

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BOARD MEETING

WORK SESSION MINUTES

October 9, 2019

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Henry Heimuller and Margaret Magruder. Commissioner Alex Tardif was not present.

Board Discussion:

Sheriff Brian Pixley and Tiffany Johnson, Assistant County Counsel joined the Board of Commissioners in discussion regarding an on-going issue with pigs at large causing property damage and the fact the State of Oregon does not consider a pig livestock. County Counsel Tiffany Johnson will be updating and finalizing an Ordinance to adopt Columbia County Livestock at Large Nuisance, this will come before the Board for Approval.

Public Health:

Mike Paul presented the Commissioners with a regional work plan and a local work plan for program elements 51-01 and 51-02, Regional Public Health Modernization Project and Local Public Health Modernization Project, respectively. Extensive discussion followed regarding the details of the work plan, funding allocation, staffing and budgets for the programs. Mike Paul described funding the proposed Regional Disease Investigator described in the proposal with the new funding plus funding for program element 46, Assurance of Access to reproductive health services. Discussion followed about alignment of the program goals, target populations and the rise of sexually transmitted infections in Oregon and Columbia County. Commissioner Magruder moved to authorize Mike Paul to hire 1FTE Communicable Disease Intervention Specialist to implement the work plan. Commissioner Heimuller seconded. The motion passed.

Public Works Mechanic Position:

Michael Russell, Public Works Director and Tristan Wood, Assistant Director of Public Works came before the Board of Commissioners to follow-up from Sept. 11, 2019 discussion with the board about the need for an additional mechanic. Commissioner Heimuller asked that a more detailed analysis be completed on what types of outsourcing of mechanic work was being done and what this additional mechanic would be able to cover.

After looking over the last years outsourced labor, roughly \$27,000 was spent at various shops for mechanic work. With the previous structure of a Lube Service worker position saw high amounts of out of class work for union personnel at a total of \$23,000 per year. By having an additional mechanic we could potentially see a realistic department financial savings of \$20,000 per year. With the additional mechanic we would see decrease in equipment repair turnaround times, increased efficiency, and see ability to better serve the overall department needs.

Commissioner Magruder made a motion to fill the 2nd mechanic position within Public Works and leave the Lube Service Worker position unfilled. Commission Heimuller seconded. The motion passed.

Solid Waste:

Kathy Boutin-Pasterz, Solid Waste Program Coordinator provided updates on the program. Installation of the new compactor will start October 21 and is scheduled to be completed by Friday November 1st. The installation will not affect the day to day operations of the transfer station. Customers of the transfer station are being notified of the installation and presence of the heavy equipment.

The county had been asked to partner with a fundraiser program for a local nonprofit. The County supports the nonprofit group, but while it cannot partner on the fundraising program, posters will be available at the county for this group and other groups assisting the community.

Plans for a Reuse Center are in the 5 year plan for the transfer station. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of piloting a reuse program for propane tanks after a resident requested them to make into planters. Given that the tanks are currently recycled (after any remaining gas is burned off and the tank is punctured) and some revenue is returned to the county, it was decided at this time the county will not pilot a propane tank reuse program.

Proper disposal and handling of Asbestos. After much discussion, more research is needed on the best way for the county to provide residents information on proper handling of asbestos and disposal options.

Personal Service Contract:

Janet Evans, Community Justice Adult Division Director discussed the contract with Seth Battles, Teens in Transition, that is a part of the ODE/JCP plan. This is an ongoing program that Community Justice is asking to continue. Community Justice will be opening it up to bid before March because there is an increase funding amount. No Action was taken, The Personal Service Contract with Seth Battles will be added to a consent agenda for approval.

Executive Session 192.660(2)(h) Litigation:

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Fair Board Member Interview:

Rachel Kroon met with the Board of Commissioners to interview for position #4 of the Columbia County Fair Board. The appointment of Rachel Kroon will be added to a consent agenda for approval.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: _____
Henry Heimuller, Chair

By: _____
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

By: _____ Not Present _____
Alex Tardif, Commissioner

By: _____
Jacyn Normine
Board Office Administrator