

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

June 25, 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 May 15, 2014 Budget meeting; June 12, 2014 Budget Hearing; June 18, 2014 Board meeting; and June 18, 2014 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The June 4, 2014 Board meeting minutes were pulled and held over.

**VISITORS:**

***Richard Melton, 55141 Columbia River Hwy:*** He informed the Board that he has been in discussions with the American Disabilities of Oregon and they are not understanding why the county is doing this to him. They are checking into why this is happening.

***Bill Allen, 175 N. First St., St. Helens:*** Commissioner Heimuller made a good point that a lot of what the Board is quoted on is taken out of context. Bill would take some blame for that, but the other half goes to the Board. How open are the Commissioners to listening to the public. He doesn't see any dialogue and will be scheduling some time

with each Commissioner to just talk about his concerns and find out where the Board stands on various issues.

***Melvin Moore, 3605 Construction Way, St. Helens:*** He has seen a lot of stuff in the papers about coal trains, etc. He was involved when the highway was widened many years ago. If people want to blame someone, blame the highway department. He worked for the railroad for 30 years and for people to think that the county is going to tell the railroad what to do - not gonna happen. The railroad has ultimate power.

***Nancy Whitney, St. Helens:*** She is aware that we can't tell the railroad what to do, but the people of Columbia County own Port Westward and we can certainly say what happens on that property.

#### **HEARING: ALLOCATE REHABILITATION FUNDS UNDER CDBG GRANT D97003:**

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of Allocating Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program Funds Received Under CDBG Grant #D97003 to Community Action Team, Inc."

Sarah Hanson, County Counsel, explained the purpose of this hearing. In 1996, the county was the recipient of CDBG grant funding for a rehabilitation program and, at that time, the County contracted with Community Action Team to administer the grant proceeds. They did that by loaning out the money to various property owners who needed to rehabilitate their properties. The loans became due as properties were sold or refinanced and that money came to the county. The grant is now closed but we still have money available to reinvest in the rehabilitation program. Community Action Team is willing to continue that program. Before the county can donate or allocate those funds to CAT, a hearing is required and the Board must find that it would be in the best interest

of the public to do so. After the hearing is closed and, if in favor, there are two actions to be considered, approval of a Board Order and a contract between the County and CAT that sets out the purpose and use of these funds.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

Beverly Danner, Community Action Team, explained the loan program that CAT currently administers and would plan to continue this same program. There are already people on the waiting list for rehabilitation loans.

With no further testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberation. Commissioner Hyde commented on the many benefits of the CDBG grant program and how much it helped the people of Vernonia after the flood. Commissioner Fisher has seen the benefits of this program and supports the continuation.

Commissioner Heimuller stated that he sits on the CAT Board and knows first hand how this program works and is in total support of it. With that, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve Order No. 27-2014, "In the Matter of Allocating Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Program Funds Received Under CDBG Grant Number D97003 to Community Action Team, Inc.". The motion carried unanimously.

Further, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve the Columbia county Revolving Fund Donation Agreement by and between Columbia County and Community Action Team. The motion carried unanimously.

**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 6/23/14.
- (B) Approve insurance coverage through City County Insurance Services and SAIF Corporation as presented in Premium Summary effective July 1, 2014.
- (C) Resolution No. 25-2014, "In the Matter of the Adoption of the Columbia County Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 and the Appropriation and Levying of Ad Valorem Taxes".

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (D) Amendment #2 to the IGA #A000034 with Oregon Department of Administrative Services Fleet and Parking Services and Public Agency for Motor Vehicle Rentals, Fuel Purchases and Motor Pool Shop Services.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

He was informed last week that Commissioner Robertson from Douglas County is retiring after 33 years as Commissioner. He has been representing Douglas County with regards to O&C issues for all of those years. He is the foremost historian and advocate on O&C issues. With him stepping down as President of the O&C Association, Commissioner Hyde (as Vice President) will become President.

Yesterday, he attended the Columbia County Economic Team Board meeting in Clatskanie. They heard a number of positive things. One being that PCC has put together a commercial/industrial seamstress class for Columbia County. There are a number of businesses in Columbia County that use industrial sewing, such as Oregon

Areo. PCC is also training welders because there is a shortage in this profession. He encouraged those who may be interested in either of these, to contact PCC.

Yesterday he was in the Governors office because he sits on a Shared Services Delivery Work group. This is basically an advisory group to the Governor on how we share our services at the local level. Counties are the delivery system for services at the local level. He feels it beneficial to sit on this committee.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Fisher commented on the shooting in Columbia County the other day. Rainier Officer Russ George was shot during a traffic stop and sent to the hospital in serious condition. Our thoughts are with him and his family.

The Board held a budget hearing in Clatskanie on 6/11/14. During that meeting, Commissioner Fisher talked about industrial development and the investments in Columbia County that new companies will bring. This is a huge revenue source for Columbia County to help fund public services for health, safety, etc.

The Board attended a meeting at the Elks Lodge last Thursday, as a continuation of the 6/18/14 staff meeting. They met with a local businessman about the benefits of shopping local and ideas he has for sharing that message. Commissioner Fisher supports this effort and will be writing a letter of support.

On Monday, he attended the AOC Leadership meeting in Salem.

Yesterday he attended a CCMH meeting for discussion on mental health services and needs in our county.

In response to Mr. Allen's comments on dialogue - sometimes people in the general public do not realize the limitation the county has on certain issues but agrees that there needs to be that open dialogue with the public.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Heimuller also commented on the Officer involved shooting. Officer George has been in law enforcement for many years. We are very thankful it was not a worse situation. He visited with the family the day of the shooting and it brings back memories of the loss of Chief Painter just 3 years ago. Please keep Officer George in your thoughts, along with all of our responders.

Last night, he was privileged to be at the First Lutheran Church in St. Helens for the 5 year anniversary of the Community Meals program and to honor those who volunteer and support this needed service. This group provides free meals twice a week (Tuesday and Thursday night) to those in need or for those simply looking for some social time with others. There was a great turnout and more people than he has ever seen there before.

He attended the Community Action Team Board meeting Monday afternoon. They are working on some long term planning. Jim Tierney will be retiring and others following soon afterwards. This program covers Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook counties.

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A reminder that the Scappoose Summerfest is this weekend at Veterans Park and the parade on Saturday.

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The St. Helens Kiwanis parade was last Saturday and very successful.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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Anthony Hyde, Chair

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By: \_\_\_\_\_

Jan Greenhalgh

Board Office Administrator

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_

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Earl Fisher, Commissioner