

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION  
July 12, 2005

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

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order.

**OVER LENGTH VEHICLES:**

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, Deputy Pat Dean and Fred Oviatt, came before the Board to discuss over length vehicles and the policy for a second pilot car. The County is just starting the Weighmaster program and there will be a need to review some county ordinances to include this program. The issue at hand is over length vehicles and the need to apply some rules. Dave explained that Ordinance No. 84-5 states that whenever a load is in excess of 75 feet overall length that the operator must obtain a permit from the Roadmaster. The Road Department has established a policy that a front pilot is required for vehicles over 75 feet in length and a rear pilot is also required when the vehicle is over 95 feet in length. This is something that is now being enforced.

Dennis Krieger was also present. He hauls log trucks with up to a 105 foot total length. The rules state that anything over 95 feet requires a second pilot car for the back, however this has never been enforced. Fred stated that the past practice has been that anything over 95 feet up to 105 feet had a pilot car in the front and a flag in the back. He doesn't see any reason to change that practice. Commissioner Hyde stated that Columbia County is well known for producing quality poles and this is an issue for this County. He doesn't see the need to require a back pilot car. Dave explained his concern for safety. Pat noted that the requirements for pilot cars vary depending on the road used. For instance, Hwy 30 doesn't require any pilot cars. Commissioner Hyde suggested perhaps using a beacon as opposed to a back pilot car. Dennis felt that it might be hard to see a beacon at certain times of the day. Dave wanted to bring this issue before the Board because of his concerns with safety and to ask if he should be enforcing the requirement for a second pilot car on loads over 95 feet. Anything over 65 feet, a permit is required and Commissioner Hyde feels that, with the current market, to require an additional person and car is a little heavy handed and doesn't feel it is necessary. Flagging the back seems to work. More discussion was held on using a beacon. It was agreed that there are times, such as foggy days, that a beacon would work. Finally, it was agreed that there would be flags and a beacon on the back of the vehicle. The Board felt that Dave Hill could make the decision through the permitting process on anything between 95 and 105 feet.

**NORTH COAST LIBRARY FEASIBILITY STUDY:**

Ruth Metz, Consultant for the North Coast Library Study, came before the Board to give a power point presentation on the library study. When finished, she will be asking for advice from the Board on where to go from here. This project is for a two county library district, Columbia and Clatsop. Conditions prompting this study are: there is no service to 36% of the population; limited and

uneven service to 64% of the population, unstable funding base, expectation of growth, and no formal structure for resource sharing. In conducting surveys, people want to see more hours of operation, more books, and more services. A hypothetical plan is to consolidate the libraries into one district at a cost of \$.065/\$1000 and to see if it is feasible. Ruth believes this is feasible and explained what those dollars would provide for. Commissioner Hyde stated that is a huge number and could effect other services.

***Commissioner Joe Corsiglia entered the meeting.***

Ruth explained that the next steps are local briefings, meeting with the study group, and the grant application process. She would suggest that a poll be conducted in both counties to gauge what the people want and what they are willing to pay for. Commissioner Hyde worries about anything getting in the way of the law enforcement levy that will be going out to the voters. That is the total focus of the county at this point. Commissioner Corsiglia stated his concern that if the Board doesn't proceed with this, they get labeled as being against libraries, which isn't fact, but it is the perception. Commissioner Hyde agrees and feels that if the Board were to agree to further studies it may put out a perception of something the County can't deliver. Commissioner Corsiglia left the meeting. At this point, Ruth needs to know what direction the Board wants to go on this project. Commissioner Bernhard feels it is important to know what the public wants and they should be given the opportunity to comment. If a survey is conducted, Commissioner Hyde would like to review the survey before it is conducted.

**REQUEST BY CITY OF ST. HELENS FOR FLAG POLE IN PLAZA SQUARE:**

The Board received a letter from the City of St. Helens. Commissioner Bernhard has discussed this with the City. They would like to remove the flag pole from the plaza area and put it down at Columbia View Park. Commissioner Hyde stated that if that happened, he would want an agreement with the city to work out the details. After discussion, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the request by the City of St. Helens, with an agreement working out the details. The motion carried unanimously.

**AMENDMENTS TO PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST POLICY:**

Cynthia Zemaitis, Paralegal, came before the Board to address amendments to the Public Records Request policy. Jan sent a memo to all department heads asking for any records they want exempted from this policy. Cynthia went over the results of that request. The main concern is with confidential information and the integrity of the records. Tammy Maygra and Thelma Bonar were present for discussion who are basically in agreement with the changes. After discussion, the Board directed Cynthia to move forward with amending the order for final review by the Board.

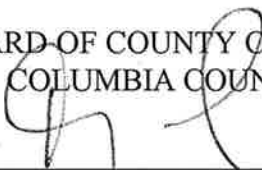
There was no Executive Session held.

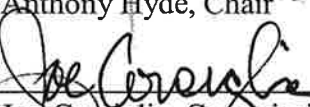
With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

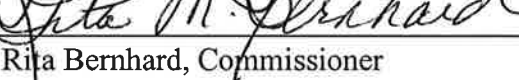
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 12<sup>th</sup> of July, 2005.

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

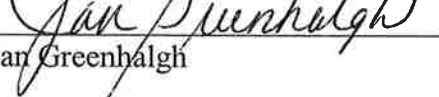
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By:   
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By:   
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

By:   
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By:   
Jan Greenhalgh