

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION
February 8, 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.

COUNTY WEIGHMASTER:

Lonny Welter, Transportation Planner, came before the Board regarding the possibility of establishing a County Weighmaster position. The position would be supervised by the Sheriff's Office but would report to the Road Department daily. It is anticipated that 75% of the time for this position would be spent on issues directed by the Road Department. The Sheriff's department would fund 25% of the position with the Road Department funding 75%. Lonny is suggesting that this program be for a one year trial period.

Commissioner Hyde talked about the serious problems with the Sheriff's budget and this may compound the problem. Lonny stated that the Road Department would like to see this position created soon because this person would need to attend a training session which will be held in March. John Knight stated that ODOT is willing to fund the training for the Weighmaster. Jerry Simmons explained that the person filling this position should be an experienced deputy. He has a deputy in mind for this position and he could attend the training but we need to have a contract with ODOT in place prior to sending the deputy for training. Lonny talked about the revenue from citations. If they are run through the Vernonia Justice Court, the county would see more of the revenue. He stated that there are a great amount of illegal loads on the county roads and if this is put in place, it should drastically reduce the damage to the roads. Commissioner Hyde stated that everyone is in favor of the concept of a Weighmaster, however the issue is how it is put together.

~~Dean McMann, Road Department, clarified that, according to the ORS and the county ordinance, this position does not have to be a deputy. It allows for the Roadmaster to appoint a person. Although the person would need to be deputized. He sees a problem with public perception if a police officer is out stopping the trucks.~~

Jean Ripa, Human Resources, commented that the county is so close to the budget process and, unless there is a driving need to hire this position now, she would suggest it be held over until that time. There may be a need for layoffs which could effect this position.

Commissioner Corsiglia would like to see how the revenue from fines will be distributed. John noted that there also may be some depletion fees collected we are not aware of which may increase revenue.

After discussion, the Board carried this over to the February 22, 2005 work session. In the meantime, Commissioner Hyde will meet with Ruth Baker and other effected departments

HOLIDAY PAY FOR SUPERVISORS:

This matter was held over.

OFFER TO PURCHASE TL #7329-000-00400:

Cynthia Zemaitis, Natural Resources Administrator, came before the Board to discuss an offer received from Shawn Teevin to purchase county property known as TL #7329-000-00400. The Teevins own all of the surrounding property and, assuming that they owned this tax lot as well, removed rock from the county property. After this was discovered, Teevin Bros. paid the depletion fee on all of the rock they removed from the Lost Creek site, but they have not paid for the value of the rock removed from county property.

Cynthia gave the Board some background information. The county purchased this property outright in 1923. The deed indicates that the County's intent was to use the property for a rock crushing plant. Dave Hill has indicated that the County did, in years past, take some rock from this property, but the Road Department has not used the site for many years. However, the Road Department has asked that the county retain the property because of its potential as a rock pit and a good "staging" area.

In 2002, in preparation for the auction, the Appraiser reduced the RMV from \$22,300 to \$15,600. Shawn Teevin's offer to purchase this property is for \$3,100. Cynthia recently asked the Assessor's office for an explanation supporting the \$15,600 RMV. Judy Gettman, Property Appraiser, has indicated that, after a discussion with the Chief Appraiser, the RMV has now been changed to a gravel pit value, bringing the RMV on this property down to \$9,700.

Cynthia explained that the way the legal description is written, it is hard to determine the boundary lines and would suggest that a survey be done. Cynthia will need direction from the Board on how to proceed with the offer. The Board discussed the offer amount, the need for a survey and the value of the rock removed. Commissioner Hyde noted that the rock on this property is not a high quality rock. Robert Crain was present and suggested that Teevin Bros. pay for the survey. Commissioner Bernhard felt the county could split the cost with the Teevins. The Board felt the first issue is to find out where the actual property lines are. They would agree to splitting the cost of a survey. After a survey has been done, the Board will deal with the offer.

OFFER TO PURCHASE TL #3211-041-02800:

Cynthia Zemaitis, Natural Resources Administrator, presented an offer on TL #3211-041-02800. This parcel is a sliver of property (approximately 5.85 feet at the west end, 0 feet on the east end and 729 feet long) lying between the Keys Crest and Keys Landing subdivisions. It was offered for sale at the 2002 auction, with an assessed value of \$500, with no bids received. Recently, Cynthia received an offer from Mr. Ronald Stratton, who has taken an interest in county surplus property. His offer is for \$75.00. Given that the property abuts numerous lots on which there are homes located, Cynthia sent a letter to all of the adjoining property owners advising them of this offer and inviting an adjoining property owner to submit an offer. She received one offer from Mr. Riutta,

who owns a lot abutting the county property, for \$150 plus recording fees. Cynthia asked what the Board would like to do with these offers. The Board felt that there are too many adjoining property owners and it may cause more problems down the road by selling to only one and therefore, denied both offers and instructed Cynthia to move this property from surplus to "facility"..

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

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(h). Upon coming out of Executive Session, no action was taken by the Board.

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

The Board immediately recessed the regular session to back into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(f). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Corsiglia moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the letter presented by Jean Ripa. The motion carried unanimously.

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

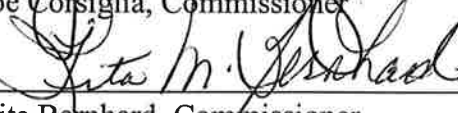
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 8th of February, 2005.

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

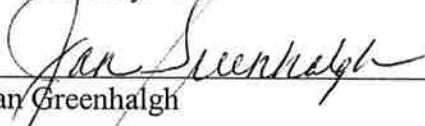
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh