

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

STAFF MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2012

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Earl Fisher and Commissioner Henry Heimuller.

Others present: Sarah Hanson, Robin McIntyre, Todd Dugdale, Peter Tassoni, Bill Potter, Walt Pesterfield, Steve Atchison, Jean Ripa.

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

The Board discussed the preliminary injunction granted by Judge Grove regarding the CHD property.

There was some discussion on the milage budget for the Board office. No action was taken at this time.

The Board agreed to send a letter of appreciation to the Road department employees for their hard work during the recent snow storm.

Commissioner Hyde received a letter from Cheryl Davis regarding the credit cards fees charged by the County when making payments or even donations. Commissioner Hyde will contact Ms. Davis personally to discuss her concerns.

MANAGEMENT OF LAW LIBRARY:

Sarah Hanson, Steve Atchison and Jean Ripa were present to discuss the proposal by Legal Aid for management of the Columbia County Law Library (CCLA). The proposal is to manage the law library initially for 11 months. Regarding the security of internet access, the agreement required the CCLA to be responsible for all access and it will own the equipment, software, etc. and no county staff will support any electronic equipment.

After discussion, the Board was in favor of moving forward with the proposal and directed staff to prepare the final agreement for approval on the next consent agenda.

FEMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT:

Todd Dugdale reviewed the five new flood hazard mapping methodologies for lands behind levees which are not certified by FEMA. The new methods were developed in response to concerns expressed to FEMA that the current approach, which does not assign any level of flood protection to existing levees if they are not fully certified if flood risk is determined based on the assumption the levee does not exist. Todd explained that FEMA is seeking comment on the new methods by January 30, 2012.

It was noted in the discussion that the flood hazard Zone D would be applied to lands behind levees. This zone signifies an area that may flood but the degree of risk is indeterminate. Property owners in Zone D would not be required by FEMA to purchase flood insurance but mortgage holders would likely require it. The Board expressed concern that these new methods would not result in reduced flood insurance rates based on the Zone D. The expectation from assigning existing levees some degree of flood protection would be that risks would be reduced along with flood insurance rates.

Todd will provide that comment to FEMA.

Todd also explained that development rules in the new Zone D would not be the same as in the 100 year flood plain (Zones A and AE). It would be up to the County or State to prescribe any regulations for new development with Zone D.

It was agreed that Todd would provide general comments to FEMA based on discussion here today.

REQUEST FOR IN-HOUSE RECRUITMENT FOR PO II POSITION:

Walt Pesterfield was present to request permission to internally open a PO II position for promotional purposes. After little discussion, *Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve this request. The motion carried unanimously.*

CZ TRAIL - CHAPMAN AREA PARKING PLAN:

This item was pulled and will be rescheduled.

RESOLUTION TO VARIOUS PERSONNEL ISSUES:

This item was pulled and carried over one week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(h) - LITIGATION:

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

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25th day of January, 2012.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: _____

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Recording Secretary

By: _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh