

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 31, 2004

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Rita Bernhard, Commissioner Anthony Hyde, and Commissioner Joe Corsiglia, together with Sarah Tyson, Assistant County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2004 Work Session; and March 24, 2004 Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Bernhard read the consent agenda in full. Item (C) was pulled for discussion. With that, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select-to-Pay for 3/30/04.
- (B) Resolution No. 19-2004, "In the Matter of a Resolution Appointing Janet Wright as the Zone Manager for the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone".
- (C) Order No. 20-2004, (Initiating Vacation Proceedings) "In the Matter of the Proposed Vacation of a Portion of Bert Bishop Road [aka Bishop Creek Road]) Lying Within Section 32, Township 6 North, Range 2 West, Columbia County, Oregon [Petersen Petition]". **PULLED FOR DISCUSSION**
- (D) Appoint Jean LeMont to the Columbia County Budget Committee for a three year term.
- (E) Approve moving Corporal Jeremy Howell to Step 5 of the Corporal Range, effective 10/1/03.
- (F) 2004 Liquor License Renewal for Alston Country Store and Video.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (G) Amendment #13 to the 2003-2005 County Financial Assistance Contract #05-001 with State Mental Health.

The motion carried unanimously.

ITEM (C) - ORDER NO. 20-2004:

Tammy Maygra, 34319 Cannan Road, Deer Island, came before the Board along with her father, Frances Jones of Deer Island. Tammy asked what the recommendation was from the Public Works Director on this proposed vacation. Sarah stated that Dave has not submitted a recommendation as of yet. She gave some background on why this petition for a road vacation was applied for and explained the process that needs to be followed. The Order before the Board is to initiate the vacation proceedings. The Public Works Director will then forward his recommendation to the Board as to whether or not this vacation is in the best interest of the public. The Board is not required to hold a hearing if there are no adjacent property owners other than the petitioner. Tammy Maygra was notified of this vacation because of her concerns, however, any concerns should be dealt with during the recommendation process. Sarah suggested that Tammy get in touch with Dave Hill because there are no records of Ms. Maygra having any interest in property behind the gate.

Tammy clarified that she does not own property behind the gate, she has property down Bishop Creek Road. She has been to the Road Department and spoke with Dave about this issue a number of times. This is a public road and there should not be any signs or any gate. It's wrong for the county to allow these certain individuals to keep the gate up. There are ORS's stating they are in violation and they should be sited. It's wrong to vacate this road just because someone wants it vacated and feels it is not in the best interest of the public.

Thelma Bonar, Warren, commented. In 1996, she personally went through an episode with her own fence. She feels that Mrs. Petersen is being treated much better than she was. The gate on Bishop Creek Road should be taken down until this matter is settled. Mrs. Petersen is in violation and, as an attorney, she knows better.

Sarah explained again that the Order before the Board today is only to initiate the vacation, not approve it. They need to wait for the recommendation from the Public Works Director. After discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve Order No. 20-2004, (Initiating Vacation Proceedings), "In the Matter of the Proposed Vacation of a Portion of Bert Bishop Road [aka Bishop Creek Road] Lying Within Section 32, Township 6 North, Range 2 West, Columbia County, Oregon [Petersen Petition]". The motion carried unanimously.

TOM LINHARES, COUNTY ASSESSOR:

Tom Linhares, County Assessor, stated that Friday is his last day and he just wanted to make a public comment. Ten years ago, the County decided to hire a Human Resources Director. He feels that the County selected the best applicant, Jean Ripa. As it turned out, she also knew a lot about computers and network systems. She is very much appreciated by all of the Department Heads.

CONTRACT FOR APPRAISAL REVIEW:

Commissioner Hyde presented a request for a review of the appraisal, which is required by ODOT for the purchase of the Crown Zellerbach logging road. There is a recommendation to accept the bid from Rick Herman & Associates to complete that review at a cost not to exceed \$3,500. After discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to accept the bid from Rick Herman and & Associates to complete an appraisal review, for an amount not to exceed \$3,500 and direct Counsel to prepare the contract. The motion carried unanimously.

COUNTYWIDE TRANSIT PLAN:

John Knight stated that the Transit Committee met yesterday to discuss the countywide transit plan that has been prepared. This has been approximately a one year process. It became apparent early on that there was a difference of opinion between Carol Landsman and the committee with regards to elderly and disabled transportation in the Vernonia area. Carol is of the opinion that the funding we have won't support the type of service that the seniors have received in the past. Her recommendation for those services was not agreeable to the committee and, as a result, the vote yesterday was to receive the plan without recommendation. They also voted to recommend that the County appoint a blue ribbon committee to develop a transit plan, create a government structure for transit issues and an implementation plan to implement the transit plan. Carol's recommendation was that the county look at the possibility of creating a district down the road when sufficient public education has taken place to support the creation of a district. As a result of Ballot Measure 50, all new districts also have to have a tax base. The original recommendation Carol made, which was changed in the final draft, was that the county look for a turn key provider to provide the entire transit service for the county. The committee recommended a different governing structure. That was to have an entity created, probably a non-profit organization, that would seek funding from different sources. That entity would then seek proposals and provide funding for services. With this structure, the non-profit could possibly provide different services for different areas. The other possibility that was discussed, was a council of governments. The non-profit idea was better liked by the committee because the chances of them getting donations may be higher. John wanted to comment on Vernonia specifically. Carol's plan for ambulatory, non-disabled seniors, and the general public was for the service to provide transportation to the Portland area a couple days per month. For seniors who are disabled or have special needs, the plan was to take them to the Hillsboro senior center, where they could connect up with a Tri-Met lift. The committee felt strongly that the seniors

would not use that service and as a result would lose their access to the city. Another discussion that came up had to do with some of the cars we acquired from COLCO. They talked about buying out ODOT's equity in the cars and just giving them to the Vernonia Senior Center. John discussed this with Jean Palmeter of ODOT and she wasn't too thrilled with that idea. Her thought being that we would be throwing away dollars that could be leveraged in a better fashion. Instead, she recommended that we lease the vehicles to the Vernonia Senior Center and then work with one of the providers, Scappoose or Metro West, to have them agree to help Vernonia with the paperwork. This might be something to look into. That was the extent of the committee's recommendation under discussion yesterday. The committee feels that they have probably fulfilled their task as a committee and are ready to conclude. They recommended that any future committee be made up of community leaders, who may not necessarily be experts on transit issues, but people who can communicate well and assess what the needs are and what will work. John feels that Carol created a good plan, the committee just felt that there is limited dollars and they just need to be more creative in meeting the needs. John is not recommending the Board take any action on the plan today. He will provide copies for the Board to take the time to review, consider the committees recommendations and then determine a response to the state.

SARAH - OLD PORTLAND ROAD & GABLE ROAD:

Sarah received a call from Skip Baker, City of St. Helens, regarding Old Portland Road and Gable Road. Last April, the Board approved an intergovernmental agreement with the City of St. Helens, where the County agreed to improve portions of Gable and Old Portland Roads to city standards. Once completed, the city agreed to accept jurisdiction. The improvements have been completed and the city has approved them. There needs to be a hearing, with notice posted on the road. After discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to authorize Dave Hill to post notice on Gable Road and Old Portland Road. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board recessed the meeting at 11:00 a.m. to hold the Columbia County Development Agency meeting. The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m. Present were Commissioner Bernhard and Commissioner Hyde, together with Sarah Tyson, Assistant County Counsel and Janet Wright. Commissioner Corsiglia was not present.

Commissioner Bernhard called the meeting back to order.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH ARAMARK:

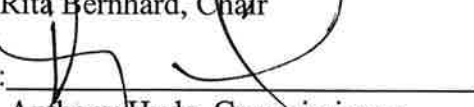
Sarah stated that there has been a settlement with Aramark for the fire at the Jail. Northland has submitted the settlement agreement, which needs to be approved by the Board. After discussion, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the settlement agreement with Aramark. The motion carried unanimously.

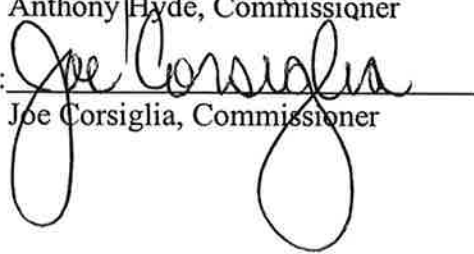
Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 31st day of March, 2004.

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

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh