

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

February 24, 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 Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2010 Board meeting and February 17, 2010 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Richard Melton, 55141 Columbia River Hwy, Scappoose: He came before the Board to inform them that he just came from the LDS department trying to obtain his permits for his lights, sign and garage sale. He was informed that the LDS department has never ordered any signs or lights be removed or that they shut down his garage sale. Richard stated that Robert Crain had ordered his signs and porch light down. He submitted a before and after photo of the lighting on his property. He needs to know what permits are needed to put his light and signs back up and to hold a garage sale. Commissioner Bernhard understands Richard only needed a permit for his lights, not the political sign or to hold a garage sale. She is

not sure what he wants from the Board. Richard stated that he is being told different things from the Board and LDS and just wants some answers.

Commissioner Fisher stated that he will personally talk with the LDS staff to determine what is needed to get this straightened out.

Al Petersen, 155 Clark St., St. Helens: He is the owner of AKAAN Architecture & Design, a local business in St. Helens. He is not here to complain but simply wants to educate the Board on the county's RFP process. The county recently issued two RFP's, one for the new transportation facility and the other for the courthouse facility study. He feels there are some ways for the county to support local businesses, ways that are allowed by statute. He submitted information on ORS's and OAR's that can be included in the RFPs that give credit to small local businesses. This is not required, but is allowed and it would help boost local businesses and jobs. Again, he is not here to complain, just to suggest this be done in the future. Commissioner Bernhard feels that it has always been the practice to use local businesses when they can. Al stated that may be the case, but the RFP's do not reflect that. The Board thanked Al for this information and will be taking it under consideration.

1ST READING OF ORDINANCE #2010-1: NON-PARTISAN COMMISSIONERS:

Sarah presented the Board with the most current draft of Ordinance No. 2010-1 for review. Commissioner Bernhard stated that this ordinance was discussed at the Democratic Central Committee meeting last night and they are not in support of this and also had some questions on the election process. Sarah explained that this would follow the same election process as all other non-partisan positions. Commissioner Hyde stated that this would also allow non-partisan citizens to vote in the primary. After discussion, Sarah gave the first reading of Ordinance No. 2010-1, "In the Matter of Designating the Office of Columbia County Commissioner as

Nonpartisan, Referred to the November 2010 General Election". The second reading will be held after the public hearing set for March 31, 2010.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for 2/23/10.
- (B) Cancel the March 23, 2010 Work Session; March 24, 2010 Board & Staff meetings.
- (C) Appoint Derek White as the alternate on the Unmet Needs Committee for the Commissioner's position.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENT:

- (D) Irrevocable Instructions to Release Termination of Waiver of Remonstrance Held in Escrow, and authorize the Chair to sign at closing of sale of property to the Columbia River Peoples Utility District.
- (E) Termination of Waiver of Remonstrance (Parcel 2) and authorize the Chair to sign at closing of sale of property to the Columbia River Peoples Utility District.
- (F) Letter to Kerr Contractors acknowledging rock missing of mineral leasehold, Goble Quarry.
- (G) Ratify Memorandum of Understanding with the Columbia County Family Violence Council.
- (H) Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Clatskanie for Justice Court services.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

No comments.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

No comments.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard reported on the following meetings and events she attended the past week - Public Health meeting yesterday; Oregon Solutions meeting in Vernonia; Democratic Central Committee meeting last night; Policy Academy alumni meeting in St. Helens at the Tech Center; the Sheriff's town hall meeting on nuisances; CAT meeting; Ethics training on Monday; Law Enforcement meeting on Saturday; Chamber Awards dinner, CCMH meeting on mental health services; and the ESD meeting regarding CASA.

The Board recessed the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 11:30 with all present.

RECOVERY ZONE BONDS - VERNONIA SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Sarah spoke to the Board regarding the Recovery Zone bonds allocation. The Board intends to use their allocation for the economic development bonds for the Vernonia School District. Commissioner Hyde will find out if the Biomass facility wants to make use of the facility bond allocation on Friday and, if so, will get a description and information for the developer.

After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the notice of intent to use Recovery Zone bond allocation for the economic development bonds for the Vernonia School District and authorize Commissioner Fisher to sign. Commissioner Hyde declared a potential conflict of interest and abstained from the vote. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(h):

The Board immediately recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(h). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to ratify the letter from the Columbia County Commission on Children and Families verifying termination of the contract with CASA as of March 31, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Further, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to direct staff to pursue a scope of work with Banner Non-Profit to begin services April 1, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

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BRIAN LITTLE - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE:

Brian Little, Economic Development Coordinator, was present to give the Board an update on the economic development program. He submitted information on a 2 year proposal, a 501 C(6) organization would be set up, with 12 agency representatives and 13 private sector members. He will have a full report back to the Board by the end of March. With nothing further coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 24th day of February, 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: _____

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

Recording Secretary:

By: _____

Rita Bernhard, Commissioner

By: _____

Jan Greenhalgh