

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 13, 2016

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Henry Heimuller and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Robin McIntyre, Assistant 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 5, 2016 Board meeting and January 5, 2016 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

***Alta Lynch, Veterans Chair of the St. Helens Elks Lodge.*** She is here to invite the Board to the VA fundraiser that will benefit the new Veterans Bunker on February 6th. She asked if Commissioners Hyde and Fisher could distribute some flyers for this event in their communities. Alta explained more about the Veterans Bunker. This is a place where veterans can go for information and help on filing claims for benefits and other services provided to our veterans. Although the bunker is not open yet, there are people stopping by to see what they can do to help. It's a more relaxing atmosphere for many of the vets.

**HEARING: INITIATE FORMATION OF CC RIDER TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT:**

This is the time set for the public hearing, “In the Matter of Initiating the Formation of the Columbia County Rider Transportation District”.

Robin stated that this second hearing is being held as required in order to move forward with the formation of the transit district.

Janet Wright, CC Rider, was present to give the staff report. On 12/2/15 the Board held the first hearing on this matter and adopted Order No. 55-2015, to initiate and establish the formation of the Columbia County Rider Transportation District boundaries in accordance with established ORS requirements. Under ORS 198.462, two public hearings must be held. This second hearing is being held to provide the ballot title, explanatory statement and approval to set the election date of May 17, 2016. The proposed district calls for operating taxes at a permanent rate of \$0.23 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The Board determined this rate after conferring with the cities within the proposed boundaries of the District through the resolution requirement. Staff is recommending the Board approve Order No. 63-2015 at a rate of \$0.23.

Commissioner Heimuller noted that the power-point presentation from the first hearing had some scrivener errors and asked if those had been corrected. Janet stated that she is in the process of updating that information and it will be posted on the CC Rider website and Facebook page.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

***Sally Ann Marson, Columbia City:*** She is a past member of the Columbia County Transit Advisory Committee. The transit system is a vital service for our community and especially our veterans to get to medical appointments, shopping, etc. She is in total support of this measure and would hope that the community is too.

***Rory Hammond, 66350 Bishop Creek Road, Deer Island:*** The Board has a very difficult job and he respects them for their service to the community to ensure that our county

government runs smoothly and efficiently. As for this measure, he is not sure if he supports it or not. He then read his prepared statement into the record. In order to manage an organization, there needs to be reasonable measures in place. If it were his decision, he would want to see a completely defined package, a 5 year budget with 5 year goals and a completed defined organizational chart. That would reassure him that his tax money is being well leveraged to maximum advantage.

With no further testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberation. After some discussion and comments, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to direct staff to prepare a ballot title for this measure in the form of a Board Order for approval next week. The motion carried unanimously.

**HEARING: PROPOSED REDUCTION IN CERTAIN TRANSIT FARES:**

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of Adopting a Reduction in Fares Between Rainier and Longview/Kelso (Line 5) and Between Columbia City and St. Helens (Lines 4 and 7)".

Robin explained that the Board has adopted a policy so that whenever there is a change to the transit fares, a public hearing would be held.

Michael Ray, CC Rider, came before the Board to give a staff report. He gave a detailed report on the current fare structure and discrepancies that may be effecting ridership. For these reasons, he would recommend that certain fees be reduced to help increase ridership.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

With no testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberations. After some comments and discussion, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Resolution No. 1-2016, "In the Matter of Adopting a Reduction in Fares between Rainier and Longview/Kelso (Lines 5) and between Columbia City and St. Helens (Lines 4 and 7). The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. Item (E) was pulled and held over. With no other 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 1/11/16.
- (B) Order 2-2016, "In the Matter of Correcting Scrivener's Errors in Ordinance No. 2015-4, Amending the Columbia County Zoning Ordinance to Establish Regulations for Marijuana-Related Land Uses".

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (C) Approve Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Federation of Parole & Probation Officers effective 7/1/15 through 12/31/18.
- (D) Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement No. 15-070 with the Oregon Department of Energy for the Energy Facility Siting Council - Special Advisory Group and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (E) Independent Cleanup Agreement with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for CC Rider Maintenance Facility and authorize Chair to sign. (***Pulled and held over***).

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hyde reported on the O&C Board meeting he attended last week in Eugene.

He is proud to announce the birth of his newest granddaughter and that all are doing well.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Heimuller attended the AOC Health and Human Services meeting in Salem. They started preparing for the upcoming legislative session. There was a lot of discussion on the lack of regulations of vapor cigarettes and raising the smoking age to 21, to bring it more in line with marijuana and alcohol. The thought is that if kids were to wait an additional 3 years, perhaps they wouldn't take up the habit.

He also attended the AOC Transportation Committee meeting. Although the federal government passed a transportation bill, we in the State of Oregon still does not have one.

Afterwards, he went to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee meeting, which he sits on, representing both Columbia County and AOC. Again, because there is no State transportation funding plan, the work continues.

The Oregon Fair Association starts tomorrow and he will be attending that on Friday and Saturday, supporting our Columbia County Fair Board and serves as an alternate Director Glad to report that every county in Oregon still has a county fair and, with that, reminded everyone that Fair Board is starting to meet again on Saturday mornings to prepare for the 2016 Columbia County Fair. Anyone interested in volunteering should attend those meetings.

Tomorrow he will be involved in a conference call for the Oregon Workforce Alliance close out. Afterwards, he will head to the 1:00 pm NWACT meeting at the Scappoose Fire Department.

A public thank you to Jeanine Dilley, 911 Director, who recently retired. She has done a wonderful job getting policies updated, among many other things. Steve Watson was promoted to fill that position as of 1/1/16.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

He was in Salem on Monday to attend various AOC meetings. The State transportation bill should have been approved, but it wasn't because of what he believes is the petty arguments taking place.

He suggested that people start paying attention because, starting next month, the short legislative session will be going on. Last time they did a short session to make some adjustments, there was a lot of thing brought up that shouldn't have been. This time probably won't be any different, such as the \$15 minimum wage, etc.

He commented on the Jail Operating Levy meeting yesterday. The bond that was passed is working because the Jail is not releasing inmates any more and things are going well.

*The Board recessed the meeting and reconvened at 12:00 noon in the Courthouse Annex Room for a lunch meeting with the Columbia County Parks Advisory Committee.*

**PARKS MEETING:**

The Board met with Parks staff and members of the County Parks Advisory Committee for general discussion on park issues and goals. No action was needed.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13<sup>th</sup> of January, 2016.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

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

Jan Greenhalgh

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

Board Office Administrator

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Earl Fisher, Commissioner