

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

November 25, 2008

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Commissioner Rita Bernhard together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel. Commissioner Corsiglia was not present.

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order.

UPDATE ON OREGON LNG NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT:

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, came before the Board regarding an update on the Oregon LNG Natural Gas pipeline project. He introduced Peter Hanson with Oregon LNG. Peter gave a powerpoint presentation on the proposed LNG project in the Skipanon Peninsula and Youngs Bay in Warrenton, Oregon. The presentation included information on the site selection, airport and visual impacts, greenhouse effects, risk management and project schedule. The pipeline itself will only impact one mile in Columbia County. Construction could start at the end of 2010 and be on line by 2014.

COMMUNITY TRANSIT SURVEY RESULTS:

Janet Wright, Henry Heimuller and Bruce Shoemaker came before the Board to present the results of the completed Columbia County Transportation Special Transit District Study, conducted by ActiDyne Survey Research. Bruce presented a powerpoint review of the survey questions and results. Afterwards, he gave his formal recommendations. The Board thanked Bruce for his presentation and will take the time to review the report prior to any decisions being made.

WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN ROADS FROM COUNTY MAINTENANCE:

Lonny Welter, Transportation Planner, reviewed the information on a proposal by the Road Department to withdraw certain county roads from county maintenance, specifically Boeck Road in the Vernonia area and Kerry Road in the Woodson area. His memo to the Board outlines the specifics and reasons for this request and the recommendation from the Transportation Planning Committee. If the Board is interested in moving forward with this, a public hearing and notice to abutting property owners would be required. After some discussion, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to initiate the process for the withdrawal of Boeck and Kerry Roads from county maintenance. The motion carried unanimously.

SPEED CONTROL IN COURTHOUSE PARKING LOT:

Jean Ripa, Human Resources, explained that the safety committee has received numerous complaints about cars speeding in the courthouse parking lot. There are a couple of areas where speed and safety is an issue. The committee wants, not only signs posted, but also the installation of a removable speed bump. This is not something that needs official Board approval, however, the committee wanted to the Board to be informed should they receive any comments. The Board agreed but felt there is a need for more than just one speed bump.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(d):

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(d). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to implement the recommendation from the Classification & Compensation Committee, dated June 18, 2008, for all regular non-represented employees, effective January 1, 2009, moving employees to the nearest and higher step based on their current hourly rate and freezing the salaries of those employees whose current rate exceeds the top step of the new range. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25th day of November, 2008.

NOTE: A tape of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____
Not Present

Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

By: _____
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: _____
Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary