

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BOARD MEETING

**MINUTES**

**February 27, 2019**

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Henry Heimuller, Commissioner Margaret Magruder and Commissioner Alex Tardif, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel and Jacyn Normine, Board Office Specialist.

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

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Tardif moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2019 Board meeting and February 20, 2019 Work Session. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITORS:**

**Chris Neifert, Sheriff's Office PIO**, came before the Board to present his weekly report.

- Enforcement had 350 calls resulting in 12 taken into custody.
- The Jail processed 252 inmates January 27 – February 26, 2019.
- The Sheriff's department is looking to donate to local shelters or non-profits sweatshirts, T-shirts and other clothing that is no longer part of inventory being used.

**Weston Perkins-Clark, Suicide Prevention Coordinator** with Columbia Health Services presented statistics on suicides in Columbia County. Weston first wanted to touch on the prevention team and how they are in the process of expanding and getting a more integrated approach to prevention. Currently Columbia Health Services are participating on suicide, tobacco, opioid education, problem gambling, and diabetes prevention group, becoming a more integrated team to promote a better and healthier community in Columbia County. Weston's position and all efforts in Suicide Prevention are funded through a Columbia Pacific CCO Grant. 2018 was a rough year for suicides, starting the needs for a suicide prevention effort in Columbia County. 93 % of the suicides were male, 14 males and 1 female, average age was 45-64. The majority were non veterans. 2019 to date we have 2 veterans and 2 non veterans that have completed. With an average age of 49. The majority of suicides are completed in St. Helens as opposed to the other 4 major townships in Columbia County, the majority also are completed between January and March.

Completed is the new term used in suicide prevention efforts which is a more palatable term, meaning someone has committed suicide, committed has a much more negative impact associated with a violence or a crime. Successful, un-successful, or a failed attempt are also terms that we are moving away from in suicide prevention.

The Suicide Prevention Task Force which convened in February 2018, is a group of volunteers from the community that sees suicide prevention as a dire need to be addressed. They work together to establish community connection, a sense of belonging, a purpose and a culture of care, they want to show that no one is alone. One of the things we are doing is QPR training. QPR is an evidence based intervention that was founded in Spokane by Dr. Paul Quintet. This is basically the CPR of the mind. A training session will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Community Action Team, and we are in the process of getting multiple trainers in the community. We already have one trainer Mr. Russ Clark, Weston's certification is pending and Joanne Done with CCMH is also in the process of becoming certified. We will be able to host these trainings to anyone that would like to be trained, also will be attending other evidence based trainings to have more tools in our wheel house.

Commissioner Heimuller asked if it was valuable for CCMH and Columbia Health to be putting on different trainings or are all the trainings similar enough that it would not make a difference? Weston said a little of both, they are covering all of their bases that one organization alone may not have access to or, able to target. They have met and discussed efforts to make sure there is a coordination and not doubling efforts.

Commissioner Heimuller asked how many of the people that completed had mental health care prior to being completed. Weston did not have those numbers at the time, but would look into it and get back to Commissioner Heimuller.

Membership is open to anyone and everyone that would like to join. They meet twice monthly. For more information please contact Weston Perkins Clark at Columbia Health Services.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- A. Ratify the Select to Pay for 02.25.19.
- B. Cancel March 6, 2019 Board and Work Session meetings.
- C. Approve 2019 Liquor License Renewals for: Deer Island Store; Tio's Quincy Market and Scappoose Market.
- D. Reappoint George Dunkel, Jim Tierney and Dennis Kenna to the Elected Officials Compensation Committee for a three (3) year term.

- E. Appoint Stephen Roberts for a 1 year term, Lea Ann Berg for a 2 year term, Bruce Holsey for a 3 year term, Dave Coombs for a 1 year term, Mike Fletcher for a 2 year term, Lara Marzilli for a 3 year term and Anne Parrott for a 3 year term, to the Ambulance Service Advisory Committee.

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- F. C26-2019, Contract with LS Networks for Internet Service.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Magruder joined the celebration at the Columbia County Learning Center to celebrate St. Helens 130th birthday. Columbia County Museum Association had photos and a slide show, they will be leaving the photos up for a short time so if you missed the event you might want to stop by and enjoy the historic information. The Museum also has a walking tour that you can access on your cell phone to see some of the historical sites around town.

The Emergency Management Group has been holding a monthly preparedness event at Running Dogs here in St. Helens, last night Della Graham talked about earthquake preparedness. Next month in March on the 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm Kelly Niles from the Oregon Department of Forestry is going to talk about how to prepare your home area to guard against wild fires. People that live in more forested areas might want to take advantage of this information.

She had a great meeting with representatives from the Diking Districts throughout Columbia County yesterday who are going to participate in our Columbia County hazardous mitigation plan, which all districts are eligible to participate in. This will give them an opportunity to have post disaster money and then there is a future opportunity for pre-disaster money. Any special district that has not been contacted by Emergency Management may want to contact them, especially if you have structures.

**COMMISSIONER TARDIF COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Tardif attended the Tourism meeting last night, we are going out for more grant dollars and some funding. This group is up and running and has a lot of momentum and stake holders involved. It is impressive what work has been done in the last 6 mo., looking forward and excited to see what this organization can do when it is running up to full capacity.

Yesterday, he met with the Governor and with only 45 min. they discussed housing and Cap and Trade. The Cap and Trade discussion was pleasantly surprising and rather interesting, eager to see what will happen this legislative session. Cap and Trade caps emissions at a certain level and then allows the trade or allowances for emissions. If you are inclined to read the bill and do some research there are a lot of different facets and things that are tied to it that one would question and ask how that would relate. The

more input and the more aware the community is, the more we can work together to create a true bipartisan legislation that would benefit all instead of just for one.

This coming Friday the three of us will be heading to Washington D.C. We will spend a week there attending a legislative conference working on more policies that will benefit our local communities.

On a sad note, he was made aware that the Secretary of State Dennis Richardson has passed way, he lost his battle to cancer yesterday. If you could all think about him and all of the great work he has done, that would be appreciated.

Remember to smile at someone new today, say hello to someone you haven't said hello to before. You don't know what shoes they are walking in or what their story is. Be gracious, be kind and be uplifting.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Secretary of State Dennis Richardson was the first Republican to become Secretary of State in this State for over 30 years when he was elected. He ruffled some people's feathers and made others proud. One thing important about Dennis Richardson was regardless that he had a democrat governor and was surrounded by democrats' he always figured out a way to work across the aisle the entire time. Secretary of State Richardson always put forward a professional and respectful presence even in the second highest powerful position in the government for the State of Oregon regardless of his disagreement with the other side.

It will be a privilege for us to go back to Washington D.C next week. This is important for us to be represented and be able to speak to our federal legislators. This gives us an opportunity to seek out committee members on projects or programs that are happening, the bottom line is that if we need to carry a message this is our opportunity to do so. This is our one time of year that we have full access and have their ear.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 20<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Henry Heimuller, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacyn Normine  
Board Office Specialist