

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

April 28, 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 April 20, 2010 Work Session; April 21, 2010 Board meeting; and April 21, 2010 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

None.

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION AWARDS:**

Jan Kenna, CCCC Director, came before the Board and introduced Paulette Lichatowich and Gina Harrington, who operate the community meals site. Gina reported that, since last May, this program has grown to feeding over 800 people with 60 plus volunteers. This is simply a service that needed to be met and has been. As people come to the meal site,

they are making friendships and it's a very heart warming experience for everyone.

Paulette talked about the community gardens and the Gardening and Produce Sharing - there are individuals, churches and others who are growing gardens specifically for this program. Even with that, the program continues to be in need of seeds and donated fruit and produce. They have a list of volunteers that will pick the fruit and vegetables.

Commissioner Hyde suggested that Paulette meet with Janet Wright, the County's PIO Officer, to get some of this information on the county website.

The Board wanted to thank this group for what they do for the benefit of our community. They are commended for the work they put in to this.

Jan Kenna, along with RSVP Director Nancy Harwood, want to acknowledge the RSVP volunteers and the volunteers in the DA's office for the time they give to help our community. The Board individually thanked each of the following volunteers and presented them with a card and plant: Mary Dahlgren, Mary Kucera, Shannon Fitzgibbons, Sally Norborm, Dena Chesney, Carmel Chatterton, Elaine Widmer, Gina Harrington, Paulette Lichatowich. Again, the Board thanked all of the volunteers for giving their time to their community.

At this time, Commissioner Fisher read a portion of letter received from Oregon Commission on Children & Families commending Jan Kenna for her outstanding work on Commission and Children & Families program and meeting the hard challenges we face. The Board also wanted to recognize and acknowledge Jan for her hard work and then presented her with flowers.

**PROCLAIM MAY 16-22, 2010 AS "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK":**

Commissioner Hyde read a proclamation into the record, proclaiming May 16-22, 2010 as "Emergency Medical Services Week". Afterwards, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve this proclamation. The motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATION OF ENHANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Paul Koch, Koch Consulting, presented the ELEAC report. He was hired by the County to work with the 20 member Columbia County Enhanced Law Enforcement Advisory Committee whose mission was to determine what steps can be taken to improve law enforcement in Columbia County. Paul reviewed the mission statement, along with the guidelines and instructions from the Commissioners. The Committee has now completed their task and prepared a final report with 3 options and recommendations which is now before the Board for review and consideration.

Jeff Dickerson, County Sheriff, was present and wanted to thank Paul for the efforts he put into this project and keeping everyone on track. He also wanted to thank Commissioner Fisher for attending all the meetings and all of the committee members for their hard work on this. The Sheriff's office is in complete support of the recommendations submitted by the Committee.

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*Commissioner Bernhard asked about any possible changes in law as a result of the Arizona issue. Paul feels that the committee is willing to come back and work on this again, if and when that might be necessary.*

*Commissioner Hyde is intrigued with the report and excited about looking at it in more detail. A lot of work needs to be done to determine where this will go and building a campaign for support.*

*Commissioner Fisher wanted to thank everyone who participated in this process and the working together to come up with a final report.*

*The Board will be reviewing this report in more detail prior to taking any action.*

**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 4/27/10.
- (B) Approve job description for the position of Emergency Management Director.
- (C) Authorize the Finance Director to create a Facility Improvement Reserve Fund for the proceeds from the sale of fairground property.
- (D) Resolution No. 17-2010, "In the Matter of the Application of Columbia County to Participate in the Assessment and Taxation Grant".

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (E) Building Permits.Oregon.gov Participation Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (F) Department of Energy Agreement #SEP 10-1100 HVAC Upgrades and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (G) License and Indemnity Agreement with the United States Marshals Service and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

A press release will be going to today from General Caldwell regarding soldiers, some from Columbia County, being decommissioned. A bus carrying the soldiers should be arriving on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. There are some events in the works to recognize them.

He and Commissioner Fisher met with Senator Merkley's chief of staff Monday morning.

He was in Medford last week to attending an O&C meeting. They are working on some immediate legislation for the timber funding and then will work on the 10 year extension.

On Monday, the county held a "Quake Shake" drill at 10:00 a.m. These types of exercises are important should they be needed.

The Board met with USDA Director recently appointed by President Obama.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Fisher commented on the proclamation just approved by the Board, recognizing Emergency Medical Services Week. After working with the fire departments and EMTs, he knows first hand what a wonderful job they do and is very impressed with their work. He truly appreciates their hard work, long hours and their dedication.

This coming Friday, Clatskanie will be opening a medical clinic in Clatskanie. It's been two years since there has been any medical services in Clatskanie.

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Last Wednesday night the Board attended a meeting in Astoria hosted by DSL regarding possible rule changes on levee re-certifications. There were some major changes being proposed and a lot of people are not happy with them. Since that meeting, DSL has withdrawn the changes.

He attended a ROCN Budget meeting. They are also suffering economic stress and having to make cuts in police agencies.

He also attended an ESD meeting last Wednesday night. They talked about the connection between the education community and mental health. After discussions with CCMH, it was determined that there is a good system in place connecting the two.

On Saturday, he was in St. Helens at the Master Gardeners garden sale and, although he was 1/2 hour early, there were still about 150 people in line in front of him. They have a great variety of tomatoes and were selling quick. There was a lot of people who purchased more so they could donate the produce to the Community Meals program.

#### **COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Bernhard left last Wednesday for Pendleton to attend the WIB conference. There was a speaker at the Workforce Investment Act workshop explaining the process on how they have been dealing with this at the federal level. He believes that workforce is not a big concern in DC and we need to let our legislators know that this is a priority.

She attended the CAT meeting yesterday. They continue to talk about the needs and services they provide.

She commented on the Quake Shake held yesterday at the courthouse.

She enjoyed the morning meeting in Vernonia regarding the Natural Resource Center. She was impressed with so much momentum, excitement and enthusiasm. That was also evident at the afternoon Oregon Solutions Team meeting regarding the new school building.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(e):**

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(e). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the License and Indemnity Agreement with the US DEA and authorize the Chair to sign. The motion carried unanimously.

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***The Board recessed the meeting at 11:25 a.m. and reconvened at 12:00 noon in the Riverview Room. All Board members were present.***

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS PLAN:**

The Board and Janet Wright met with Eric Schmidt and Laura Leland who presented AOC's Strategic Communications Plan, the mission statement and goals. Lengthy discussed ensued.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 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