

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

WORK SESSION MINUTES

June 14, 2009

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled work session at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioner Rita Bernhard, Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Commissioner Earl Fisher present, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh Board Secretary.

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order.

UPDATE AND OVERVIEW ON NWRC&D:

Nathan Barnes, Regional Coordinator for NWRC&D, was present to give an overview of the NWRC&D program. He is actually employed by the USDA and works out of the Hillsboro office. There are currently 11 projects happening in Columbia County and he presented a list of those projects. He explained the process for applying and obtaining approval for projects. Janet informed the Board that a green sheet has been submitted for the Fair. Janet also reminded the Board of the upcoming RC&C annual dinner.

CLOSURE OF COUNTY OFFICES ON FURLOUGH DAYS:

Jean Ripa, HR Director, addressed the issue of closing county office on furlough days. If this is implemented, department heads need to communicate with businesses that will be effected by these closures and a press release needs to be done to inform the public. Commissioner Bernhard feels that this is the best possible solution and the less confusing to the public. Jean explained that department heads will not be furloughing, so they would either work those days or take the day off as vacation. Jean will prepare the appropriate language for the consent agenda.

FIREARMS RANGE POSITION:

Jean presented the Board with a rough draft of the job description for the firing range position. There was not a lot of information out there to get compatibles. There are still questions on the funding, hours, etc. The Board wants to see this position at less than half time at this point. Jean asked how they want to move forward on this. Commissioner Bernhard wants to implement this fairly

soon, but there are still some questions out there. After discussion, this item was added to the staff meeting next week for further discussion.

#### HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENTS - POLICY ON INSURANCE:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the recent Parks meeting where discussion was held on insurance requirements for group activities at the county parks. This requirement has hampered the ability of some to hold gatherings or events. She asked Glen to be here today to discuss this issue with the Board.

Glen Crinklaw, Parks Director, understands that some groups do have problems with obtaining the insurance or even understanding the process. The parks have lost bookings over this issue because some just don't have the time or resources to deal with the insurance requirements. Coming from the marketing end of this, Glen feels that there needs to be some clarification on the insurance requirements so that people can understand and meet the requirements. He would recommend looking at the current policy to see if there is any ability to change the parameters, such as who is required to provide an insurance certificate, or not.

We need to look at the intent of the park and the use when requiring insurance.

Glen feels that a wedding should require insurance, but someone renting three cabins at Wilkerson for a family reunion, perhaps should not. Insurance should be required for a defined "event", understanding that the definition of event needs to be made clear. Currently, the policy language is too broad. Spencer feels that if a group is renting the facility and has exclusive use, they would need to obtain insurance. Commissioner Fisher understands that it's not the number of people in the group, it's a question of exclusive use. Glen just wants to remind the Board that parameters need to be defined because it is effecting park usage.

Teresa noted that it can be somewhat expensive for a lot of people to get the insurance.

Joe Schultz understands the problem. Back in the day, a person could go to their insurance company and get a binder. He doesn't know of an insurance company that would do that today. He explained the personal side and commercial side of insurance. There are a lot of different types of endorsements out there and requirements are changing all the time.

After lengthy discussion, Commissioner Hyde suggested that Glen work with Joe Schultz to put together some suggestions on how to deal with this and submit it to County Counsel's office for review. Commissioner Fisher wants to see something that is workable and understandable for the public. If the county has to assume more liability, he is willing to do that.

#### PROJECT APPROVAL PROCESS:

*Work Session Minutes*

7/14/09

Page 3

Sarah was contacted by Dan Brown of the Unmet Needs Committee, asking that she present 2 projects for approval by the Board. She submitted a spreadsheet detailing the projects. With approval, Sarah will give Jan the appropriate language for the consent agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(I):

The Executive Session was canceled.

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

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 14<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2009.

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

Recording Secretary:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Work Session Minutes*

*7/14/09*

*Page 4*

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary

Earl Fisher, Commissioner