

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

WORK SESSION MINUTES

September 8, 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.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(d) - GRIEVANCE:

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

MEDICAL EXAMINER POSITION:

Steve Atchison, District Attorney, first wanted to report that he received a check from the State in the amount of \$474.78 for reimbursement of county Bar dues.

Regarding the Medical Examiner position, Steve is currently looking at Jerry Simmons for this position. He mentioned up front that this position will be spendy considering salary, vehicle, supplies, specialized equipment, etc. Benton County is currently revamping their ME program and is sharing that information with Steve.

Sheriff Dickerson has offered some space out at the County Jail facility. Steve has also received the name of the retired Multnomah County ME who he will be contacting as another option. He cannot confirm any figures yet because of the many unknown variables at this time. Commissioner Hyde suggested it might be cheaper and more efficient to have each of the cities train an officer and, if they respond to a ME call, the county would reimburse the city. Insurance issues were discussed and could most likely be worked out. Steve is willing to look at any possibilities, however, there should be one person to supervise the program.

After discussion, Steve stated that he would get back to the Board on this the first part of January.

VICTIM'S ASSISTANCE GRANT:

Steve Atchison addressed the furlough days for the victim's assistance person and that the grant funding for this position may be jeopardized. Jean noted that this position is not fully funded by the grant and that a good portion is funded through the general fund. If the state audits the grant criteria and it could be defended that the furlough days are coming from the portion of the position paid for through county general funds.

REPORTING STRUCTURE FOR RANGEMASTER:

Jean Ripa addressed the position of the Rangemaster. Mort Fraizer's background check came back with no problem. Jean then presented the cost estimate form and job description. Commissioner Bernhard stated that the Board has requested this position and adjustments will need to be made to fund it. Ruth stated that she has set up a budgetary department for this and believes that \$50,000 will be needed for this budget item, which includes salary, restrooms, supplies, etc. At \$10 per shooter, it comes to 5,000 shooters per year to cover the costs. Because the FBI and the City of Scappoose are not charged for their time at the range, 5,000 shooters is not an attainable number. Sarah stated that, under the agreement with the FBI, they are to share in the maintenance costs. She believes that they also be sharing in the other costs, such as the Rangemaster's salary and needed equipment.

Jean then addressed the structure of this position. Who will the Rangemaster be report to, the Board or another department. Mort will be starting work in approximately 2 weeks, so this decision needs to be made fairly soon. The Board decided to hold further discussions on this at tomorrows staff meeting.

DEBRIEFING ON EVALUATION PROCESS:

This item was rescheduled to the 9/9/09 works session.

REQUEST TO FILL SHOP SUPERVISOR POSITION:

As the Board is aware, Tom Amyette has retired but will be filling in on a temporary basis until the end of the year. Because of this, Dave will need to fill the position of Shop Supervisor. The Board agreed to add approval to the consent agenda.

REPLACEMENT OF COUNTY BRIDGES:

Tristen Wood, Road Department, submitted information on anticipated county bridge replacements; (2) on Beaver Falls, (1) on Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy; and (2) on Pebble Creek. Tristen presented a map of the detours that will go along with the bridge

work. Because Commissioner Hyde is more aware of the Vernonia area, the Board would feel more comfortable with any detour that he would recommend. Dave will meet with Commissioner Hyde on this.

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS PROPERTY:

Sarah Hanson addressed the disposal of surplus property. Commissioner Fisher has been looking at the great amount of items around the courthouse that should be disposed off. He asked that Sarah describe the process for disposal of surplus property to facilitate a large-scale purging of surplus items in the county buildings. After review of the OAR's, Sarah has some recommendations to follow which are listed in her memo. Susi sent a memo to all departments for each to determine any surplus property in their specific offices. To date, she has only received a couple of responses. She believes it would be better to meet with each department individually to take a good look at what is not being used anymore.

Susi is working on a list of items that will be offered to other public agencies and non-profits. Commissioner Fisher will send out an e-mail to all department heads stating that a response is due by 9/11/09.

AREA COMMUNICATION TRUCK:

Sarah explained that there is an agreement between the County and ARES stating that the ARES truck would be stored behind the fence at the Jail facility and that the Sheriff's department would pay for any maintenance of the vehicle and equipment. The new Sheriff is not comfortable with ARES having access to the emergency frequencies and wants to have all radio equipment removed from the ARES vehicle. Sarah noted that the Sheriff is not even a part of this agreement. Commissioner Bernhard stated that this vehicle and equipment was all supplied by volunteers and used as a community service to the public during emergencies, such as traffic accidents, floods, etc. Sarah talked about the need to terminate the agreement between the County and ARES. She understands that CRF&R is willing to take this over and, if that happens, then the agreement would be between CRF&R and ARES. Sarah would suggest that the Board meet with the Sheriff and Derek White to discuss this further at tomorrow's Staff meeting.

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

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(d). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner

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Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to deny the request for a grievance by Dean McMann. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 8th day of September, 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: _____

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary