

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 13, 2010

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Earl Fisher and Commissioner Rita Bernhard, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

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

MINUTES:

Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2010 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

*Richard Melton, 55141 Columbia River Hwy, Scappoose:* He has been before the Board a number of times asking for answers about the harassment from Robert Crain regarding Richard's security lighting, porch light and shutting down his garage sale. The Board told him he would need to obtain a permit but his question is what permit does he need. He reminded the Board that these lights have been there since the 1950's and he purchased this property from the State in the 1980's with these lights already installed. The sign was also there. The OSP, ODOT and the County Sheriff approved the lights for the safety reasons. Traffic coming in and

out of his driveway can be dangerous because it comes directly out onto Highway 30.

Todd stated that his department is not currently pursuing anything regarding the lighting on Mr. Melton's property. However, there was some wiring Robert did that needed a permit and inspection. Todd asked that Robert get him his specific issues in writing and he will respond to them.

*Stephanie Klepel, 34067 Sykes Road, St. Helens.* She is here today regarding the petition for an initiative to recall the property taxes for the hospital project, that was turned into the Elections Office back in December 2009. The petitions were submitted and signatures verified prior to the deadline. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, Pam Pullium with the Hospital Board requested a copy of this initiative, which they received. They were given plenty of time to review the petition and allow it to be voted on in the March 2010 election. Siting that they did not have enough time to review the petition, the Hospital Board requested that the election be held over to May 2011. The petitioners are requesting that the Board put this initiative on the May 2010 ballot. When collecting signatures, there was an overwhelming response to seeing this petition on the ballot. As the governing body over this Hospital Board, this Board has the power to recommend this be on the March 2010 ballot.

Commissioner Hyde stated that the Commissioner's are not the governing body over the Hospital District. Commissioner Bernhard stated that they have their own elected Board and this Commission is not over that Board. Commissioner Hyde stated that this Board is no more the governing body over the Hospital Board than they are over a fire district, 911 or other special districts. Stephanie stated that, according to ORS 441 which governs hospitals and takes precedence over other ORS's, this Board is considered by definition the governing body. Again, she is asking that this

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*Board recommend to the Hospital Board that the election be on the ballot in May 2010.*

*Sarah stated that she will have to research the ORS to determine whether or not this Commission has any oversight over the Hospital Board.*

*Stephanie then read HB3251 into the record. Under subsection (f) clearly states that making a capital expenditure in excess of \$1 million for any of the activities listed is not allowed. It is her understanding that the Hospital Board has spent at least \$1.2 million.*

*After discussion, the Board directed staff to research the statutes and, based on those findings, will then consider this request.*

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for 1/5/10 & 1/12/10.
- (B) Reappoint Guy Letourneau to the Columbia County Planning Commission for a (4) year term.
- (C) Appoint Louis Raffin to the Columbia County Drainage Vector Control Board for a (4) year term.
- (D) Reappoint Steve Simpier and Richard Sorenson to the Columbia County Drainage Vector Control Board for a (4) year term.

- (E) Reappoint Robert Anderson, Mike Greisen, Lee Knowlton, Karen Ladd and Terri Levie to the Ambulance Service Advisory Committee for a (3) year term.
- (F) Appoint Melissa Zimmer to the Ambulance Service Advisory Committee for a (3) year term.
- (G) Appoint Nina Reed to the Northwest Oregon Housing Authority for a (5) year term.
- (H) Order No. 90-2009, "In the Matter of Re-Appointing Members to the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Commission for 2010".
- (I) 2010 Social Gaming License for the St. Helens Moose Lodge #591
- (J) Approve Personnel Action for Jan Greenhalgh.
- (K) Approve Unmet Needs Committee's request for a temporary loan in the amount of \$28,905.53 from the County Flood Recovery fund pending reimbursement from Community Development Block Grant (D08016 and D08017) , subject to approval of the Columbia County Finance Director.

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (L) Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Columbia County 4-H and Extension Service District, the State of Oregon acting on behalf Oregon State University and its Oregon State University Extension Service and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (M) GIS Data License Agreement with Taxography.
- (N) Approve the ODOT Public Transit Division STO Agreement No. 26356 and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROJECT UPDATE:**

Derek White updated the Board on the EOC project, the funding and matching requirements. He noted that in-kind match as allowed by the grant. He reviewed the grant program, the application and that they are moving forward on this. The approximate cost for this project is \$625,000.

**REQUEST TO ATTEND DEBRIS MANAGEMENT COURSE:**

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Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, was present to address an opportunity for disaster awareness training in Maryland. The training will be reimbursed by FEMA and slots are currently available. He is asking for approval for out of state travel for Roy Weedman to attend this course. After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve out of state travel for Roy Weedman to attend the Debris Management Course in Maryland. The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hyde stated that our federal delegates are back from Washington, DC and are more available to meet with us. He has already had meetings with Congressman Wu, Senator Johnson and Senator Merkley on various issues for Columbia County.

The Board will be attending the town hall meeting in Vernonia with Senator Wyden this afternoon.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Fisher asked that the Board concur with authorizing staff to develop an ordinance regarding the County Commissioner's positions becoming non-partisan. The Board concurred.

He has had discussions with Clatsop County regarding dikes in the various parts of both counties and working together on re-mapping and other work needed on the levees. He will be sharing this information with Todd Dugdale who is overseeing this project.

He read into the record a letter received from the State Department of Human Services regarding their review of our Vital Statistics. It was a very positive letter and he just wanted to share it.

Commissioner Fisher asked for an update on the pending contract for mental health services. Sarah will be drafting the contract for Board approval, but it has not yet been finalized.

Regarding a nuisance ordinance, this has been discussed before and no decision was made on if we should or shouldn't have one. Sarah explained that when this was discussed some years ago, the devil was in the details - what constitutes a nuisance. The Commissioner's determined that they did not have the resources to enforce this type of ordinance and therefore did not pursue it. Commissioner Fisher stated that, with dwindling resources, there are things people may want, but may have no funding to regulate it.

**COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:**

Last Friday, Commissioner Bernhard spoke to the Scappoose High School civics class about government structure. She continues to be amazed on how smart these students are about our government.

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She attended the NWACT meeting last week. There was a huge crowd of people present, but mostly from the coastal area because of the work to be done on the Dennis Edward tunnel on Hwy 26 and the road closures concerns. Discussion was also held on the bridge work on JP West Rd and ODOT's involvement.

She also attended the NOHA meeting last week. They continue to work on revamping the whole HAP process and Section 8 vouchers. They are currently going through the process to hire a new Director.

She attended Geneva Shadley's funeral services. Geneva was a very active community member and will be missed.

The Board will be attending an AOC legislative meeting on Monday.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Recording Secretary:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Jan Greenhalgh