

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

STAFF MEETING  
MINUTES

July 9, 2003

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met at 2:00 p.m. in a scheduled staff meeting with Commissioner Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner Rita Bernhard, Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Janet Wright.

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Hyde discussed a memo from Karen Minnis which removed certain persons from the State Budget Committee.

Commissioner Hyde discussed a problem at Laurel Beach regarding sabotage on the railroad tracks. He heard from the Sheriff that rocks are being put on the tracks. The potential to cause a train accident is extremely serious and has caused the FBI to become involved.

Commissioner Corsiglia brought up Economic Development issues and discussed the reason for cancelling the work session yesterday. He is concerned that the Board is showing the public that the Board is a part of the problem, rather than showing leadership.

Commissioner Corsiglia asked about Carla Cudmore and the DOGAMI issue. Commissioner Bernhard expressed her concerns with turning surface mining authority over to the State because the County would no longer have any authority. Commissioner Hyde indicated that other counties have stricter enforcement because the DOGAMI regulations are administered by the State. The Board decided to wait until Todd Dugdale returns from vacation to determine the status on this issue.

Commissioner Corsiglia discussed the issue of having a project board which shows the status of major projects that are being worked on by various departments, however, no consensus was reached.

Commissioner Bernhard expressed her concerns with the letter that Joe sent to the Governor regarding the unemployment status in Columbia County. This was not something she was informed about until after the fact. In the future, she would appreciate being informed.

The Board discussed changing the time of the staff meetings from the morning to the afternoon to allow more time for discussion. The consensus was to change the staff meetings to 3:00 p.m. The Board directed Janet to move forward with setting up an Economic Development office in the old Courthouse and check the budget to see how much is available to get the office up and running.

The next City/County meeting is scheduled for September and will be hosted by the City of Scappoose.

Commissioner Corsiglia questioned why Vernonia is not listed in the Columbia County phone book. Commissioner Hyde explained that Vernonia is listed in the Washington County phone book and the benefit is that Vernonia doesn't have to pay long distance charges when calling Portland.

Discussion was held on the Fair Board charging a \$2.00 parking fee during the County Fair. Any calls on this should be directed to the Fair office.

Janet suggested to the Board that committee members should be posted on the County's web site.

Commissioner Hyde asked that this meeting be continued to Thursday to resume these discussions.

***The meeting recessed at 4:00 p.m. and reconvened on Thursday, July 10, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. with all present.***

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting back to order.

Commissioner Hyde discussed the current issue associated with the Crown Zellerbach linear trail. The County was awarded the Parks grant, but we are also looking at obtaining the rest of the funding from ODOT. Commissioner Hyde asked Janet to come up with a solid dollar amount and speak with ODOT.

Commissioner Corsiglia reported on his lunch meeting with Bob Short regarding the County's economic development status. Commissioner Corsiglia reiterated that the Board should show more leadership. Commissioner Bernhard stated that she would like to get more of a definition of why Joe believes they are not moving forward. She stated that there are a lot of things that we don't have control of. Commissioner Hyde recommended that we move forward and the players will follow. Commissioner Corsiglia wants to talk to the cities about the economic development program.

Janet will work with Bill Potter to find out about the offices in the old courthouse. Janet will compile a data base of available properties from the cities and the Port of St. Helens.

Commissioner Bernhard asked about the Tour Train resolution and if we could do a letter rather than a resolution. Commissioners' Corsiglia and Hyde agreed and directed Janet to draft a letter.

Commissioner Corsiglia has asked IT to find a software package with form letters for the Board to send out for various situations.

Commissioner Hyde asked Janet to send a letter congratulating Matt Garrett for his promotion to District Manager at ODOT Region I.


Commissioner Corsiglia brought up the Port of St. Helens letter to Dave Hill regarding the extension of water services to the Scappoose Airport.

Commissioner Bernhard asked about Commissioner Corsiglia's meeting with the union presidents today. Commissioner Corsiglia stated that he wanted to know what the problems were with the Health Plan. He stated that the union leaders had not talked to each other and had never been in the same room with each other. This is part of his open communications practices. Commissioner Bernhard expressed her concern that that meeting could be a violation of our collective bargaining agreement. Lengthy discussion ensued.

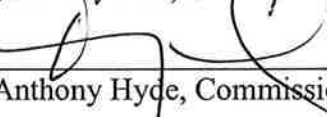
With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By:   
Joe Corsiglia, Chairman

By:   
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

By:   
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By:   
Jan Greenhalgh, Recording Secretary