

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

WORK SESSION MINUTES

January 12, 2010

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled work session at 10:00 a.m. with Commissioner Rita Bernhard and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel, and Jan Greenhalgh Board Secretary. Commissioner Hyde was not present.

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order.

ELK CREEK CULVERT WORK/ROAD CLOSURE:

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, came before the Board with Andrew Niemi, Lower Columbia Engineering, LLC, regarding the installation of a culvert on Elk Creek.

Andrew reviewed the details of the project, which is to replace a smaller culvert with a larger one. The Scappoose Watershed Council has determined this creek to be an important fish spawning ground and important enough to grant the money.

The problem is with the need to close a portion of Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy for approximately 3 weeks to install a culvert. He explained that if the road is not closed, the project would have to be done in stages and would be much more expensive. The Board expressed their major concerns with closing Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy that period of time, especially with no available detour.

Commissioner Bernhard is not at all comfortable with closing the road and would prefer to see the project done in stages. Andrew explained the drawbacks of not closing the road relating to safety for both the workers and the drivers. The approximate trip count is 700-800 per day. Dave agrees this is significant and the reason for his bringing it before the Board to decide. Andrew explained that with the alternative of doing this in stages, there would be intermittent road closures and frustrating to drivers not knowing dates and time and it would at least double the amount of time to complete the project. Again, cost increases would be a factor.

After discussion, the Board stated that they would review this with Commissioner Hyde before making any decision.

DECLARE FORECLOSED PROPERTY AS COUNTY PARK:

Glen Crinklaw, Parks Director: Through foreclosure, the county has possession of real property located on Hwy 47 close to Mist. The property is 4.59 acres

with frontage on Hwy 47 and the Nehalem River. The property has several features of value from a public use perspective, including the river frontage and accessibility. The Parks Advisory Committee was presented information on this property and, after discussions, voted unanimously to recommend the Board declare the property as Columbia County park property.

Glen explained that Mr. Knox, the neighbor across from this property has been using the county property for his sheep which was an agreement he had with the prior owner. Glen feels that has worked out well because it keeps the grass down and some activity on the property. He sees no reason to change this until the time comes that the property is improved for the park.

If the Board is interested in this, Counsel will draft an order to officially declare this property a county park. Cynthia stated that the park needs to be named to include in the Board order. Glen will bring this up at the next Parks meeting to determine some recommended names and bring this matter back before the Board.

WAIVER OF REMONSTRANCE:

Sarah first introduced Robin McIntye, our new Assistant County Counsel.

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the Waiver of Remonstrance for Future Road Improvement LIDs for future Parcel 1 of Tax Map ID No. 4N1W07-BB-00400. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the Waiver of Remonstrance for Future Road Improvement LIDs for future Parcel 2 of Tax Map ID No. 4N1W07-BB-00400.

CAT AGREEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF CDBG #D08029:

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the Grant Administration Contract with Community Action Team for administrative services on CDBG #D08029. The motion carried unanimously.

Work Session Minutes

1/12/10

Page 4

Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary