

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

January 9, 2007

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

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order.

ACCESS APPROACH ORDINANCE LANGUAGE:

Dave Hill, Lonny Welter and Sarah Hanson were present for discussion. Sarah explained that there was an issue brought up in testimony that people wanted any deposits that were forfeited to be used by the Road Department to complete the access approaches. The ordinance does not allow for that. If the Board wants to have the Road Department to do this, changes will need to be made in the language. Commissioner Bernhard feels the whole idea of this is to get the access approaches done. Commissioner Corsiglia's concern was that any deposits forfeited were not just put into the general fund. Commissioner Hyde agrees that the outcome is the main issue. Putting the deposits back into the Road fund doesn't get us there. It needs to be clear that these forfeited monies go towards access approaches, either by the Road Department or contracted out. Lonny suggested that the language be more broad because the Road Department has to also replace/repair culverts because an access approach was not constructed. They could then use these funds for those repairs. Sarah feels that, to simplify this, the County could simply not grant occupancy until the access was completed. By granting occupancy, we take away the incentive for the person to complete the access approach. If the purpose of this is to get the access approach completed, then we should just not grant occupancy and that would be her recommendation. Making it overly complicated just adds work for everyone. Commissioner Hyde feels there needs to be flexibility built into this somehow, because those issues will come up. There is a consensus that the Road Department use those deposits for access approaches. Dave feels that if the language is just for access approaches generally, rather than each individual access, that would be better. Sarah feels that will cause more problems, using someone's deposit to construct someone else's access. Dave feels there will be very few times where the access approach deposits will be forfeited. Sarah would recommend that if we keep with the \$2,000 deposit, we leave the language the way it is. Dave read his suggested language "***The Columbia County Treasurer shall thereafter transfer the deposited funds to the Columbia County Road Fund to be used for improvements to driveway approaches where deposits have been forfeited. If the expense of the work performed by the County (or contracted by the County) exceeds the amount of the forfeited deposit, the County will seek reimbursement from the permit applicant and may place a lien on the property***". However, Dave would prefer the original language because it gives the Road Department more flexibility in where the funds could be spent. Sarah suggested that, before granting occupancy, secure a bond for the estimated amount of the access approach. If the Board agrees with the language suggested by Dave, she would like to expand the language regarding the lien portion. Dave would ask that administrative fees be included if the Road Department has to contract out the work.

After discussion, staff was instructed to do some additional work on the language and bring it back before the Board for review.

IGA W/CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY FOR BUILDING SERVICES:

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, explained that Columbia City has previously staffed their owned building program. They have recently made some changes and are requesting an agreement with Columbia County to provide these services for the city. Todd would ask that the Board approve this agreement, subject to final approval by County Counsel. Todd noted that the county fee schedule would be applied. Commissioner Corsiglia suggested that it be worded so that when the county fees are adjusted, the agreement automatically be adjusted also. After discussion, the IGA was added to the consent agenda.

OPERATING HOURS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY:

Lisa Bush, Humane Society, approached the Board regarding hours of operation for the Humane Society. She is also the Chair of the Sunday Project, a committee formed to make recommendations on hours of operation for the Human Society. Recently, they have been open on Sundays and it is working very well. They are basically a retail operation so they need to be open when the general public can come in. Their current hours of operation are very limited so they are requesting that they be able to modify their hours based on their business needs. The request is to be open on Sundays 12 to 6 and to change their daily hours from 11 am to 5 pm.

Todd stated that, under this proposal, the Humane Society (HS) would be open at times when Animal Control (AC) is not, such as Sundays and holidays. Roger Kadell feels this may cause some confusion with the public because of the different times each are open, but still in the same building. If someone brings in an aggressive dog, and HS is open but AC is not, it can cause problems. Dogs cannot just be left in a kennel because AC needs some information from whoever drops it off regarding the animal itself. Another concern is being open until 6 pm because it's dark at that time and it's a safety issue. Roger doesn't really have a solution to this so he would like to see the hours remain the same as they are currently. Again, his concern is with public safety and public confusion. Todd feels the HS is looking at ways to accommodate people that use their services, such as being open on Sundays when people are home to deal with their animal issues. The Board suggested that, before any action is taken, that the HS and AC meet to discuss the issues and concerns and bring something back before the Board that will work out for both.

PURCHASE OF IDENTIX FINGERPRINTING EQUIPMENT:

Jim Gibson, Jail Manager, came before the Board regarding a request to purchase new fingerprinting equipment for the Jail. John Knight has been working with the leasing company to get the lease finalized. The current equipment is outdated and Jim can't even get a service contract on it so he is having to pay out an hourly rate for any service calls (\$200 per hour). Therefore, Jim is requesting approval to purchase the Identix Fingerprinting equipment. John explained the two separate issues here. One is the purchase of the Identix Fingerprinting equipment and the other is the Lease/Purchase Agreement with Key Government Finance, Inc. John reviewed the rate, tax

exemption, etc. He also explained that Identix is currently the only company with the capability to electronically transmit fingerprints to the State. John has drafted an Order for the sole source determination in connection with the purchase of the Identix Fingerprinting Equipment and a Resolution approving a tax exempt Lease/Purchase agreement with Key Government Finance, Inc. He would recommend that these be approved today. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve Order No. 3-2007, "In the Matter of a Sole Source Determination in Connection with the Purchase of Identix Fingerprinting Equipment" *and* Resolution No. 5-2007, "In the Matter of Approving a Tax Exempt Lease/Purchase Agreement dated 12/27/2006 with Key Government Finance, Inc.". The motion carried unanimously.

RECONVEYANCE OF TL #5N1W33-DD-11600:

Cynthia Zemaitis, Natural Resource Administrator, reviewed the request by a previous owner to repurchase their property that was foreclosed on. As the Board will recall, Julie Dusek (Alice's niece) was appointed guardian of both Alice and Linda and has been working diligently in an attempt to help the family. Ms. Dusek has now received a third-party offer for the property and is asking that the property be reconveyed to Alice and Linda Pierce in a simultaneous closing whereby the property would be immediately sold to the third party and the county would receive the equivalent of back taxes, interest, penalties and fees as consideration for the reconveyance. After little discussion, the Board added approval to the consent agenda.

PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR TRANSPORTATION

Janet Wright reviewed the projects and 2007-2009 budget for the Columbia County Transportation program. This will be submitted to ODOT by January 31, 2007. After review, the Board wanted to say how pleased they are with the work that Janet has put into this, and what an excellent job she has done on the Transportation program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(h)(d):

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(h)(d)(f). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to deny AFSCME Local 697's grievance regarding the Shop Supervisory based on timeliness and secondarily on merit and direct Jean Ripa to respond to the Union. The motion carried unanimously.


//
//
//
//
//
//
//
//
//
//

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 9th day of January, 2007.

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: 
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh