

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

August 11, 2010

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Earl Fisher and Commissioner Rita Bernhard, together with Robin McIntyre, 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 Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2010 Board meeting; August 4, 2010 Board meeting; and August 4, 2010 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Jean Lewis, 2600 Gable Road, St. Helens: As some background, she operates the Teen Court program which is a great program and going very well. She also oversees the Student Cert program, which is now second in the nation and noted that the CRPUD just recently donated \$1,000 for this years program. She works with a group of kids who, this last year, have raised over \$1,600 for Haiti rescue effort. These kids are awesome and very caring. Her purpose in being here today is that these programs need money. The After-School Program no longer has funding. We are losing so many kids in the 7th and 8th grades and, through her program, students have volunteered their time for tutoring, mentoring and after school programs.

But they still need funding. If we can catch these kids early enough, hopefully they won't get lost in the system. Many of these kids don't have a place to live or food to eat and are basically in survival mode. She is working to find a place for temporary housing, because if kids don't have a place to stay or food to eat, they start stealing. This is the "Couch Kids" program and although she is working with Jan Kenna on parts of this program, she is responsible for raising funds.

Commissioner Bernhard suggested Jean contact Community Action Team and Commissioner Hyde asked that Jean get something in writing to the Board articulating the programs, needs, etc.

DELIBERATIONS: TIM BERO PLAN AMENDMENT & ZONE CHANGE:

This is the time set for deliberations, "In the Matter of the Application of Tim and Michelle Bero for a Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment and Zone Change for a Parcel Directly North and West of the Vernonia Airport".

Robin brought the Board up to date. This application was approved by the Board in March 2009 and was subsequently appealed to LUBA. The appellant raised 7 assignments of error, all of which LUBA denied except for one. LUBA remanded the case back to the County on the grounds that the County did not adequately establish that the increased noise of air traffic would not adversely affect the adjoining residential uses if the subject property was developed as proposed under the amendment. Specifically, the remand directs the Board to identify the increased air traffic that may result from the uses authorized by the exception and determine that, if that increase in air traffic is incompatible with the adjoining uses, to determine what reasonable steps can be taken to eliminate or mitigate. Notice was sent to interested parties allowing for written testimony until July 14, 2010, on this one specific issue. The record is now closed and it is time for deliberations.

Glen Higgins, Chief Planner, came before the Board to give the staff report. The applicant submitted additional information on anticipated increase in air traffic. The Noise Study concludes that all existing residences are well outside the 65 DNL noise contours and that mitigation is not required. In summary, the plan amendment and exception meets the requirements of OAR 660-004-0020(2)(d) that the proposed increase in air traffic impacts will be compatible with adjoining development. Staff agrees and would recommend that the Board tentatively approve this application.

After little discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to tentatively approve PA 08-02 and ZC 08-02 with specific conditions and direct staff to prepare appropriate findings and Ordinance for adoption. The motion carried unanimously. The Board thanked staff for the extreme amount of time put into this application process.

DELIBERATIONS: AMEND CCZO USE AND STANDARDS FOR DOG KENNELS:

This is the time set for deliberations, "In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Zoning Ordinance to Specify Use Restrictions and Development Standards for Dog Kennels".

Robin stated that the Board held a public hearing on July 14, 2010. The Board took testimony and then closed the hearing but held the record open until July 28, 2010 for additional written testimony.

Todd Dugdale, LDS Director, came before the Board to present the revised staff report. Todd reviewed the portions of the report highlighting the changes and optional amended language.

Under deliberations, Commissioner Bernhard commented that this has been a very long process and staff has done an excellent job on getting the information to the Board. The County welcomes kennels and wants to retain them, but without impacting the neighboring property owners. She thanked everyone who had involvement in this process and believes this is a good compromise for all. Commissioner Fisher appreciates the work that Todd, his staff and the citizens have put into this issue. The Board has heard a lot on this topic in staff reports, testimony, comments, etc. He believes this is an important issue for this county and really appreciates the legitimate points of view that have been shared and participated. Commissioner Hyde echoed comments on appreciation of staff, the task force members and members of the public. It has been implied that this is a knee jerk reaction due to one particular situation, however, what it did was bring to light the need for standards, which he believes helps the kennel industry. Todd also wanted to thank the Task Force members and his staff Erika Owen for their work on a somewhat unpleasant issue.

After discussion, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to tentatively approve TA 10-02 and direct staff to prepare findings and an ordinance for adoption that includes the following: the Planning Commission's recommended changes, as modified by staff; revisions allowing kennels in RR-5 zones as conditional use/home occupations if the site is at least 5 acres and the kennel will include no more than 15 dogs; and revisions allowing overnight boarding in the General Commercial and Highway zones. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Robin pulled Item (S) and carried over. With no other changes/additions, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for 8/10/10.
- (B) Order No. 49-2010, "In the Matter of Allowing Jessica Kooyman and Nick Campbell to Serve Alcohol at a Wedding to Take Place at Camp Wilkerson on August 15, 2010".
- (C) Order No. 50-2010, "In the Matter of Allowing Amanda Stonehouse to Serve Alcohol at a Wedding to Take Place at Camp Wilkerson on August 22, 2010".
- (D) Order No. 51-2010, "In the Matter of Exempting a Personal Services Contract for the Provision of GIS Consulting Services from the Screening and Selection Procedures of the Personal Services Contracting Rule"

- (E) Ford Family Foundation Grant No. 20100108 for CASA Program Expansion and authorize Jan Kenna to sign.
- (F) Authorize the Land Development Services Director to make a promotional appointment from the position of Environmental Specialist I to the Environmental Specialist II.
- (G) Approve application with the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs to obtain annual VA funding and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (H) Approve a partial waiver the \$1066 conditional use/home occupation application fee for Jeff Saunders, reducing the fee to \$533.
- (I) Approve the waiver of a septic tank abandonment fee of \$50 and the electrical permit fee of \$79.52 for Lucille Smith but require the \$100 code enforcement investigative fee be paid.
- (J) Approve an increase in FMA II funds for Carl Stern, from \$50,337.75 to \$53,499, and for John Brewer, from \$48,949.50 to \$51,371.01.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:

- (K) Amendment #2 to Elderly and Disabled and Public Transportation Contract with Metro West Ambulance Service, Inc.
- (L) Intergovernmental Agreement between Columbia County and the Clatskanie People's Utility District for the Homeland Security Emergency Management Commission and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (M) Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Columbia County and the Clatskanie People's Utility District for the Homeland Security Emergency Management Commission and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (N) Agreement with Clatsop County for Use of Juvenile Detention Facility and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (O) Public Services Contract between Columbia County and Shooting Partners, Inc.
- (P) Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for Document Publishing, Preprocessing and Delivery and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (Q) GIS Data License Agreement with Womble Carlyle Ecology Innovations, LLC.

- (R) Amendment #5 to the Oregon Commission and Families 2009-2011 County Intergovernmental Agreement COL0911 and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (S) Demolition/Deconstruction Contract by and between Columbia County and Custom Excavating by Dean Larson, Inc. (***PULLED AND HELD OVER***)

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde participated in an interview with CNN on Thursday regarding the Vernonia School project. It was good to get this issue out there to the public.

The Vernonia Jamboree was held this past weekend and it appeared to be very successful.

On Sunday, he traveled to Burns for the AOC meeting on Monday.

Yesterday, he attended an Oregon Solutions Team meeting on the Vernonia School project. They are on schedule for the ground breaking in late October, 2010.

He is glad to report that the Board is moving forward on getting the VA Tax Levy on the ballot. The levy would allow for two full time staff for VA services.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Fisher wanted to thank the people who worked so hard to put on the Bluegrass festival in Clatskanie last weekend.

He spent last Thursday in Portland listening to the architect dealing with the courthouse facility study. The Board has a copy of the report and will be reviewing it soon. There are a lot of updates, but expensive so looking at a plan.

He met with the Port of St. Helens on finding an agreeable date to meet jointly with the Board of Commissioners to communicate the number of projects they have going on.

The Board heard from Jean Lewis today about funding for school programs. Everything she said about losing kids is true and something needs to be done to retain these students.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

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Commissioner Bernhard attended the Fair Board meeting. Most of the discussion surrounded the Fair, what worked, what didn't and improvements to be made.

She attended a NOHA meeting last week in Warrenton. They now have a new Director, who is being asked by the Board to re-evaluate the system. They are looking forward to some improvements to the system.

Tomorrow she will be in The Dalles for a GOHBI meeting. This is a statewide Board that deals with mental health services.

She received a call from David Kim, ODOT, who is looking at all of the problem areas in Columbia County on Hwy 30 due to the number of accidents and fatalities.

A safety audit will be conducted and he is forming a task force committee to look at this. It's good to see that ODOT is finally taking notice.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 11th day of August, 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

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