

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

October 14, 2003

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner Rita Bernhard and Commissioner Anthony Hyde, together with Sarah Tyson, Assistant County Counsel, and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting to order.

CLERK'S RECORDING SYSTEM SOFTWARE:

Ruth Baker, Finance Director and Betty Huser, County Clerk, were present for discussion. Betty is seeking authorization to purchase software for a recording system in the Clerk's office. Ruth explained that the County is border line non-compliant with the Department of Revenue rules and this system will go a long way towards compliance. Ruth reviewed the costs, which funds this would be paid out of and the justification for use of some general fund dollars. This is a vital and necessary part of the county system and has been recommended by the Action Team for Information Technology. The total cost is \$61,300 which includes the purchase of the software, training, additional hardware/ software, conversion and the annual maintenance fee. Betty noted that this company (Helion) is widely used and recommended by many other counties. At this time, Ruth is recommending that the Board approve the purchase of this recording system software for the Clerks office. After discussion, the Board authorized Betty to move forward with this purchase.

JOHN CLOUSE: "HOOD-TO-COAST" & "SCCA ROAD RALLY" EXPENSES:

John Clouse, Emergency Management Director, came before the Board to review the expenditures for both the Hood-to-Coast and Oregon Trail SCCA Road Rally events. The County needs to refund Mr. Robert Foote \$1,707.30 for the Hood-to-Coast event because the actual costs were less than the \$25,000 deposit.

Regarding the Oregon Trail SCCA Road Rally, the actual costs were more than the \$3,063.37 deposit. Therefore, John will need to bill Oregon Rally Group for the additional \$3,292.44. John went over the actual expenses. After discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve both requests. The motion carried unanimously.

TOM LINHARES: COUNTY ASSESSOR:

Set-Up Property Tax Refund Reserve: Tom informed the Board that there are three pending property value appeals that could significantly affect property tax distribution in the future. The result, if they win their appeals, is that the County could be looking at refunding over \$1 million.

Because of this potentially significant impact, Tom is proposing that \$500,000 of the 2003-2004 property tax collections be withdrawn from distribution to other taxing districts and be held in a reserve fund as provided for in ORS 311.814. While we cannot expect to earn interest at the rate that we are required to pay upon refunding property taxes (12%), at least we will have some money set aside to pay large refunds, particularly the Boise refund, which could potentially be \$614,500.

George Dunkle, CRF&R, was present to comment. He understands that the County is taking the fiscal responsibility on this for all taxing districts. Although he understands and agrees with this, he still has some concerns.

Commissioner Bernhard felt that maybe the taxing districts should have the opportunity to make their own decision on this. Does the county hold back the payments or make the disbursements to the taxing districts and, if necessary, they pay it back. Commissioner Hyde feels that could create more problems and believes the county should just make the decision. Commissioner Corsiglia feels this should be opened up to let all taxing districts comment. Perhaps hold a public meeting on the issue.

After discussion, the Board set October 29, 2003 at or after 2:00 pm to hold a public meeting with all taxing districts to allow them to comment on this matter. Tom will work with Jan on the details of the meeting.

GIS: Tom explained that the County is in the early stages of developing a county-wide GIS system. There are 3 phases involved with this project; the pictures, the digital maps, and the adding of layers. He reviewed what steps have been taken to date. There is already some funding available for work on this system and the County also applied for a \$108,000 grant. A condition of this grant requires the County to have a long range plan. Joe Flori has spent a tremendous amount of time doing that by putting together the ORMAP 5 Year Business Plan. Tom and Todd both believe that the County needs to move forward on this. Commissioner Hyde commented that Columbia County is so far behind on having a GIS system and feels the County doesn't have a choice but to do this. Todd informed the Board that staff will be looking at some additional sources of funding for this project. Tom & Todd strongly agree that there will be a need to eventually hire a full time person to work on the GIS system. At this point, Todd is requesting that the Board approve the service agreement with Oregon Corrections Enterprises to begin Phase 1 of this project. After discussion, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the service agreement with Oregon Corrections Enterprises. The motion carried unanimously.

PHIL DEWEY - FEE INCREASES:

This matter was held over indefinitely.

PRESCOTT BEACH LEASE:

Commissioner Corsiglia brought up the issue of the lease with PGE for Prescott Beach. It is coming to an end and needs to be reviewed. There was a request for a special overnight event at Prescott Beach park. Commissioner Hyde has been in contact with PGE and they are willing to give a special exemption for that specific event, with certain conditions. PGE will also be getting back to Commissioner Hyde to discuss the lease.

YACHTS LANDING LEASE:

Sarah Tyson received a call from the President of the Yachts Landing Marina Association. He wanted a copy of the lease and Sarah found that we don't have one. It appears it has been in draft form for some time, but was never completed. The last time it was discussed was in 2001. There was discussion on the charges in the lease. Sarah understood it to read \$750 per year with a 3% increase annually for the term of the lease. She noted that there is a \$250 application fee each year for the County to apply with the Division of State Lands and feels that fee should also be included in the lease. All charges and fees should be made retroactive. If the Board is still in agreement with these points, she will move forward on completing the lease.

There was some question about the charges, number of leases and what people pay monthly for a slip. The Board wanted Sarah to speak to some of the slip owners to determine what they are being charged. They want to determine a fair amount before finalizing the lease agreement.

STATE COURT REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE:

Commissioner Corsiglia brought up the request from Judge Smith for additional work space in the Courthouse. Commissioner Corsiglia suggested that the State Courts pay the cost to move the elections department into the old 4H space and the courts could have the old elections space. Commissioner Bernhard feels the Clerk should be involved in any discussions involving her department. Commissioner Hyde understands that the Clerk is not happy with the suggestion that her department be moved into the old 4H space. Without the Clerk present, this issue was carried over for more detailed conversation.

The Board recessed the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. will all present.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting back to order.

CITY OF BEAVERTON, MAYOR DRAKE:

Rob Drake, Mayor of Beaverton, came before the Board to talk about the Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMG) and a business stability plan. He shared his experience with what

happened in Beaverton when half of city hall burned down. He talked about how to continue with daily business should something this catastrophic happen to the county.


There was no Executive Session held.

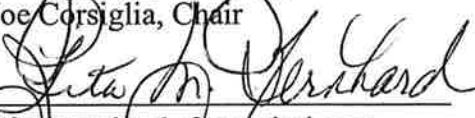
With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

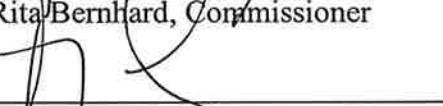
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 14th day of October, 2003.

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

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

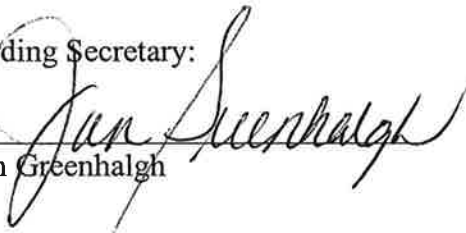
By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Chair

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By:


Jan Greenhalgh