia County has been asked to acknowledge this water line extension in the county comprehensive plan by adopting the Dutch Canyon Water Line services Area map, showing all property effected. The County is also requested to amend policies in the Comprehensive Plan to be compliant with this extraterritorial water line extension to

these rural lands. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommends approval.

Commissioner Heimuller asked why the time delay. It seems this should have been done before the city ran the new water line out there. Glen explained that the city received grant funding for the expansion and to close out that grant, the County has to take action.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

Brian Varricchione, Planner for the City of Scappoose: Brian also commented on the reason for the delay of this application. Both the city and county staff had been negotiating with DLCD and because of the lawsuit filed against the city, this is now required. At this time, the City would ask that the county approve the application.

With no further testimony, the hearing was closed for deliberations. After some very brief comments, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to tentatively approve this application and direct staff to prepare the final ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for week of 1/20/14.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (B) Letter of Agreement with AFSCME Local 1442 for Fairshare Provision.
- (C) First Amended and Restated Columbia County Local Public Health Services Agreement.
- (D) Amendment #1 to the Public Services Contract with CCMH for Sunrise Janitorial Services.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde mentioned that there are two town halls meetings scheduled this week, the first is today at 12:30 with Senator Merkley at the Scappoose High School, which the Board will be attending. The second is on Saturday at Scappoose City Hall with Senator Wyden, however, the Board will be out of town and not able to attend.

On Thursday, the Board will then be traveling to Gold Beach for a law enforcement summit, to talk with representatives from all other Oregon counties, including Judges, Sheriff's, District Attorneys and others, who are facing similar issues of not enough money to fund our Jails.

The flu seems to be hitting hard with employees lately and encouraged all that, if you get it, stay home.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Although the Board will not be here for Senator Wyden's town hall, he should be reminded that if Columbia County had been receiving the \$2.4 million in O&C monies we received in 2008, our county Jail would not be facing shut down. We really need his efforts to move the DeFazio bill through that would restore the timber money in this county.

Again, the Board will be in Curry County this Thursday - Saturday for a law enforcement summit. Some Commissioners are looking at going with, what is referred to as a "nuclear option", where the Governor would come in and declare a law enforcement emergency and he will impose taxes. This county is very seriously looking at closing our Jail because we have no money. Airing our concerns at meetings is not going to cure the problem. Personally, he is not going to put another levy on the ballot until there are enough signatures on a petition that says this is what the people want. There will be another Jail meeting at the old Clatskanie Middle School on January 30th at 6:00 pm. He encourages everyone to attend. The reality is, if we don't get more money by June, the Jail will most likely close.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

He attended the Oregon Fair Association Conference over the last weekend. He was very impressed that all but one Columbia County Fair Board members were present.

Yesterday, he took a tour of the facility that the Oregon Humane Society has had to set up to house the remaining 60 dogs that were seized out of Columbia County recently.

ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES:

Sarah Hanson explained that, because the State Legislature has disbanded the Commission on Children and Families, Sarah has worked with Jan Kenna to create an ordinance to establish an advisory committee to the Board outside of CCCCCF's former life as a state body. This ordinance is patterned after other similar advisory committee ordinances and, if there are no concerns by the Board, she will schedule the first reading of this ordinance for next week.

The Board understands the necessity and importance of this committee and gave their consensus to move forward.

The Board recessed the meeting at 11:00 am to allow the Board to attend Senator Merkley's Town Hall meeting at the Scappoose High School. The Board continued the meeting to attend the Law Enforcement Summit in Gold Beach - Thursday and Friday and then continued the meeting again to Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting back to order.

JAIL DISCUSSION:

The Board met with Sheriff Dickerson to continue discussions on the potential Jail closure.

No decisions were made. It was noted that the Board will be holding another "Jail Crisis" meeting on Thursday night at the old Clatskanie Middle School at 6:00 p.m.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 22nd day of January, 2014.

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: _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh

By: _____

Board Office Administrator

Earl Fisher, Commissioner