

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES

October 8, 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 Jewel Japs, Recorder.

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 September 24, 2014 Board meeting; October 1, 2014 Board meeting; and October 1, 2014 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITORS:**

Steve Atchison, District Attorney, came before the Board to request authorization to advertise for a .6 FTE Deputy District Attorney position as a result of Jennie Jordan's retirement next month. Ms. Jordan's current .6 FTE position is very labor-intensive and involves mostly DHS and juvenile dependency cases, which have strict rules and regulations. It will be difficult to find someone with her expertise so he would like start the process soon. He noted that this is a budgeted position. After discussion, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to authorize Steve Atchison to begin the recruitment process to fill the .6 FTE Deputy District Attorney position. 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 10/6/14.
- (B) Amended Order No. 36-2014, "In the Matter of Acquiring an Easement for the Mayger Fill Road Bridge at Flume Creek".
- (C) Order No. 43-2014, "In the Matter of the Approval of Appointment of Donald (Don) Clack as Elections Supervisor".
- (D) Appoint James Tierney and Leslie Jerry Keenon to Chairperson's Pool on the Board of Property Tax Appeals.
- (E) Appoint James Tierney, Bonnie Baldwin Leslie Jerry Keenon and Richard Larsen to the Non-Office-Holding Pool on the Board of Property Tax Appeals.

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (F) Ratify GASB 45 Actuarial Services Agreement and authorize Jennifer Cuellar to sign.
- (G) Amendment #6 to Personal Services Contract by and between Columbia County and Correctional Healthcare Management, Inc.
- (H) Amendment #9 to the 2013-2015 Agreement #142058 with the Oregon Health Authority and Local Public Health Foundation.
- (I) License and Indemnity Agreement with the City of St. Helens for use of the Plaza for Halloween Town Events and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hyde met with agents of Portland Community College last Thursday to discuss the development of a public safety curriculum. He is excited this concept has reemerged.

On Friday, he walked the last few undeveloped miles of the Crown Zellerbach Trail between the cities of Scappoose and Vernonia. The final piece of this trail is almost complete.

He attended the Vernonia Salmon Festival last Saturday where you could actually view the salmon swimming up the river. It was fun to watch.

On Tuesday he attended the monthly Columbia Emergency Planning Association (CEPA) meeting and it was one of best- one of the most attended CEPA meetings he's ever been to.

This morning the Commissioners were at Burgerville in St. Helens to meet with the public. He would like to see this become a regular event as it provides an informal opportunity to meet and share ideas with members of the public who choose to attend.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

The "Coffee with the Commissioners" this morning was a great opportunity to speak informally with the public about a variety of issues, some of which were not as controversial or energized as in many public forums. For example, there was one woman attending who discussed the possibility of the County helping her group that assists disabled children. He hopes the Commissioners can continue doing these get-togethers.

On Tuesday, he attended the CEPA meeting. The fire season is still here although the rains will likely start soon. We've been lucky that there were no significant fire issues in Columbia County this year. Working together with CEPA to keep the community safe is very beneficial for all.

A special thanks to the St. Helens Police Department, the Columbia County Sheriff's staff and the Oregon State Police for their assistance with the recent bomb threats to the Courthouse. Local law enforcement immediately showed up and initiated the Incident Command System to process a sweep of the buildings during the evacuation. If someone knows the identity of the person(s) calling in these threats, please let your local law enforcement agency know so they can follow-up. It is very disruptive, stressful and expensive to evacuate the Courthouse. We sincerely appreciate law enforcement's cooperation in these matters as well as the professionalism of the Courthouse employees and how they've responded to the recent bomb threats.

There continues to be a good deal of road work and paving going on around the County.

Last night, he attended a Columbia County Mental Health (CCMH) meeting. CCMH has new programs they are instituting.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

With regards to the bomb threat issue, the St. Helens Public Works Department also assisted with blocking the streets around the Courthouse. Members of the public and employees with disabilities add a different dimension to an evacuation and it really is a large scale issue. We will get to the bottom of these recent threats.

He attended a Local Workforce Investment Area meeting. A new distinct local workforce area has been proposed by Oregon's Workforce System, to be made up of the following five Oregon Counties: Benton, Clatsop, Columbia, Lincoln and Tillamook. The goal of the redevelopment of the workforce regions is to align local economic development strategies. The group to which Columbia County belongs seems to be ahead of the pack.

A shout-out to the Columbia River People's Utility District, West Oregon Electric Cooperative and the Clatskanie People's Utility District as they celebrate 'Public Power Week'. A customer appreciation dinner/spaghetti feed was held by the Columbia River PUD on October 7<sup>th</sup> at the Columbia County Fairgrounds with food provided by the Deer Island Grange, as it has been for the last 13 years. There was live entertainment, door prizes, and a great turnout, as always. Congratulations to our County's public power partners. It's great to see good solid energy and dollar-saving programs offered by these utilities.

It was refreshing to have folks get up early to sit down and talk about various issues at Burgerville this morning. People are interested and it's fun. Information was received and passed out by all in attendance.

*The Board recessed the meeting and reconvened at 12:00 noon to meet with the Columbia County Parks Committee in the Annex meeting room.*

#### **LUNCH WITH THE COLUMBIA COUNTY PARKS COMMITTEE:**

The Board reconvened the meeting at 12:00 noon in the Courthouse Annex meeting room for a joint meeting with the Columbia County Parks Committee. This is an informal

group session for general discussion and update on the County Parks system. No decisions were made.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October, 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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

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

Jewel Japs

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

Recorder

\_\_\_\_\_

Earl Fisher, Commissioner