

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

October 31, 2018

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Margaret Magruder and Commissioner Alex Tardif, together with Robin McIntyre, Assistant County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Office Administrator. Commissioner Heimuller was not present.

Commissioner Magruder called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Tardif moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2018 Special meeting; October 24, 2018 Board meeting; October 24, 2018 Work Session and October 30, 2018 Special meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

***Charles Petersen, 64140 Hills Haven Avenue, Deer Island:*** He paid his taxes this year and noticed that his taxes were lower than last year. He doesn't want to see services suffer because taxes are being reduced.

***Brian Pixley, Sheriff's Office PIO,*** came before the Board to present his weekly update:

- The CCSO received 200 calls for service, 47 traffic stops and 6 arrests. The Clatskanie PD received 62 calls for services, 20 traffic stops and 1 arrest.
- Through exit counseling conducted on the first round of graduates from our Life Lessons Pod, they found that most of the participants do not know how to process grief. They have added a section on how to handle grief to lessons in the Pod.
- Deputy Raethke has entered the "Check Out" portion of his training and will be released to work on his own, if he is able to successfully complete this portion of his training.
- The Sheriff's Office was asked by CCMH to participate in community talks on suicide prevention/awareness. They have participated in community talks each of the last two weekends, with hopefully more to come.
- Brian felt it was important to read a letter from a inmate that participated in the Life Lesson's Group #1. He was released a couple of months ago and wrote this moving letter to the Sheriff's Office. The letter was unsolicited and sincerely to come from the heart.

The Board asked that, in the future, Brian report in more detail on calls received by the Sheriff's Office.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for the week of 10.29.18.
- (B) Order No. 40-2018, "In the Matter of Adopting the Columbia County Emergency Operations Plan".
- (C) Order No. 45-2018, "In the Matter of Appointing a New Administrator of the Columbia County Depletion Fee Ordinance".
- (D) Order No. 46-2018, "In the Matter of Appointing a New Administrator of the Columbia County Solid Waste Management Ordinance".

The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEALTH LOBBY IMPROVEMENTS:**

Sherrie Ford, Public Health Foundation Director, was present to answer any questions on the information she previously submitted to the Board regarding the improvements to the Public Health office lobby. The PHF is making a concerted effort to be a more trauma informed organization. That's everything from their policies on how they interact with staff, giving them time to debrief after they've experienced an escalating client, policies on how they interact with clients, to even the atmosphere in the building. The idea to make it more welcoming to clients, to give them space and to protect their confidential information without everyone in the lobby hearing it. There are 3 phases to the physical transformation. The first part were the upgrades to the landscaping, which is almost complete. Phase 2 is to make the waiting room larger, to allow space for the children that come in, along with space for more confidentiality. PHF hired Lower Columbia Engineering to help with the plans, which ultimately had to be parred down until other funding is obtained. Sherrie reviewed the plans and explained the purpose for the changes. The next phase would be to make changes to the front window to allow for more confidentiality, which would cost approximately \$15,000. PHF would bring that before the Board for approval when they have the funding to complete that phase. At this time, Sherrie is asking for approval to more forward with the lobby remodel. With that, Commissioner Tardif moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the Public Health office lobby remodel. The motion carried unanimously.

While present, Sherrie gave some general updates at Public Health. They have found that clients find it confusing with more than one agency called Public Health. Therefore, PHF will be changing their name to "Columbia Health Services", effective 1.1.19. They will be doing a media blast and doing a logo design competition with the public.

In terms of communication between PHF and the County, they have new Board members that will be meeting individually with the County Commissioners. Michael Carter and Rita Bernhard have already scheduled time to meet with Commissioner Magruder and she will be scheduling time with Tardif and Heimuller as well. She also has a standing monthly meeting with Michael Paul, the first Tuesday of every month.

Sherrie then talked about Suicide Prevention and what they are doing to help those in crisis.

Last, she mentioned that the State has reduced funding for health insurance application assistance by 25% and, as a result, PHF has had to cut their staff accordingly.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Not present.

**COMMISSIONER TARDIF COMMENTS:**

Happy Halloween to all. Have a fun safe night and smile at someone today.

**COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Magruder has been working on the Broadband project. She encouraged people to go online and take the survey. This will help in determining the need for broadband service in our rural communities.

She and Commissioner Heimuller judged the Children's Parade last Saturday. That was a great time and so many cute costumes.

She attended the Habitat for Humanity breakfast yesterday morning. The message was you can have a house and a family and make it a home. It was noted that children have 96% better chance of graduating, when going from a low income housing to a Habitat for Humanity home.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 31<sup>st</sup> of October, 2018.

NOTE: An audio CD of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties. A video of the meeting is also posted on our website at [www.co.columbia.or.us](http://www.co.columbia.or.us)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Magruder, Chair

By: Not Present  
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Greenhalgh  
Board Office Administrator

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alex Tardif, Commissioner