

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

WORK SESSION

April 10, 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, Sarah Hanson, Assistant County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order.

WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS ON PISGAH HOME/HOLIDAY ROADS:

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, understands that the Board approved Reeves to haul logs on Pisgah Home and Holiday Road, effective April 1st 2007. Dave is requesting that a permanent weight restriction needs to be placed on Pisgah Home Road and Holiday Road and others. Dave reviewed his recommendation on weights, loads, log trucks, etc. He has outlined some options for consideration to deal with the damage done to the county roads from the heavy trucks; 1) Possibly an agreement similar to Wheeler County where the Logging companies agree to inform what road they will be hauling on, being responsible for any and all damages to roads, responsible for traffic control such as flaggers, traffic signs and/or warning devices as determined by the County roadmaster, etc., 2) Cash deposit to make road repairs, 3) Operating in summer months only, 4) Allow the operation and return the minor roads to gravel as required or 5) Ask ODF to notify the Road Department when logging operations are to occur just to keep us in the loop. Hauling by permit only would allow the county to be kept informed on what logging operations are going on around the county and check the roads for damage. Discussion of one alternative might be to post the roads like they do the bridges and say setting weight limitations at 30 ton for log trucks and 20 ton for dump truck or making legal truck weight on these roads not to exceed 75% of legal weight and then it would be up to the Road Department to determine, post and enforce what 75% would be for each truck.

Both Holiday Road and Pisgah Home Road are in very poor condition and he would expect considerably more damage to the roads from this operation. He took some pictures of both roads so that he could compare the before and after. The weather is starting to get better, so hopefully the damage won't be too bad. Dave mentioned that if there were no weight restrictions, there would be no reason for a logging operation to ask the county for permission to haul on the roads.

June 1st the restrictions come down and there is no need for the truckers to come to the county for permission to use the roads so the County needs to find an answer that doesn't put anyone of out business.

Discussion was held on potential funding options such as: Special transportation permits, local gas tax, timber tax, creating a Special County Road District, Road improvement Bonds, local registration fee, Road user fee, or Transportation Utility fees. Commissioner Hyde stated that we

are the only County in Oregon putting O & C money in roads. In any event, placing a weight restriction on these roads simply means that we need to discuss the road situation with the haulers prior to the hauling operation. After further lengthy discussion of road problems, the Board scheduled additional time at the next work session to discuss this further and Dave Hill to come back with a couple choices on sign designs.

More specific questions from Dave concerning requests from Ed Scott to haul 30-40 loads on Lentz Road and Keith Klecker wanted to talk about hauling a section of logs off Elk Creek Rd. Guess the answer to them at this point, would be "no" and that there will be further discussion at the next work session with the Board .

CAMP WILKERSON PARK HOST:

Jean Ripa, Human Resources stated that there is a request before the Board that has not been processed from Dave Hill about allowing him to recruit for a Park Host. There is a hiring moratorium on and it was suggested that the Board note for the record that when the approval was made last week to allow Dave Hill to hire, that it is a Park funded position, not a General fund position. This is one of the biggest and most popular parks and needs a host by the heavy summer travel time. Discussion of need to have followup at a Department head meeting.

SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Jean Ripa, Human Resources Director, came before the Board with a recommendation from the Safety Committee. A complaint came from a county employee who has to walk directly through the designated smoking areas. Suggestions for correcting: that the County move the bus stop shelter, post No Smoking signs, and move the ashtrays a little further away from the doors. Smoking cessation assistance classes have been discussed but no recommendations on that as of yet. The Board will need to make some type of response and/or decision on these recommendations. Commissioner Corsiglia feels that if the smokers stay 10 feet away from the door, then they are in compliance with the City Ordinance. After discussion, Jean will take the following back to the Safety Committee: Post the City Ordinance signs close to the door, and purchase some covered ashtrays. Discussion to look at some kind of decorative marking that would show the 10 foot area boundary other than just a yellow line.

RESPONSE TO POTENTIAL OF ANY DATA THIEF:

Jean Ripa brought up the issue of Commissioner Hyde's Palm being stolen, among other things. Jean would like to see the Board put some type of open policy in place to deal with mobile data equipment: Palm, lap top computers, etc. The theft should be reported immediately, no personal or private information, notify anyone whose personal information was stolen. If ok, Jean will draft an order for Board review and approval so she can have the support of the Board behind this. The Board directed Jean to move forward with drafting the order.

APPLICABILITY OF FEE TO NON-AGGREGATE MATERIALS:

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, reminded the Board that back in November, 2006, there was discussion on a draft order which provided an interpretation as to the applicability of the Depletion Fee Ordinance to non-aggregate materials. The Board wanted this reviewed by the Surface Mining Advisory Committee for their recommendation. On January 31, 2007, SMAC recommended that the depletion fee should only cover natural resources removed from Columbia County. Staff understands that the SMAC recommendation to generally concur with the draft order of November with the exception that soil would continue to be subject to the Depletion Fee and Transportation Fee since it is depleted within Columbia County such as Soil used for construction, landscaping, gardening but not decorative use. New would be all materials that aren't found in Columbia County. Main concern is what leaves the County Further discussion was held on the fee as it applies to soils, any changes follow the will of the voters and just interpretation of what it says.

John Knight stated his opinion on the Depletion Fee Ordinance and, simply put, it's time to give Surface Mining up to DOGAMI. The Board agreed with that but no decision was made at this time.

After a very long discussion, the Board added approval of Order No. 61-2006 to the consent agenda.

RESTROOM CLEANING & SUPPLIES FOR COUNTY RIDER OFFICES:

Janet Wright wanted to address an issue she has been trying to deal with out at the Road Department, where the restroom for the Columbia County Rider is not being cleaned and no supplies are being furnished. Something needs to be done soon on this and is looking for answers from the Board. This was supposed to be a temporary use and there was no budget established. Janet has this in the upcoming budget to rent space elsewhere, however, until then, something needs to be done. All they want is the restroom stocked. Dave would charge Janet to pay \$165 per month to have that site cleaned. Janet wants a Board member to contact Dave Hill to work this out. Discussion why the road department does their own bidding for services, and why does General Services not bid out one contract that everyone pays their fee for cleaning services. Commissioner Corsiglia moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to direct Bill Potter, General Services to supply cleaning and stocking, including toilet paper for the restroom for the Columbia County Rider Transportation office for the rest of this Fiscal Year. The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF SB3481:

Janet Wright received an e-mail from Tom Fuller requesting a letter of support for HB 3481. Commissioner Hyde has already spoken with Tom and informed him that the Board is not prepared to support a bill they haven't read yet.

JUSTICE COURT DISTRICT:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to direct staff to work up something to accomplish the expansion of the Justice Court to include St. Helens. Under discussion, John talked about the "district" and that there cannot be a Justice Court Judge in the

same district where there is a Circuit Court Judge. Motion carried. Further discussion on "district" includes the entire county, except the towns city limits of St. Helens.

The Board recessed the meeting at 12:55 p.m. and reconvened at 2:10 pm with all present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(h)& (2)(f):

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

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF SB3481:

Commissioner Hyde read up on HB3481 during lunch and reported to the Board as to the content. Basically, it extends the rotation length of agriculture crops status of hardwoods (poplars) grown in agriculture sites - this is in support of SB660 & HB 3481. He is totally in support of this and would agree to send a letter of support. With that, Commissioner Corsiglia moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to send a letter of support to Arnie Rogland, Chair of House Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee in support of HB3481. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 10th day of April, 2007.

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

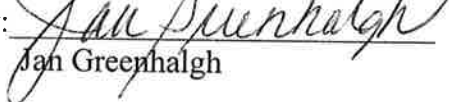
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Chair

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Board Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh