

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

STAFF MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 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, Sue Martin, Jennifer Cueller, Dan Brown.

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO ASSESSOR'S OFFICE HOURS:

Sue Martin, County Assessor, explained that the primary purpose of the Assessor's Office is to produce a timely and accurate tax roll on behalf of all taxing districts that serve the public. In order to meet that purpose and state mandates with decreased resources, Sue plans to restrict the departments public service hours. After review of the details, the Board expressed their support of this.

BUDGET UPDATE:

Jennifer Cuellar briefly reviewed updates to the FY 13 budget and discussed some other issues that have recently been raised. No decisions were made.

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.

VERNONIA SCHOOL PROJECT COMPLIANCE UPDATE:

The Board met with Jim Tierney and Dan Brown from Community Action Team Flood Recovery. Sarah explained that the Amended IGA that we have with the Vernonia School District and the City of Vernonia, related to the \$4 million State appropriation, allows draws in two phases. The first draw has already happened and the second one is now being prepared. Before the County can release the final payment of State funds, the IGA requires receipt of sufficient information from the School District to establish that they are fulfilling its EHP requirements. Community Action Team (CAT) has prepared a letter to the Board dated May 8, 2012 which sets out the actions that CAT has taken to verify compliance with the EHP requirements and FEMA requirements. They recommend that the second draw be made because they have done everything they can to assure compliance to date and will be keeping an eye on the remaining work, including compliance with the demolition work. Jim asked if any additional information is needed before the draw can be processed. After discussion, the consensus was that would not be required due to other funding being likely and the oversight that CAT has been providing and, with that, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to release the \$1.9 million remaining State funds when requested by the Vernonia School District, based on the recommendation from CAT in its letter dated May 8, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

Dan and Sarah will follow up with Jennifer Cuellar to determine what she will need to process a draw request

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 9th day of May, 2012.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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By: _____

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Recording Secretary

By: _____

Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh