

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

August 25, 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 Cynthia Zemaitis, Acting 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 18, 2010 Board meeting and August 18, 2010 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

*Rob Cornilles, 9825 SW Choctaw, Tualatin, OR.* Mr. Cornilles introduced himself as the republican nominee for the 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District. He is here in St. Helens all day today to learn more about Columbia County and to understand the local issues. One thing he has learned from the people here is that they are most interested in opportunities to increase job growth and a return to the prosperity this area used to know. He is here to introduce himself and to express his appreciation for the work that the Commission does.

HEARING: TODD & LIANA VIKEN CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION:

This is the time set for public hearing, "In the Matter of the Application of Todd and Liana Viken for a Conditional Use Permit for a Type II Home Occupation to Operate a Dog Boarding Kennel in a Rural Residential Zone". Robin McIntyre asks that the Board vote to postpone the hearing to September 15, 2010, at the request of the applicant, who has a conflict. With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to postpone the public hearing to September 15, 2010, at or after 10:00 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. Item (H) was removed and carried over. With no other changes/additions, Commissioner Bernhard moved and

Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for 8/24/10.
- (B) Approve the creation of the non-represented position of Accounting and Payroll Administrator and assign to exempt salary range E02.
- (C) Approve the creation of the non-represented position of Tax and Grant Administrator and assign to exempt salary range E02.
- (D) Approve the creation of the position of Accountant 1 and assign to salary range 23.
- (E) Approve the creation of the position of Accounting Clerk 1 and assign to salary range 20.
- (F) Approve the creation of the position of Accounting Clerk 2 and assign to salary range 21.
- (G) Eliminate the positions of Senior Accountant, Junior Accountant, Deputy Tax Collector and Accounting Clerk

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (H) Demolition/Deconstruction Contract by and between Columbia County and Custom Excavating by Dean Larson, Inc. (*Pulled and Held Over*)
- (I) Contract for Mollenhour Creek Arch Culvert Installation with PCR, Inc.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hyde attended a meeting in Vernonia last Thursday with timberland owners and other interested players to discuss the next step in bringing the County to the forefront as a pathfinder in the research/development of increasing carbon sequestration in the forests. Those in attendance were in agreement to actively manage the forests to capitalize on this. OSU has new technology that will monitor sequestered carbon. Commissioner Hyde explained some of the benefits that would come from such a program. There was an overwhelming positive response from the timber owners.

On Friday he was invited to meet with Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack in a small round table to discuss the re-authorization of the Secure Rural Schools funding. The Secretary listened to stories of the blight in several Counties, how some Counties might go bankrupt if these funds stop, and the bridge that is needed until we can start actively managing our forests.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Fisher wanted to comment on how excited he is about this group that is

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attempting to harness forest sequestration. The world is changing, and we need to acknowledge that. He is pleased to see how some people can look at things differently and come up with ideas to move forward.

He will attend a joint fisheries meeting next week to discuss how to manage the river for recreation and sports fishers.

Today, they will be moving some of the stuff being stored for the museum out. The museum is doing well, but a call for volunteers was made.

Commissioner Fisher believes that more people are needed to step up and contribute to community service to make the system work.

**COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Bernhard attended a Community Action Team meeting yesterday. There is a transition group working toward how best to transition with the upcoming retirements so that the great services they provide will continue.

She also attended the Northwest Housing Authority meeting, where vouchers for housing assistance were discussed. They are on track with the voucher system, but due to the difficult times people are having requiring additional funding, they have not been able to offer as many vouchers as before. HUD is always behind in giving assistance because they do not know how much money they will be getting, so it makes things difficult.

The Department Heads evaluations went very well. She would like to commend them for all the work that they do, being asked to do more and more given the economic circumstances.

Commissioner Bernhard has had some discussions with Scappoose residents about the JP West road bridge. The Road Department has been working to temporarily shore up the bridge, so at least there can be two-way traffic. The reconstruction project won't take place for a year or two. ODOT is working on trying to move up the time frame if possible.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 25<sup>th</sup> 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

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Recording Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Zemaitis

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rita Bernhard, Commissioner