

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

July 23, 2014

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Robin McIntyre, Assistant County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Office Administrator. Commissioner Heimuller was not present.

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 July 16, 2014 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITORS:

Anne Scholz, 125 Helens St., St. Helens: Anne is the manager of the Eisenschmidt Pool, a part of the Greater St. Helens Parks & Recreation District and is here today to share information she presented to the Scappoose City Council on 7/7/14 regarding the Eisenschmidt Pool. Scappoose has abandoned their idea of building a pool and has dissolved their parks district. Anne feels it would be beneficial to the pool district and the Scappoose residents, if Scappoose were to be annexed into the St. Helens Park and Recreation district. That would allow for more tax dollars for pool improvements and, in return, it would abandon its current two-tiered rate structure under which visitors to the pool from outside the district pay more for membership. This is still in the idea stages but Anne wanted to share with the Commissioners what she is working on. The Board suggested she contact the County Elections office for details on how to move forward.

Paulette Lichatowich, PO Box 439, Columbia City. Paulette has some questions regarding the assessed value versus the investment amount of the NW Innovation Works project and potential tax revenue to Columbia County. She read her prepared statement into the record and submitted a hard copy to the Board. She asked the Commissioners to provide a clear, informative explanation for publicizing that the county can anticipate a 50% increase in revenue. The citizens need to be involved in the planning process.

Jim Gibson, PO Box 1540, Clatskanie: Jim concurs with the previous comments made. He feels that NW Innovation Works would be foolish not to go with an SIP Agreement which has direct impacts on the taxing districts. He agrees that the public should be heard and their comments considered during the planning process, not just after the fact. He appreciates the opportunity to apply as a member on the Jail Levy Committee because he feels he has a lot of knowledge due to his many years as County Jail Manager.

HEARING: REVISED BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, PLANNING ON-SITE FEE FOR 2014:

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of Consideration and Possible Adoption of Revised Building, Electrical, Planning and On-Site Fees, Effective August 1, 2014". Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, came before the Board to give the staff report. Land Development Services is proposing revisions to Building fees including Structural, Mechanical, Plumbing, Manufactures Housing and other miscellaneous fees; Planning fees and On-Site Sewage fees by LDS. Fees in all categories are proposed to be increased by 4.9% based on the change in the CPI since the effective date of the last fee changes on August 1, 2012. In addition, the investigative fee authorized by HB 2978 has been added to the Building Fee schedule. No changes to fees were made in 2013. If approved, these changes would take effect on 8/1/14.

The hearing was opened for public hearing.

With no testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberation. If the Board approves, Robin has prepared an order adopting the proposed fee schedules.

After little discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve Order No. 33-2014, "In the Matter of Amending Fee Schedules for Building, Electrical and Other Miscellaneous Permits Under the Building Inspection Program; On-Site Wastewater Program Fees; and Planning Program Fees". The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for week of 7/21/14.
- (B) Consent to Assignment between Columbia County, Wells Fargo Insurance Services and USI Insurance Services.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (C) Amendment #2 to ODOT Grant Agreement #29509 for Transit Operating Funds.
- (D) Contract with Temp-Control Mechanical Services (TCMS) for Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Maintenance Services for the Courthouse and Justice Facility.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde commented on the County Fair and, although he hasn't heard the final numbers, he understands it might have been a record breaker for attendance. He is

glad to see our fair as healthy and robust as it is and many thanks to Commissioner Heimuller and the volunteers for all again making this Fair a success.

On Monday, Washington DC took up the Secure Rural Schools funding issue so should be hearing soon what that will mean for the counties.

He met with Senator Bonamici on Monday regarding rail safety. We need to look at the federal government for standardized rail safety throughout the US rather than state by state because it's not working.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher echoed those comments on the Fair. He was out there 3 different days and it appeared there was a very good turnout.

He was in Salem on Monday for a Court Facilities meeting he chaired and is happy to report that Columbia County did well in the ratings system. We are looking for some funding to help repair or replace the courthouse elevator.

On Tuesday, he was in Pendleton for a statewide Public Safety Summit. This group is working to put together some legislative packages for assistance in helping the counties with public safety issues. One main concern is how to defer the mentally ill out of our jails. Currently about 1/3 of the inmate population suffers from mental illness. We need to find way to get them help instead of just putting them in jail. Other topics discussed were ways to assist with staffing of our District Attorney's office and funding for indigent defense.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller is not present as he was asked to participate in the COPS Grant process.

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 23rd day of July, 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: Not Present _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh

By: _____

Board Office Administrator

Earl Fisher, Commissioner