

**COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

November 4, 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, Robin Assistant County Counsel and Kathy Coddington, Board Office Specialist via telecommunication with County staff and members of the public.

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 October 28, 2020 Board meeting and the October 28, 2020 Work session. The motion carried unanimously.

VISTOR COMMENTS: Alta Lynch at PO Box 369 Scappoose, Oregon 97056 commented on the Old School purchase. How is the county going to pay for this? How will we pay to maintain it? With the possible recession coming how and why is this happening?

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE:

Mike Paul, Public Health Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation showing graphs for total case and death counts globally, new confirmed cases in Oregon and Columbia County, hospitalization status, data for in-person instruction, school metrics, watch list data and OHA weekly report.

COVID -19 current numbers of confirmed and presumptive cases, with over 47.6 million globally and over 1.217 million deaths, the US has more than 9.4 million cases and over 232 thousand deaths, Oregon reported 46, 460 cases and 701 deaths and Columbia County has reported 285 confirmed and presumptive cases, 2 deaths since the onset of COVID-19 and 19 hospitalizations.

Columbia County school metrics is test positivity 3.8%. We are currently on the yellow zone for returning back to school. Mike Paul and the local schools have a meeting Friday to discuss the opening of schools.

Commissioner Tardif asked if the schools needed Public Health's approval to open or just to run the plan by Public Health. Mike Paul responded that the guidelines say that the school and public health need to make a collaborative decision before opening. Commissioner Tardif asked Public Health to please share with the Board that decision that is made after meeting with the schools.

Commissioner Magruder asked if the 10% teacher and 10% student metrics is both teacher and student at 10% from another county or either 10% student or 10 /5 teacher? Mike Paul said that it is either student or staff that can make up the 10% not combined.

Commissioner Heimuller is wanting to understand why in the last 30 days the hospitalizations have doubled? Do we know why? We are now seeing more hospitalizations of the younger individuals than in the beginning.

HEARING: No hearings

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Tardif read the consent agenda in full, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve A, B, and D. C has been pulled. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS

- A. Approve Personnel Action for Mike Paul and authorize the Chair to sign
- B. Approve personnel action for Kathy Coddington and authorize the Chair to sign
- C. C89-2020, Construction Contract with Columbia NW Heating Inc. for HVAC upgrades to the Courthouse Annex and Old Courthouse pulled
- D. C91-2020, Contract with Structured Communication Systems, Inc., for Phone System, Implementation and Equipment

MATTERS: No matters

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1. HR Director Recruitment Process. Jean Ripa, HR Director, came before the Board looking for direction on starting the recruitment of the Human Resource Director. The Board asked her to start the recruitment process now.
- 2. Bicycle/Pedestrian Funds approved for Crown Z Trail/Holce Property ROW, Casey Garrett, General Services Director, came before the Board that Mr. Holce would sign a right of way agreement if we create a rock path on part of the property. Casey is hoping to use Bicycle/Pedestrian Funds to cover this project. The Board decided to use Parks funds and Robin and Louise are going to check to see if the Bicycle/Pedestrian Fund could reimburse the Parks fund.
- 3. CARES Act Funding update, Louise Kallstrom, came before the Board to update on Cares Act Funding. Holly Miller, IT Director came before the Board asking if she can move money between some of her current projects. The Board agreed that the money can be moved between her projects to keep them moving.
- 4. Funding request to supplement Emergency Small Businesses Grant program. Round 4, Paul Vogel, Executive Director of CCET, asked for \$185,000 to supplement Emergency Small businesses Grant. The CARES Act money is not available at this time.
- 5. C95-2020, Public Services Contract with Guardian RFID for Inmate Tracking Services Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve C95-2020, Public Services Contract with Guardian RFID for Inmate Tracking Services. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session: The Board recessed their regular scheduled meeting to go into Executive Session under 192.660(2) (e) real property. Coming out of executive session, no action was taken.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

When I left the house this morning we still didn't know who the next president was going to be. I hope that after this election cycle we will head in a holiday season that has less hate and discontent than we have experienced this late summer and fall. I was proud of the people in Portland last night that showed and demonstrated what a peaceful protest looks like. They didn't appear to cause much damage to property or each other. I hope that after we find out who our president is that we wind down and take a deep breath and move forward.

COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS:

Happy Birthday to Sarah Hanson! I had a great Halloween with a candy cannon. Very impressed with the amount of voters in Columbia County this election. 80% turn out is great! Thank you to Columbia County!

COMMISSIONER TARDIF COMMENTS:

Withheld from comment due to time.

With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 PM

Dated at St. Helens, 4th day of November, 2020.

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: _____
Kathy Coddington
Board Office Specialist

