

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

December 13, 2005

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

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order.

RESULTS OF CHARITABLE DRIVE SURVEY:

Jean Ripa, Human Resources, presented the results of the survey conducted a few months ago on charitable drives and which ones employees would like to see continue. In the past, the Board has been asked to allow a number of different charitable drives and has limited that to just a couple. Commissioner Corsiglia had asked that Jean touch base with the employees to see which types of charitable organizations they would like to continue with. To do that, Jean sent out a survey to all employees and she received about 20 responses. In terms of the food drive, 19 out of 20 said yes to continue that. In terms of the Giving Tree, 18 out of 20 said yes to that. So these appear to still be the popular ones. One other event suggested was United Way. For the most part, employees who responded are interested in the three types of drives that we currently do. Jean plans to put the results of the survey in the next newsletter.

NACo PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT CARD PROGRAM:

Jean Ripa previously sent a memo to the Board regarding the NACo Prescription Discount Card program. This program is free of charge and available to *anyone* who lives in Columbia County. In the memo is listed the participating pharmacies. If the Board is interested in participating in this program, there is an agreement that needs to be entered into between the County, NACo and AdvancePCS Health. Jean stated that there can be no changes to the agreement, the County either agrees to it as is or not. Once the agreement is signed, it may take up to 2 months to receive the cards and information. At that time, the Board could send out a press release. It was noted that this is simply an additional benefit to save on prescription drugs and has no effect on any other types of insurance. This may or may not be helpful. John Knight still needs to review the agreement so the Board carried this over to the first work session in January.

VICKI HARGUTH:

Vicki first wanted to thank the Board for attending the Emergency Management Summit held in Rainier last night. This led to some discussion on issues that were brought up during the summit.

Vicki is present today to discuss grant management. She does not have the time to work on grants at this time and needs help. She has herself backed into a corner and there are things that need to be

done by year end. Commissioner Corsiglia asked about outside agencies possibly loaning staff to Vicki to help out. However, Vicki is going to need to put together something that outlines the level of expertise and minimum expectations she is looking for and the amount of time that will be needed on a weekly basis. Vicki believes that some part time help from the Finance Department and some time from Procurement would help a lot. Jean would suggest those department heads be included in any discussion that effects their departments. The Board directed Vicki to get that outline to them as soon as possible.

Another issue is training. Vicki does not have the space available to conduct this training that is a NIMS requirement, and this must be done to be in compliance with the grants. She cannot track all the outside agencies to see if they are complying with the training requirements. There are other items being added to her work load dealing with Homeland Security. She informed the Board that the work load and stress is now effecting her physically. Commissioner Hyde feels there needs to be a point where we say we simply cannot do any additional programs. He suggested that Vicki prioritize what is important and what can realistically be accomplished. It's time to tell the federal government that we simply cannot do it all. List the short falls and get all this information back to the Board.

Other issues discussed: The Franchise agreements will be discussed next week at a scheduled public hearing. Sarah suggested Vicki get those agreements up to her to review prior to the hearing. There is also a contract with FEMA that was awarded back in September, but she hasn't gotten it up to County Counsel for review yet and FEMA is looking for it.

After discussion, Vicki stated that she will put together some information for the Board to review on what she needs as far as help.

UPDATE ON PLAZA OF DISCOVERY PROJECT:

Janet Wright gave the Board a project update from Sea Reach on the Plaza of Discovery. Sea Reach will be present at the January 3rd Board meeting to go over the update. Janet asked that the Board review the information submitted and get back to her with any questions or concerns prior to the January 3rd meeting.

GAS EXPLORATION/PRODUCTION AUCTION:

Cynthia Zemaitis, Public Lands - Andy Elgred has been pressuring her for some time now to hold an auction. Therefore, she would like to hold this auction around the end of January. She has asked that Enerfin release the property at Reichold that they have not used, nor do not intend to use, so that it can be included in the auction. She will advertise in the Chronicle, the Chief and another paper more wide spread. The Board authorized Cynthia to move forward with scheduling an auction.

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

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

PRESS RELEASE FOR COUNTY SURVEYOR:

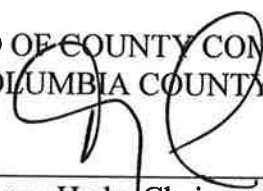
Janet Wright presented a draft press release to the Board advertising for Certified Surveyors. The Board made some minor changes and authorized Janet to send it out.


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

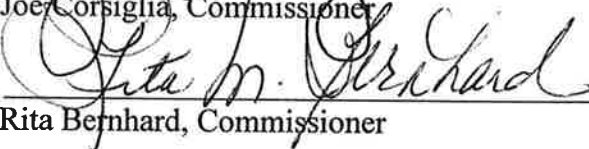
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13th of December, 2005.

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