

## **COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **BOARD MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**September 16, 2020**

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Alex Tardif, Commissioner Henry Heimuller and Commissioner Margaret Magruder together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel and Jacyn Normine, Board Office Administrator via telecommunication with County staff and members of the public was not present.

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

#### **MINUTES:**

Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **VISITOR COMMENTS:**

Carroll Sweet, 52077 Rabinsky Rd. Scappoose, OR. and Annie Christenson, 35234 Hazel St. St. Helens, OR. joined the meeting today to discuss forming a Police Citizen Advisory Committee for the County and requested support from the Board. Commissioner Heimuller, Commissioner Magruder and Commissioner Tardif are in full support of forming a Police Citizen Advisory Committee.

**PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE:** Mike Paul, Public Health Director gave an update on air quality in the Columbia County area, surrounding areas and we will be under an advisory through at least Thursday due to wildfires throughout the State of Oregon. Recommendations is to stay inside, keep doors and windows closed and drink plenty of water.

COVID -19 current numbers of confirmed and presumptive cases, with over 29.6 million globally and 936,313 thousand deaths, the US has reported over 6.6 million and over 196 thousand deaths, Oregon reported 29,662 cases and 519 deaths and Columbia County has reported 145 confirmed and presumptive cases, and one death since the onset of COVID-19.

Mike reported that we are starting to see an uptick in case numbers, he reviewed the 7 day case count report from OHA, CDC updated reports and which ethnic groups are being affected the most, which counties are in Phase I, Phase II and which counties are on the watch list. Yesterday, DCBC released a press release regarding a new program that will start this week that will help people who need to quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19 exposure and do not have access to COVID-19 related paid sick leave. Mike talked about Public Health staff and that funding is available through December 31, 2020 and Public Health is working with Columbia Health Services for wrap around services.

Discussion was held on funding for flu shots county wide.

Steve Pegram Emergency Management Director, reported that across the state the assessment of wildfire damage is going to be the largest in history, in the next week or so we will start seeing more accurate numbers of loss of life and property.

Columbia County is 1 of 26 counties that will receive funding for the wildfire relief fund.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Tardif read the consent agenda in full, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the consent agenda as corrected: After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

- A. ~~Ratify Declaration of State of Emergency dated September 14, 2020~~ corrected  
Ratify Letter to Oregon Emergency Management for Declaration of State of  
Emergency dated September 14, 2020.
- B. Order No. 79-2020 In the Matter of the Petition by Gary Wight to Name a New Public Way, located  
off of Church Road, near Warren, "Wight Lane".

**AGREEMENTS / CONTACTS /AMENDMENTS:** No items to come before this Board.

**MATTERS:** No Matters to come before this Board

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** This afternoon's 1:00 pm work session has been canceled.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Board recessed the regular scheduled meeting to enter into an Executive Session under 192.220(d) deliberations. Upon coming out of executive session no action was taken.

### **COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS:**

We are certainly in interesting times with a lot of challenges and if you didn't know this month is National Preparedness Month. She hopes everyone is learning from all of our experiences with COVID and wildfires and taking to heart the need to be personally prepared.

She thanked all of the volunteers and all of the folks that have come forward with funding and donations at the Fairgrounds to help support the wildfire relief, very heartening, what a great response across the county and across the state. Take the time to be prepared.

### **COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Offered forth thoughts and prayers to all of the front line fire fighters, police officers, county commissioners, local volunteers and everyone involved in the wildfires across Oregon. The recovery of this is going to go on for years.

Special thanks to Columbia County volunteers and County employees for stepping forward to help our neighbors.

### **COMMISSIONER TARDIF COMMENTS:**

Echoing Commissioners Magruder and Heimuller no matter how bad things get, Columbia County comes together, it is truly amazing to watch. Thank you first responders, fellow commissioners, volunteers and everyone who has stepped up to help. Columbia County stands ready in solidarity in service with our brothers and sisters across the state ready to help.

With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 AM

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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NOTE: Audio/video of the meeting is also posted on our website at <https://www.columbiacountyor.gov/meetings>

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alex Tardif, Chair

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

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

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

