### BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

### FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of a Resolution Calling ) an Election to Consider a Columbia County ) Historical Fund Five Year Local Option Tax )

Resolution and Order No. 28-01

WHEREAS, the Columbia County Historical Society has requested that the Board of County Commissioners refer to the voters, the question of approving a five year local option tax at the rate of approximately 5.6 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of real property for five years to create a Historical Fund pursuant to ORS Ch. 358 to fund the Columbia County Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, the proposed continuing levy would raise \$150,000 each year for the Columbia County Historical Fund, for a five year total of \$750,000; and

WHEREAS, according to the Historical Society's operating budget for fiscal year 2001-2002, the Historical Society requires just over \$150,000.00 each year to operate at its desired level; and

WHEREAS, the purposes for which the fund to be provided by the tax levy are to be expended are as follows: to provide for professional paid staff for museum operations (supplemented by the existing volunteer base); to provide funding for the expansion of museums, displays and special project facilities; to provide funding for the continued maintenance and upgrade of existing museum and display facilities; to provide funding for special equipment and products required for long term storage; and to provide inkind matching funds required for grant requests; and

WHEREAS, ORS 358.171 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to call an election by resolution to determine whether a County historical fund should be created, and the amount of taxes to be levied annually for the fund during a statewide general election; and

WHEREAS, ORS Ch. 358 authorizes a levy for such fund in an amount not to exceed one-fortieth of one percent (.00025) of the real market value of all taxable property within the County which equals approximately \$871,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5.6 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value equaling \$150,000 per year, is within the authorized maximum levy amount, each year under ORS Ch. 358;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. An election shall be held on the next statewide general election, May 15, 2001, to consider whether a five year local option tax should be imposed to fund the Columbia County Historical Society.

2. The estimated total revenue from the continuing levy will be \$150,000 each year beginning fiscal year 2001-2002, and continuing through fiscal year 2005-2006, totaling \$750,000.00.

3. The period of time for the local option tax will be five years.

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

5. The attached ballot title is approved.

DATED this <u>3</u> day of March, 2001.

	BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
	By: John M. John March.
Approved as to form: By: <u>Sarah</u> Type Office of County Counsel	By:Commissioner
	By: Commissioner
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NOTICE OF COUNTY MEASURE ELECTION	
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COLUMBIA

#### (Name of County)

ORS 250.035 ORS 250.041 ORS 250.175 ORS 254.103 ORS 254,465

Notice is hereby given that on	Tuesday, May 15	
	(Date of election)	, 40

A measure election will be held in <u>COLUMBIA</u> 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)

SEL 801

Rev. 8/00

County Historical Fund Five Year Local Option Tax

## **OUESTION** (20 Words)

Shall Columbia County levy \$150,000 for five years beginning fiscal year 2001-2002 to establish a County Historical Fund? This Measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

### SUMMARY (175 Words)

The Columbia County Historical Society has been funded by Columbia County in past years. However, it is anticipated that County budget shortfalls will preclude future County funding of the Historical Society.

If approved, a Historical Fund would be established to pay for the continued maintenance, operation, and improvement of Historical Society museums, displays and special project facilities, and to provide funding for special equipment and products required for proper long term storage of County historical artifacts.

If not approved, the Historical Society will be unable to maintain suitable museums and displays which will lead to the discontinuance of Historical Society operations and reversion back to the State of all artifacts, photographs, historical documents, and research records currently held by the Historical Society.

The cost of this measure to property taxpayers is estimated to be 5.6 cents per 1000.00 dollars of assessed value (\$5.60 per year for property valued at \$100,000.00) each year for five years. The estimated tax cost for this measure is an ESTIMATE ONLY based on the best information available from the County Assessor at the time of the estimate.

The full wind out official hereby cortifies the she	
The following authorized county official hereby certifies the abo	$-\frac{1}{2}$
Signature of authorized county official (not required to be notarized)	Date Signed
Rita Bernhard	Chair Board of County Commissioners

Printed name of authorized county official

of County Commissioners Title

01,

# EXPLANATORY STATEMENT FOR COUNTY VOTERS' PAMPHLET

 Ballot Title Caption: <u>Historical Fund Five Year Local Option Tax</u>

 Measure Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_
 Word Total (500 Maximum): \_\_\_\_367

This measure would authorize a five year local option tax levy assessing approximately \$5.6, 1000 each year for five years to establish a County Historical Fund to fund the operation and maintenance of the Columbia County Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(4) organization. For property valued at \$100,000.00, the amount of assessment is estimated to be \$5.60 each year.

The Columbia County Historical Society was founded on July 30, 1930, and has the responsibility by charter, to preserve the history of Columbia County through the collection, cataloguing, maintenance, exhibition and publication of historical materials and data relating to the County. The Society is also responsible for maintaining suitable museums and public displays of artifacts, photographs, historical documents and research records throughout the County. Such museums or displays are currently maintained in St. Helens, Vernonia and Clatskanie. The Society is further responsible for performing historical research. Due to the impending Lewis and Clark Bicentennial commemoration of 2003-2005, there has been a recent increase in requests for historical research information.

Columbia County has in the past funded the Historical Society's maintenance and operations. However, County budget shortfalls have precluded County funding of the Historical Society and future funding from the County is unlikely. Without such funding, the Historical Society is unable to properly operate its museum and displays, and is unable to purchase, obtain and care for County historical documents, records, and artifacts. Without such funding the Historical Society is unable to hire professionals to perform historical research or to properly catalogue, preserve and store the County's artifacts and records. According to the Columbia County Historical Society Charter, all artifacts, photos, manuscripts and holdings of the Society revert back to the Oregon Historical Society if the County Historical Society discontinues its operations.

If this measure passes, a County Historical Fund will fund the Historical Society by providing money for maintenance and improvement to existing museums and displays; special equipment and products required for long term storage; in-kind matching funds required for grant requests; capital expansion of museums, displays and special project facilities; operational support for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Project; and a professional staff to do historical research and to oversee the proper cataloguing, preservation and storage of County artifacts and records.

Person responsible for the content of the Explanatory Statement:

(TYPED)	Rita Bernhard
(SIGNED)	× Jita M. Jernhard
	COLUMBIA COUNTY

Name of the Governing Body person represents:

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RES 023 (1/10/94)