

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

April 2, 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 Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2014 Board meeting and March 19, 2014 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS:

Richard Melton, Columbia River Hwy: He is back because the county ordered the lights off of his property back in 2008. Elections signs were ordered down because he didn't have a permit. How much is a permit for someone's 1st Amendment rights? Being very disabled, Washington DC is now involved. His wife has nightmares every night because there are no outside lights.

PROCLAIM APRIL 2014 AS "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH:

Commissioner Hyde read the proclamation into the record and, with that,

Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to proclaim April 2014 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month”. The motion carried unanimously.

Naaman Cordova, SAFE of Columbia County, PO Box 22, St. Helens: He first thanked the Board for recognizing and approving this proclamation. He noted that it is also Child Abuse Prevention month. Talking about these issues empowers our youth to come forward. He gave some statistical information - which shows that the number of victims in Columbia County is higher than the state average. Naaman also addressed the services available in our community to help these victims, however more needs to be done.

1st & 2nd READING: ORDINANCE 2014-4 - JAIL OPERATING FUND COMMITTEE:

Sarah briefly reviewed the ordinance as previously discussed on March 19th. She was directed to have this ordinance prepared and ready for consideration today. After discussion, Sarah gave the first and second reading of Ordinance No. 2014-4, “In the Matter of Adopting an Ordinance Establishing the Columbia County Jail Operating Fund Advisory Committee”, by title only. With that, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2014-4, “In the Matter of Adopting an Ordinance Establishing the Columbia County Jail Operating Fund Advisory Committee”. 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 3/24/14 & 3/31/14.
- (B) Order No. 9-2014, “In the Matter of Designating the Columbia County Sheriff as the Supervisory Authority”.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (C) Addendum #2 to FMA Program Contract for the Columbia County Vernonia School District Acquisition Project and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH CASA FOR USE OF PLAZA:

Cynthia Zemaitis, Public Resource Administrator, received a call from CASA for the use of the courthouse plaza to place pinwheels throughout the plaza for a Child Abuse Prevention Month event from 4/3/14 to 4/10/14. Understanding this is short notice, Cynthia does have the signed Hold Harmless Agreement and insurance information. After some discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve the Hold Harmless Agreement with CASA for use of the courthouse plaza and authorize the Chair to sign. The motion carried unanimously.

MESO - REQUEST FOR PROGRAM FUNDING:

Sanford Maddox and Casey Wheeler of Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon (MESO), came before the Board along with Chuck Daughtry of Columbia County Economic Team. Sanford started with a short presentation detailing what MESO has been able to accomplish over the past 2.5 years in Columbia County. Meso provides hands on services for small businesses, with training in marketing, business planning and providing funding at 3-1 match through the MESO loan program. Vernonia Florist is just one of their success stories. He is here today requesting \$20,000 - \$15,000 of which would go towards their loan loss reserve account and for that, they would make \$100,000 available to small businesses in Columbia County. That is critical to this program because SBA requires that they have 15% loan loss reserve. The additional \$5,000 would be used for

loan administration and training. Knowing that money is tight, he also presented another option. With \$10,000, \$7,500 would go into the loan loss reserve and they could make \$50,000 of loan money available, with the remaining \$2,500 going towards administration.

Commissioner Heimuller noted that the county has funded \$5,000 for the last 3 years. He would like to see some specifics on how this money has helped local businesses and who they are. Sanford mentioned a few companies but will get some written detail to the Board.

The Board will take this under advisement.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde attended a Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization Board meeting last Friday, which he chairs. Basically this was an organizational meeting, with a long discussion on how this group will be managed and what type of funding they will have to rely on.

On Monday, he was in Portland - we are no longer part of ODOT Region 1 for a number of reasons. However, with regards to the *ConnectOregon* grants, we are part of that region. On Monday talked about the 30+ applications for funding and priorities were determined. He will be working for our region to get as much funding as possible and we have some good projects out there.

He also attended the CEPA meeting yesterday.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher followed up on the CEPA meeting. There was a very good presentation from OSP officer on the bomb squad.

On April 29th, AOC will be holding a Public Safety Summit here in Columbia County, which includes a mass amount of agencies to determine all of our common issues and what can be taken to our legislators to make improvements to our public safety. Polk County has serious problems, with their patrol less than 24 hours per day, Clatsop County can't build a Jail and both Multnomah and Washington counties are matrixing their inmates. This problem effects all of us. We have a serious problem here with the possibility of our Jail closing. There will be a Jail Operating levy on the ballot in May and noted that the Board just approved an Ordinance to establish a committee to oversee the levy funds.

At the Traffic Safety Meeting this morning, had a speaker from ODOT who talked about what the state pays to offset the cost to students in for Drivers Education classes. He encouraged all students to take these classes.

Lastly, really hopes that the citizens in this county to write our congressional delegation to support public transportation. This could effect our CC Rider transit system.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller wanted to thank Commissioner Fisher for his hard work in getting the Drivers Education classes back in our schools. This is a huge safety issue for our kids.

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He attended the 5 area senior lunch in St. Helens Senior Center. This is always a good event and they really appreciate it when one of the Commissioners show up.

This coming Saturday is the grand opening of the newly remodeled Rainier Senior Center and he plans on attending.

Also this Saturday is the Scappoose Mayor's Ball to be held at the Scappoose Senior Center. The proceeds raised from this will benefit their Meals on Wheels program.

He also attended the CEPA meeting yesterday.

Lastly, he wanted to remind everyone that the Fair Board holds a weekly fair planning meeting every Saturday. Everyone is welcome to come.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 2nd day of April 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

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