

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Calling an Election to)
Consider the Columbia County Law)
Enforcement Local Option Tax Levy)
_____)

ORDER NO. 3-2011

WHEREAS, as Columbia County has experienced population growth over the past decade, it has experienced an increase in crime and safety issues commensurate with the population growth; and

WHEREAS, while crime has increased, funds available to the Columbia County Sheriff to fight crime have stagnated, and the number of full-time patrol deputies assigned to public safety across the 657 square miles of Columbia County has been reduced to just 7; and

WHEREAS, in addition to increases in crime associated with population growth, the Sheriff and Board of County Commissioners have been alarmed by the inability of the Sheriff's Office to patrol and deter criminal activity county-wide, the unavailability of investigators to identify, arrest and gain convictions of criminal suspects, and the inability of city police officers to rely on the Sheriff's Office for assistance and backup; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County has become a target for criminals due to the inability of the Sheriff's Office to consistently respond to the menace caused by the effects of illegal possession, use and manufacture of methamphetamines; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has requested additional funding to mount a credible deterrent and detection force to stop Columbia County from continuing to be a criminal target; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff is requesting that the Board of County Commissioners refer to the voters the question of approving a local option tax levy at the rate of approximately \$0.6203/\$1000.00 of assessed value for 4 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. An election shall be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2011, to consider the Columbia County Law Enforcement Local Option Tax Levy at the rate of \$0.6203/\$1000.00 of assessed value for 4 years. The Columbia County Clerk is hereby directed to place the question of the proposed local option tax levy before the electors of Columbia County on the May 17, 2011, election ballot.

2. The purpose for which the funds to be provided by the proposed local option tax levy are to be expended would be exclusively for enhanced law enforcement capability, especially for additional road deputies and sergeants; uniforms and equipment for the new personnel; and other law enforcement purposes as necessary, including medical and

behavioral drug treatment for incarcerated offenders.

3. The approximate rate for this operating fund is 62¢ per \$1000 of assessed value, approximately \$62 to the owner of a \$100,000 home. (The estimated money raised will be \$2,597,083 in 2011-2012, \$2,656,816 in 2012-2013, \$2,717,923 in 2013-2014, and \$2,780,435 in 2014-2015 for an estimated total outlay for such purposes of \$10,752,257.)

4. The period of time authorized by the electors pursuant to ORS 280.060(3) would be Four (4) years.

5. The proposed taxes are outside the limitation imposed by Section 11(3), Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

6. The Board of County Commissioners adopts and approves the Notice of County Measure Election and ballot title which is attached hereto, labeled Exhibit "A", and is incorporated herein by this reference.

DATED this 3rd day of January, 2011.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: [Signature]
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: [Signature]
Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: [Signature]
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: [Signature]
Office of County Counsel

NOTICE OF COUNTY MEASURE ELECTION

COLUMBIA COUNTY
(Name of County)

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, May 17, 2011
(Date of Election)

A measure election will be held in Columbia County, Oregon.
(Name of County)

The following shall be the ballot title of the measure to be submitted to the County's voters on this date:

CAPTION (10 Words)

4 -Year Local Option Levy Dedicated to Law Enforcement

QUESTION (20 Words)

Shall Columbia County levy \$00.6203 per \$1000.00 assessed value for four years beginning 2011-2012 for enhanced law enforcement funds? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

MARY (175 Words)

The County Sheriff has never had an operating fund exclusively dedicated to law enforcement. The Sheriff's budget is dependant on the County General Fund and competes with other Departments. Consequently, the number of Patrol Deputies has shrunk, while demand for services is increasing, limiting the ability to investigate crimes, respond to emergencies, and assist city police.

This measure would create a fund exclusively for increasing public safety services county-wide. The fund would add approximately 9 Patrol Deputies and other enforcement personnel. With the passage of this Measure the Sheriff expects to have enough Patrol Deputies to respond to emergency situations 24 hours a day, every day, which currently is not possible. The Fund would also provide the necessary equipment for Patrol Deputies to perform their jobs.

The approximate rate for this operating fund is \$00.6203 per \$1000 of assessed value, approximately \$62 to the owner of a \$100,000 home. (The estimated money raised will be \$2,597,083 in 2011-2012, \$2,656,816 in 2012-2013, \$2,717,923 in 2013-2014, and \$2,780,435 in 2014-2015 for an estimated total levy of \$10,752,257.)

The following authorized county official hereby certifies the above ballot title is true and complete.

Signature of authorized county official (not required to be notarized)

Date signed

Anthony Hyde

Chair, Board of Commissioners

Printed name of authorized county official

Title