

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

April 6, 2005

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

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2005 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

None.

PUBLIC HEARING: BLAHA ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:

Sarah Tyson stated that this is the time set to hear objections on the proposed assessment for the Blaha Road improvement that have been completed. The Board has a memo from the Public Works Director outlining the final costs, which is just over \$1,050 per parcel. According to our improvement ordinance, we have to give all the record owners of the property the opportunity to come before the Board and object either in writing or orally to the proposed assessment. The Board does not have to make any decisions today on what the final assessment will be. The County received one written comment from Theresa and Adam Sommer's. They purchased property on Blaha Road in August, however that was prior to the time the Board approved the order initiating the improvements. Therefore, it is not an issue for the Board, rather an issue between the buyer and seller. That is the only written comment that has been received. There were a total of four transfers of property and three of the four sales were recorded prior to the Board order being approved. There was one deed recorded afterwards which was recorded on 2/9/05 by Mr. Hammergren but no written comments have been received to date.

The hearing was opened to allow testimony.

Stephen Hammergren, 33395 Blaha Road, Warren: He purchased property on Blaha Road in February, 2005 and the seller made no disclosure of this assessment even though he was quite aware of it. The Board Order was not recorded and was therefore, when the title search was done, it was not found. He does not feel he owes the county for this assessment. He started the purchase sometime in November 2004 and when he mentioned this to the seller (Mr. Phillips), he said he thought he might of mentioned this to the realtor but was not sure. Again, he does not feel he is responsible for this assessment because he didn't own the property when this was done.

Adam Sommers, 33343 Blaha Road, Warren: He has the same concern here but understands that the Board didn't adopt the order until after he purchased the property. Although he still did not know about this assessment. He just wanted to make a formal objection to say that he doesn't feel he is responsible for this cost because he was not aware of the pending assessment. He actually put \$5,000 of his own money into paving the upper part of the road and then 2 days later he got a bill from the County for the lower part of the road. He understands that Mr. Hammergren has more of an argument because he purchased the property after the order was approved but not yet recorded.

Dave Hill, Public Works Director, went over the costs for the road improvements. He originally estimated the costs to be \$34,500 and the total cost, including the 15% administrative fee, was \$33,171. Dave wanted to mention that Norm Anderson called the Road Department who owns a number of parcels along Blaha Road. Mr. Anderson said that Craig and Colleen DeShazer own a couple of other parcel that may be accessed Blaha Road. After review, Dave feels if homes were built on those parcels, they would access Bennet Road, not Blaha Road. Again, this is only his opinion. There was recently a minor partition on DeShazer's property and the Planning Commission would have determined where the access was. That needs to be researched to see what their decision was. Commissioner Bernhard mentioned for the record that there is an option for the property owners to pay this assessment in payments over time.

The hearing was closed and the Board will make a decision at a later date.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify Select-to-Pay for 4/5/05.
- (B) Order No. 9-2005, (To Execute and Deliver Quitclaim Deed) "In the Matter of Selling Certain County-Owned Real Property Known as Tax Account No. 05-10 8329-010-00400UI to Nels C. Christensen and Mona L. Christensen"
- (C) Order No. 11-2005, "In the Matter of the Recording of a Statement of Claim Concerning Mineral Right Held by Columbia County in Tax Account No. 01-01 3212-014-06500".
- (D) Approve 2005 Liquor License Renewal for Multnomah Channel Yacht Club

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (E) Amendment #40 to the 2003-2005 County Financial Assistance Contract #05-001 with State Mental Health

- (F) Amendment #1 to the Personal Services contract with Shiels Oblatz Johnson, Inc. to amend the completion date to July 31, 2005.

The motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST BY FRIENDS OF THE NRA TO USE THE PISTOL RANGE:

Jerry Simmons, Undersheriff, came before the Board to address this matter. There is a group of individuals that are trying to form a "Friends of the NRS" group for Columbia County. They are looking at having a fundraiser on August 13, 2005. They would be working with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. On August 13th, they would have a class on gun safety and then go up to the pistol range to do some light fire. There will be one on one instructors during the shooting. The NRA and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has liability insurance. That said, the request is to have the Board grant permission to use the county pistol range on August 13, 2005. Sarah explained that an order would be needed, along with the insurance information. After discussion, there was a consensus to have Sarah work with Jerry on this.

REQUEST BY HUDSON GARBAGE TO ADD CURBSIDE RECYCLING:

Matt Tracy, Solid Waste Administrator, came before the Board to introduce a request by Hudson Garbage Service to add curbside recycling in the Clatskanie and St. Helens area. He asked that the Board schedule a hearing date to review this proposal. With that, a hearing date was set for Wednesday, April 20, 2005 at or after 10:00 am.

MEASURE 37 - REQUEST BY GRACE BOWLIN FOR HARDSHIP FEE WAIVER:

Todd Dugdale brought before the Board a request by Grace Bowlin for a hardship fee waiver for the filing of her Measure 37 claim. Ms. Bowlin has submitted her request in writing along with the pertinent financial information. Based on this information, staff would recommend approval of this waiver. With that, Commissioner Corsiglia moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve a Measure 37 hardship fee waiver for Grace Bowlin. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT - STAGGERING OF TERMS:

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, stated that with the resignation of Mike Herdrich, there is one vacant regular position on the Planning Commission which needs to be filled. Todd has contacted both alternates, Paula Lichatowich and Diane Pohl to see if either were interested in being appointed as a full time member. Paula is willing to move up to the regular position but Diane would like to remain as an alternate. However, the Board recently received a letter from Diane, resigning from her alternate position because of her duties as Mayor of Clatskanie. Two interest forms have been received for the Planning Commission. That said, staff would recommend appointing Paula as a regular member of the Planning Commission and appoint Benita Saatvedt as an alternate. That would still leave one alternate position vacant.

With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved to appoint Paula Lichatowich to a regular position on the Planning Commission and appoint Benita to the alternate position. Commissioner Corsiglia wanted to take the time to interview the applicants before making any decisions. Commissioner Bernhard wants to make sure that whoever is appointed, that they attend the meetings and participate because there is a lot of time involved in serving on this committee. Commissioner Corsiglia is not in favor of making any appointments until he has interviewed the applicants. Commissioner Bernhard and Commissioner Hyde stated that it has been the policy to move the alternates up to regular status and then appointment another alternate. Commissioner Hyde would agree with not appointing Benita at this time, but would agree with appointing Paula to the regular position. Commissioner Bernhard amended her motion to just move Paula Lichatowich from an alternate position up to the full time Planning Commission position. Commissioner Hyde seconded the motion. Commissioner Corsiglia opposed. The motion carried.

Todd presented his recommendation for the staggering of terms. The way it sits, all terms would expire on December 31, 2007. After review, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Corsiglia seconded to approve the staggering of Planning Commission terms as presented by staff. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde commented on the number of meetings going on with the State budget and the County budget.

The Board attended the City/County dinner in Clatskanie last week. It was a very productive meeting.

Commissioner Hyde commented on the Regional Emergency Management Group meeting he attended last Friday. A lot of discussion was held on the Homeland Security grants.

He was in Salem yesterday afternoon attending a meeting on the State budget.

COMMISSIONER CORSIGLIA COMMENTS:

Commissioner Corsiglia enjoyed the City/County meeting last week and felt it was very productive.

He attended the Traffic Safety Committee this morning where Lonny Welter gave a presentation on the condition of county roads.

Commissioner Corsiglia announced that there is now an "800" number for people to call if they suspect drug activity in their neighborhood.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard attended the Children's Fair in Clatskanie last weekend. This has typically been held in October, but they have changed that to the spring. That may be why the attendance was not as good as hoped. A good thing was the bike helmets that were provided at a low cost or free for those who could not afford them.

She also attended a town hall meeting on Sunday at Warren County Inn where Senator Johnson spoke. The main topic was the State budget.

The County is still working on the RFP for transportation services and hopefully this should be out within the next couple of weeks.

She also enjoyed the City/County meeting. She was very pleased to see the positive comments made during the meeting.

She attended an informational meeting at the Tech Center having to do with the Meth problems in the county. It gave people ideas on what to look for if they suspect meth use in their neighborhood and who to contact.

There was no Executive Session held.

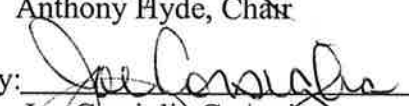
With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 6th day of April, 2005.

NOTE: An audio tape of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: 
Joe Corsiglia, Commissioner

By: 
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: 
Jan Greenhalgh