

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

March 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 John Knight, County Counsel and Cynthia Zemaitis, Acting Board Secretary.

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order.

DAVE HILL AND LONNY WELTER, PERMANENT LOAD RESTRICTIONS

Dave and Lonny came before the Board to discuss the recommendation that permanent load restrictions be placed on certain County roads. Commissioner Hyde suggests meeting with the log truck drivers and other truckers to discuss the deteriorating road conditions and ask for suggestions on how to resolve the issues. Commissioner Corsiglia stated that he has asked Dave to come up with criteria for the various roads. Commissioner Hyde stated that truckers feel they pay money towards roads through their PUC permits. Commissioner Corsiglia recommends that Dave track all the permits and exactly where the fees paid for them go. Commissioner Bernhard has heard that there are quite a few trucks registered in Columbia County. Commissioner Hyde believes all the big trucking firms are registered outside the County.

Dave Hill indicated that Alder Creek Road is in very bad shape and Longview Fibre, through Mike Pihl, is getting ready to move timber over it. Dave would like authorization to place a load restriction on Alder Creek and have Pihl use Apiary to get the logs to Longview, WA. Alder Creek is at least as bad as Elk Creek with three times the people living there. This would not prohibit them from using it, but they would need to get a permit. Commissioner Hyde recommends meeting with the players and being firm about the County's need to protect the road.

It was agreed that Dave will gather all the information and then a meeting with the loggers and truckers will be scheduled for March 28, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. in Room 308.

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded the motion to place a 25 ton weight limit restriction on Alder Creek Road. After brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

DAVE HILL – UPDATE ON HANKEY ROAD

Dave has talked with the construction workers who have now made the changes needed for traffic flow while the reconstruction of Hankey Road takes place. He believes they are about done with the huge grinder, which will help matters.

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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(e) - REAL PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS:

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

REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION FROM LANE COUNTY

Commissioner Hyde wished to discuss the request from Lane County to contribute to a DC lobbyist for the Safety Net. After performing some research into the lobbyist Lane County has retained he advised Lane County that Columbia County will not be contributing and he suspects many other counties will respond in this fashion as well. Commissioner Hyde does not feel we need to respond to this letter.

STATUS OF NEW MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

John Knight gave a brief update on where the new Museum Association is at. The Historical Society has named Cathy Taylor and Bob Brown as Board members. Tom Holmes will be meeting with them at the St. Helens courthouse museum to begin the process of transferring artifacts to the Association. Mike Lilly will be hosting a meeting with the Association members.

UPDATE ON O&C LEGISLATION

Commissioner Hyde indicated that until the President signs the supplemental budget bill, we will not know whether a one-year extension has been obtained. Even if it is, it will only be at 80 percent, so he will still ask Department Heads to cut their budget by 5 percent. Other than that, we need to look at new ways of revenue, like log truck permits for the road, a gas tax, etc.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13th day of March, 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: _____

Cynthia Zemaitis