

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
December 2, 2020

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met virtually in a scheduled session with Commissioner Alex Tardif, Commissioner Henry Heimuller, and Commissioner Margaret Magruder together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel, Robin McIntyre, Sr. Assistant County Counsel, Tiffany Johnson, Assistant County Counsel and Jacyn Normine, Board Office Administrator via telecommunication with County staff and members of the public.

Call meeting to order:

Commissioner Tardif called the meeting to order.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the minutes from the November 25, 2020 Board meeting and the November 25, 2020 work session the motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS - 5 MINUTE LIMIT:

Robecca Capelle, 33846 NE Kell St. Scappoose, OR. gave a brief overview of her background as a member of this community and without the ability to use her own voice, asked that Commissioners be her voice against the COVID-19 freeze and shut down put in place by Kate Brown, Governor. Her freedom should not be taken from her. The Governor does not have the right to take this from us.

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE:

Mike Paul, Public Health Director, calling in from the St. Helens High School where they are holding a free Surge Testing COVID-19 drive-thru clinic. This clinic will be held on Wednesdays through the month of December, except December 23. You can pre-register on line or you can register onsite. It is helpful if you could preregister to help the lines moving.

Since November we have seen a rapid spread through the county with over 500 cases accumulative since the onset of the pandemic. With the bulk of these coming in over the last 6 weeks. Public Health is monitoring several out breaks and are trying to reduce the spread. We are still recommending that you limit gatherings, stay vigilant and continue to social distance, wash your hands and wear your mask.

Mike confirmed that there are three confirmed deaths in the county, we do have pending results and expect that number to rise. It takes a while for confirmation from the State regarding cause of death. Commissioner Heimuller pointed out that Public Health is providing a testing event that is hard to find in a rural area. Columbia County, local government is doing everything we can to help keep these numbers down and going in the right direction, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners we appreciate everything that Mike and his team are doing and thank you.

A huge number of volunteers arrived this morning at the Surge Testing Clinic. Thank you.

Commissioner Magruder, thanked Mike, staff, volunteers and partners for all of their hard work to make this drive thru clinic possible here in St. Helens. Commissioner Magruder asked Mike to clarify how folks will get results. Mike said that those tested will receive testing results via email in 2-5 days, once tested they will receive a guide that will help in what to do when waiting to receive and when they receive their results either positive or negative. It is hard to wait for those results, with delays with the increased testing the guide will help.

HEARING(S): No hearings to come before the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Tardif read the consent agenda, agreements, contract and amendments in full, Commissioner Magruder moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve the consent agenda, agreements, contracts and amendments as follows;

- A. STIF AUP Engagement Letter with Pauly Rogers and Authorize Louise Kallstrom to Sign
- B. Reappoint Julie Pelletier to the Columbia County Fair Board, Position # 7 for a three (3) year term to expire January 1, 2023 and authorize the Chair to sign.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- c. C41-2020-1, Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Health Sciences University for a Reproductive Health Needs Assessment and authorize Chair to sign

MATTERS:

No matters to come before the Board.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Governor's Financial Assistance to Support Oregon Businesses: Tiffany Johnson, Assistant County Counsel gave a brief summary on C105-2020 State Grant Agreement. This agreement is just under 1 million dollars, to help small businesses. The key aspect of the grant dollars are to cover expenditures relevant to COVID-19 retroactive back to March 2020. Columbia County has just under 3000 business including non-profits. During discussion, it was determined that CCET will administer this grant money. Admin allocations have a cap of 5% that will be paid between Columbia County & CCET, these allocations are based on administrative hours worked. The grant agreement will be drafted to include marketing and advertising under the administrative fees. Recommendations in Exhibit E, will not be implemented into the agreement. Commissioner Magruder moved to approve C105-2020 DAS Grant #2517 Coronavirus Relief Fund, State of Oregon Grant Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign, Commissioner Heimuller seconded. Further Discussion was held, Exhibit E will remain in the agreement provided by the State, and the items included are recommendations not requirements. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Discussion Regarding Land Use Notice Issues: Karen Schminke, Land Development Services Director came before the Board to advise them of some issues that have been encountered with the mailed notices associated with the Port Westward remand review process. A large number of the notices have been returned. Concerned with some legal risk associated with this, specifically wanting to avoid losing an appeal at LUBA due to procedural error. Potentially the high number of returned notices could be considered a procedural error. Our solution is to re-notice the time frame associated with the review process and we will be using an updated expanded mailing list for a 2000 foot radius of property owners around the subject property and double checking the mailing address of folks that have previously participated. Commissioner Heimuller is concerned that the same mailing list has been used for the last 7-8 years, have a bunch of people just moved? Karen thinks that maybe when converting from word perfect to word that maybe numbers were converted incorrectly, people have moved and there seems to be several things that have played into this factor. Commissioner Heimuller asked what the time frame of the extension would be. Karen is not sure of where Counsel is with the Board's office getting the new list vetted, as soon as that is ready will send those notices out. Staff will follow the Board's previously authorized direction to receive testimony in the written format, allowing 21 days for open comment, 21 days for rebuttal, and 14 days for final argument. Expecting to take this process out to March 2021.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

~~192.660(2)(h) Litigation~~ Pulled

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS

No Comment

COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS

No comment

COMMISSIONER TARDIF COMMENTS

No comment.

With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 AM

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 2nd day of December, 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: _____
Jacyn Normine
Board Office Administrator

