

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

July 11, 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.

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN POSITION:

Jean Ripa, Human Resources, came before the Board regarding her request for the creation of the position of Computer Technician Level 1. She explained that the budget included the addition of a county computer system at the new transfer station. Jean went over the need for additional help and how the position would be paid for. After discussion, the Board added approval to the consent agenda.

OCVR INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT #707023:

Jean Ripa expressed her concerns with this agreement, namely the demands for notification any time changes are made to our system (which is a daily thing) and reconfiguration to our firewalls. John suggested that approval be subject to changes which could be addressed in the cover letter. Jean stated that the County is already using the OCVR system and paying for it. After discussion, John suggested that the Board not even sign the agreement and see what happens. Jean understands Coos County did not sign the agreement because of their concerns. The Board agreed and took no action on the OCVR IGA.

TOWING FEE POLICY:

Deputy Jim Carpenter explained that Columbia County is one of only a couple counties that do not have a vehicle impoundment policy in place. This policy, if approved, would allow the Sheriff's department to impound vehicles that are not insured. He stressed that the deputies would take every precaution to correctly determine if the vehicle is or is not insured before impoundment. Jim presented the Board with a draft policy and requested approval. He noted that it would also authorize the \$50 administration fee to be charged. John Knight has reviewed the policy with Jim and is satisfied enough to move forward with approval. Any minor changes can be made later as needed. The Board agreed and added this to the consent agenda.

SETTLEMENT WITH STATE OF OREGON ON OVERPAYMENTS:

Donna explained that CCMH received a letter last December from the Department of Human Services basically stating that the State, DHS overpaid CCMH in the amount of \$115,981.18, from 1995 through June 1999 and giving CCMH 90 days to repay it. The statute of limitations was 7 years at that time and, because of that, client records have been destroyed and is next to impossible

to determine if this overpayment is correct or not. In addition, some of this money CCMH paid to Riverside who doesn't have the capability of repaying this. Donna has contacted Senator Betsy Johnson, who also thought it was unreasonable for the State to come back that this time to recoup any overpayment.

Clorisa Newfeldt explained that because of the statute of limitations and because neither Donna nor herself were at CCMH during that period, it was difficult to find a lot of these records. Either they had been shredded or it was too cumbersome a process to research and therefore, could not confirm or deny that the State's information is correct or not. Another problem is that the State's records are notoriously inaccurate and this could be an error on their part.

Donna has come up with a compromise but wanted to review it with the Board prior to sending it to the State. She is not sure if it will be accepted or not. She noted that this is not the only county this has happened to. Commissioner Corsiglia will bring this up when he attends the LGAC meeting next week.

TORT CLAIM LIABILITY INSURANCE PREMIUMS:

Joe Schultz, Pieper Ramsdell Insurance, presented information to the Board on the Court of Appeals decision on Tort Claim Liability Cap. He explained how this could effect the county. The primary thing this did was say that there has to be some reasonable or substantial remedy for injured people, and essentially voided the law that says that individual public employee can't get sued. Joe gave an example of just how costly this can be to the county. Currently, the county carries a \$2 million liability limits on our liability policy and Joe would recommend that the County increase that to \$5 million for the cost of \$5,979.32. The Board agrees with increasing the liability amount to \$5 million and with that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to increase the county liability insurance from \$2 million to \$5 million. The motion carried unanimously.

CHANGE ORDER AND OBSERVATION ON TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROJECT:

Jim Tierney, CAT, reviewed Change Order #4 with Centrex Construction for a controlled density fill placed over the new sewer line at the east corner and the SE side of the Jail facility as required by the building inspector. This is to reinforce the wall of the Jail where the integrity of the wall was compromised as the result of laying the sewer line. The change order is for \$2,075.00.

While in attendance, Jim reviewed an observation by the architect regarding the hairline cracks in the men's building. He suggests that this be addressed by Centrex in a way that will eliminate or at least minimize the cracking or failure of the floor finishes.

After discussion, approval for Change Order # 4 was added to the consent agenda.

OCVR INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT #707023:

Sarah Hanson updated the Board on the OCVR agreement. She has done some checking with the

State and other counties and has found that the State plans to rewrite this agreement addressing county concerns. However, at this point, Sarah would recommend that the Board simply not sign the agreement because the services are already being provided and the county is paying the State. There was a consensus of the Board to not sign the agreement and inform Betty Huser of this decision.

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

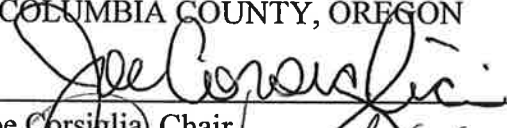
The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(1)(h). Upon coming out of Executive Session, no action was taken by the Board.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 11th day of July, 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: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner