

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

January 11, 2005

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

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

VETERANS SERVICES:

The Board received an e-mail from a veteran, Chet Thomas, addressing his concern that the VA office in Columbia County may be cut back to 9 hours per week. He is concerned for the veterans, like himself, that need help in getting into the VA system. He is asking the Board to consider this in the funding process. Commissioner Hyde had responded to Mr. Thomas' e-mail suggesting that he, and anyone else he can find, to start contacting his legislators about additional funding for VA services because the State funds this program. It was noted that people seem to be happy with the services and the facility, but it would be nice to see the office open more hours.

Discussion was held on setting up a meeting with all department heads to formulate priorities for this legislative session.

MEMORIAL FOR CHUCK ASHCROFT:

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, came before the Board along with Carole Smith, Parks Committee member, with a suggestion for some type of memorial for Chuck Ashcroft, previous Columbia County Parks Director. There are a number of people, and even other counties, who are wanting to contribute in his honor. Dave asked if the Board had any thoughts about what could be done in Chuck's honor. Carole suggested making a line item in the Parks budget to create a memorial fund in Chuck's name for youth projects. Contributions could be credited to that line item. Because Chuck's passing was so recent, the Parks Committee has not yet had any discussions on this but will at their next meeting. The Board agreed it is very appropriate to do something in Chuck's honor and Commissioner Hyde will check with Ruth Baker on the budget issue.

WETLAND DELINEATION - ROCKCREST STREET:

Dave Hill addressed this matter. There is still \$67,000 remaining in grant funds for road work. The Road Department has always intended to do some additional work along Rockcrest Street with widening and shoulders. It was originally thought there was some wetlands along Rockcrest Street and Dave hired a consultant to look at wetland delineation. The consultant confirmed there are wetlands. With \$67,000 remaining, that doesn't leave much to do the work. There is some development occurring on Rockcrest Street and it was suggested that the county look at the developer to help with the delineation costs. There was a consensus of the Board to have Dave inform the consultant to proceed with delineation of the wetlands. Dave will also start discussions

with the developer. After discussion, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to direct Dave to work with legal staff to draft a contract for the wetland delineation work on Rockcrest Street. The motion carried unanimously.

INCENTIVE PAY:

Dave Hill reviewed his memo to the Board regarding incentive pay for employees who receive a Herbicide Applicator's License. This is a very difficult license to obtain. There is currently only one union employee with his license and he receives the \$500 incentive pay as allowed for in the union contract. However, Dave and Terry Miller also have the Herbicide Applicator's License, but do not receive the incentive pay. Dave has asked Jean Ripa if it would be appropriate for himself and Terry to receive the incentive pay.

Jean explained the process for incentive pay and would agree that the district supervisor receive it, but not the department head. Commissioner Corsiglia is not in favor of incentive pay. He feels this requirement should be built into the job description and compensated through their pay scale. Jean stated that the Board has already set somewhat of a precedence by giving employees in the Sheriff's department incentive pay. Commissioner Bernhard would agree with Jean's recommendation. After lengthy discussion, the Board added approval to offer a \$500 incentive pay to District Supervisor's for obtaining or renewing their Herbicide Applicator's License for the next 12 months to the consent agenda.

It was suggested that Dave Hill's job description be reviewed and updated because of the additional duties involved in his position. Jean would recommend that, if the Board does this, all department head job descriptions be looked at. This hasn't been done in a number of years and many department head duties have changed.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE ISSUES:

Sheriff Derby briefly responded to this matter and, at this point, it is no longer an issue.

HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT:

Vicki has worked with Jerry Simmons on this. Jerry stated there is money available through the Homeland Security to hire a person, and there is a better chance to go through the law enforcement avenue for the funding. Commissioner Hyde stated that all Homeland Security grants must go through Emergency Management Services. Jerry is asking to be able to work with Vicki on pursuing this grant. Vicki was present to discuss the details of the Homeland Security grants and what is allowed. The Board agreed with Vicki moving forward with the grant.

While Vicki was present, Commissioner Hyde wanted to compliment Vicki on how she handled the recent table top exercise.

BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Commissioner Hyde stated that a current Budget Committee member is vying for the State Representative position that may become vacant next week. He suggested that this be discussed at a work session the first part of February and look at a possible replacement for the budget committee.

PUBLIC RECORDS POLICY:

As directed, Cynthia Zemaitis has drafted a Public Records Policy. She explained the current unwritten procedure, which is time consuming, disruptive and opens the possibility of losing documents. Cynthia briefly reviewed the policy and explained what all went into this. With Board approval, it would name Jan Greenhalgh as the custodian of the records. She went over the policy and explained the process. The Board complimented Cynthia on her work on this policy and agree with the need for it. Approval was added to the consent agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(1)(d):

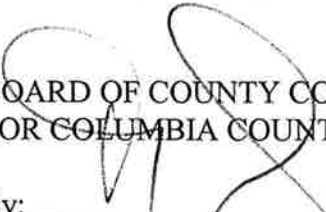
The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(d). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Corsiglia moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to deny Dustin Hald's grievance regarding call back time. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 11th of January, 2005.

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

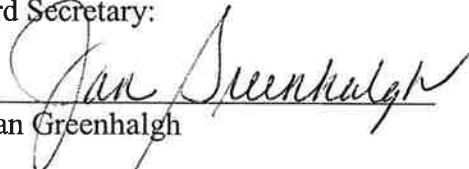
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh