

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

April 25, 2006

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

Commissioner Corsiglia called the meeting to order.

PROPOSAL TO EXPAND JUSTICE COURT:

Judge Rod McLean approached the Board with a proposal to expand the Justice Court system. He submitted his proposal earlier to the Board and asked if there were any questions. Rod feels that if there were a bench closer to the St. Helens area, there would be three benefits: 1) revenue to the County; 2) convenience for the police and District Attorney; and 3) a closer option to cite the defendants. Commissioner Bernhard has received a few calls from citizens that live in the St. Helens area who were not happy about being cited into the Vernonia Court. Commissioner Hyde would like to talk with the District Attorney on this before making any decision. Rod stated that the main concern is finding a suitable site for this. By statute, it cannot be inside the city limits. The Board would need time to evaluate this further and will perhaps look at doing something at the beginning of the fiscal year. Rod explained that the first step would be to designate the new boundaries.

AGREEMENT WITH ODOT FOR SINGLE TRIP PERMITS:

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, brought before the Board an agreement with ODOT for Single Trip Permit Authorization. He explained the purpose of this agreement, how this program works and the benefits to the County. ODOT is asking for the agreement to be returned by May 1st. This is a good program and Dave would recommend approval. John has reviewed the agreement and has no problems with it. The Board added approval to the consent agenda.

CLEAN UP ON THE CZ TRAIL:

While in attendance, Dave Hill explained that people are starting to use the CZ trail and, as a result, there is trash along the trail. The Parks Committee has talked about adopting out portions of the trail for litter clean up, similar to what the County does for roads. Carole Smith called Commissioner Bernhard this morning and would like to see this program implemented right away because of the litter already accumulating. Commissioner Hyde has concerns with the county's exposure on this until the trail is officially opened. He agrees this may be a good program but would suggest that Carole Smith submit a written proposal with specific details for the Board to consider.

AMENDMENTS TO ACCESS APPROACH PERMIT ORDINANCE:

Dave Hill and Cynthia Zemaitis were present for discussion. Dave stated that there is an upcoming contractors meeting being setup by LDS. Discussions will be held on SDC's, access approach permits, among other topics. Regarding the Access Approaches, Dave and Cynthia have gone through the original Access Approach Ordinance 98-10, along with two subsequent ordinances and one order that amended 98-10. They are suggesting that all of these be combined into one ordinance. So the Board is aware, Dave went over some of the changes being proposed. Cynthia was hoping to have this compiled, in draft form, for the builders roundtable meeting. The Board agreed and gave direction to move forward on this.

PEDOMETER PROGRAM:

Jean Ripa, Human Resources, informed the Board that the Health Benefits Committee is looking at setting up some Wellness programs. They have a proposal for the Board to consider, along with the funding piece of it. Basically, this would be open to all regular employees who have health insurance, because we will be utilizing some of Kaiser's free resources. It would start out with a 2 week program and Kaiser would come to the County to give a presentation on the Pedometer Program. The equipment would be on loan from Kaiser for two weeks. After that time period, employees would determine if they want to continue with the 8 month program. If they do, employees could purchase the pedometers from Kaiser or they could purchase them elsewhere. Jean then went over the details of the program, incentives, and costs. The cost is \$13 per member and the committee is asking that the County pay for that. The committee really wanted to set up something whereby the Board would commit to something they could do for those employees who reach their goal. Regarding the funding, the total would be just under \$4,000 if there are 100 employees that finish the program, which is doubtful. The funding for this can come from the Workers' Compensation reimbursement system and Jean explained how this can be justified. Jean asked for authorization to move forward with this program and the funding part of it. The Board felt this would be a good program and is in agreement with it and directed Jean to move forward with her recommendation.

ORDER NO. 34-2006 - ADDITIONS TO ENFORCEMENT ORDINANCE:

John received an e-mail from Roger Kadall, Animal Control Officer, proposing to make certain state statutes enforceable under the county ordinance to increase his authority. John went over the ORS's that Roger is asking to be included. John is not necessarily advocating for this but just presenting it to the Board. After some discussion, John will re-work the order for approval at a later date.

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, no action was taken by the Board.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25th day of April, 2006.

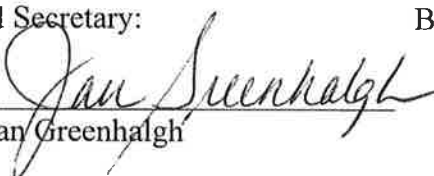
NOTE: A tape of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Chair

By: 
Rifa Bernhard, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner