

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION
February 13, 2007

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

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order.

MEASURE 37 CLAIM CL 07-05 FILED BY DAVID & VIRGINIA ERICKSON:

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, came before the Board to review the staff report on the Measure 37 Claim fled by David and Virginia Erickson. The subject property is 6.18 acres with a single-family dwelling. No hearing was requested. The property was purchased in 1988, which allowed for 2 acre lots. Fair market reduction in the amount of \$310,000. Staff finds that the claimant is eligible and recommends to waive the CCZO Section 604.1. After review, the Board added this to the consent agenda for approval.

ELK CREEK ROAD:

Dave Hill, Public Work Director, came before the Board along with Lonny Welter and Aaron Clodfelter with the Road Department. There were a number of citizens in attendance who live on Elk Creek Road. Lonny narrated a power point presentation on the Columbia County road system. The intent of the presentation is to inform citizens why sections of Elk Creek Road may revert back to gravel. Breakdown of where funding comes from for the Road Department was presented.

Mr. Albert Caulfield feels that the presentation is a good explanation, but this problem is not a recent problem, it has been a problem from the beginning. There is only about 2,000 feet of road we are talking about. The people on Elk Creek are only asking that funds be re-appropriated to fix Elk Creek road correctly. Commissioner Bernhard stated that the presentation is to help explain the funding issues facing the Road Department. There are a lot of citizens who want their roads fixed but the funding is just not available. Mr. Caulfield wanted to say that the neighbors are here, not to criticize or condemn the county, but to try to find a solution to the problem. Commissioner Corsiglia asked that, because the Road Department has prepared this presentation, he asked that the citizens view it. It is not only informative for the neighbors, but for the Board also.

After the presentation, there was discussion with the neighbors on some resolution. Mr. Caulfield feels the only solution is to fix the road. This is no different than a hole in his roof and he takes the money to paint the house. He cannot live on a gravel road because of serious health problems. The only solution is to fix the road properly. They are not asking for more money, just a re-appropriation of funds to fix this road. Commissioner Hyde fully understands the concerns and the problems with the roads, but explained that the presentation detailed the funding problems, even if the Road Department has the tools and man-power. Dave Hill explained what their asphalt allowance is this year, \$240,000. Now, the department is being asked to cut their budget by \$465,000. It will either

come out of asphalt or man-power. Because of that, there will be no asphalt next year. One neighbor stated that he has lived on this road for over 30 years. He has heard all of this since the beginning and Elk Creek has never been fixed correctly. What needs to be done, can be done. One neighbor feels that the road is so bad, that the temporary fixes are just a waste of money. Commissioner Hyde felt that an option would be an LID, which is where the neighbors along the road pay for a new road and it would be added to their taxes and repaid over a 20 year period. This has been done with a number of roads in the county. Commissioner Corsiglia would be concerned that, if the neighbors are paying for an LID, then the truck traffic should not be allowed. Dave feels that, if the road is paved properly, with a good base, that should be good enough to support the truck traffic. The neighbors explained their willingness to help in any way they can to get the road fixed, allowing space for county trucks to park, etc. A neighbor asked about Elk Creek Road becoming a private road owned by the neighbors and if that was possible. One neighbor has lived on Elk Creek Road all of his life. The road used to be closed during the cold weather to help eliminate damage to the road. Also, he has been informed by a medical person that the oily dust can be harmful to the neighbors. Another neighbor felt that, no matter what is done to fix the road, the drainage problem needs to be addressed or it won't do any good. Another concern is that their property values may be reduced because of the gravel road. Some discussion was held on the possibility of a gas tax in Columbia County which would be specifically for Columbia County roads. After discussion, the Board stated that they will meet with Dave Hill to go over the concerns addressed here today and will be back to a representative of the neighbors on possible solutions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(f) - EXEMPT RECORDS:

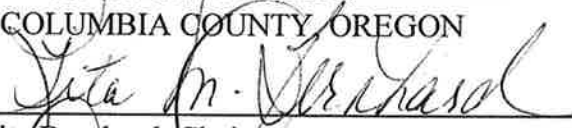
The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(f). Upon coming out of Executive Session, no action was taken by the Board.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13th day of February, 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