

Columbia County Board of Commissioners  
July 30, 2025, Board Meeting  
Hybrid from the  
Columbia County Courthouse, 230 Strand St., St. Helens, OR. 97051.

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Present: Commissioner Kellie Jo Smith, Commissioner Margaret Magruder, Commissioner Casey Garrett, Spencer Parsons, Senior County Counsel, Jacyn Normine, Board Office Administrator

**CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Smith called this meeting to order at 10:01 am and led the flag salute.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Commissioner Magruder moved to amend the consent agenda by removing item B and to move other business before the executive session. Commissioner Garrett seconded. **Vote:** KJS/MM/CG in favor. Motion Approved.

**VISITOR COMMENTS - 3 MINUTE LIMIT**

No comment

**PRESENTATION**

1. On Golden Rescue, Larry Boxman gave a presentation for the organization, which provides a haven for unwanted, abused, neglected horses, mini horses, donkeys, and goats with shelter, care, medical, and rehabilitation services. The organization has worked with Columbia County Animal Control, and with Roger Kadell's retirement, they still intend to maintain their relationship with the Animal Control for the County.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Commissioner Smith read the consent agenda in full. Commissioner Magruder moved, and Commissioner Garrett seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Vote:** KJS/MM/CG in favor. Motion Approved.
- A. Rescind Approval of C109-2025 Personal Services Contract with Robert Cromwell for Transmission Line Consulting.
- B. ~~Approve Letter to Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)~~ Pulled
- C. Approve the Board Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2025.
- D. Approve the Board Special Meeting Minutes from July 17, 2025.
- E. Approve Select to Pay for July 22 and July 24, 2025.
- F. Approve Resolution 49-2025, In the Matter of Approving the Corrective Action Plan for the FY 2024 Audit.
- G. Approve Resolution 50-2025, In the Matter of Approving the Corrective Action Plan for the FY 2024 Audit (4H and Extension Service District).
- H. Approve Order 51-2025 In the Matter of Continuing a Pilot Project Limiting Access to Reeder Road North of Retenaar Road.
- I. Appoint Joseph Thorp to the Ambulance Service Advisory Committee as the ASA 5: Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District Alternate Representative with a term to expire December 31, 2028, and Authorize the Chair to sign.
- J. Re-appoint Pam Heimuller to the Columbia County Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee position #1, with a term to expire June 30, 2028, and Authorize the Chair to sign.

- K. Re-appoint Dennis Spiltze to the Columbia County Citizen Transportation Advisory Committee position #3, with a term to expire June 30, 2028, and Authorize the Chair to sign.

### **AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS**

Commissioner Smith read the Agreements, Contracts, and Amendments in full. Commissioner Garrett moved, and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the Agreements, Contracts, and Amendments as presented.

- **Vote:** KJS/MM/CG in favor. Motion Approved.
- A. Approve Revised C109-2025, Personal Services Contract with Robert Cromwell for Transmission Line Consulting.
- B. Approve C45-2020-2, Amendment No. 7 to Intergovernmental Agreement Between Columbia County, Oregon, and City of Columbia City, Oregon.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Jaime Aanensen, Public Health Director, is here to request to open recruitment for the Assistant Public Health Director Position. This is an existing position and is fully funded in the FY26 budget through public health grants. After the discussion, Commissioner Garrett moved to open recruitment for the Assistant Public Health Director. Commissioner Magruder seconded.
  - a. **Vote:** KJS/MM/CG in favor. Motion Approved.
2. Suzie Dahl, Land Development Director, and Kate McGuire, Planning Manager, gave an update on the standard annual CPI fee increase. After the discussion, this will come back as a hearing on August 13, 2025.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Commissioner Smith would like to know when we will be meeting for Budget meetings. Commissioner Magruder is meeting with Department Heads on Tuesday and will come back with information on how Department Heads would like to make this work.
- Commissioner Smith would like to have an open house at John Gumm and have each department here with a booth to be open to the public for basic interaction and information. See JGBCC and get questions answered. She will talk to Department Heads about this at the next Department Head meeting.

### **COMMISSIONER GARRETT COMMENTS**

Vernonia Jamboree Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The first Saturday is the Shrine breakfast, and we should have great weather.

### **COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS**

Last week, I forgot to mention that one of our RSVP volunteers, Dena Chesney, was at the Fair everyday volunteering in the heat. She has a spicy sense of humor, and I really appreciate her.

### **COMMISSIONER SMITH COMMENTS**

Eastern Oregon Conference was wonderful, and it was nice to have power conversations. Commissioner Magruder and I had a great time. Just meeting other people and networking. Commissioner Magruder has some history and only needed to phone her son once for some details. We have some history that we need to document in some way. Commissioner Magruder said that they were celebrating Commissioner George Murdock's 83rd birthday, and they had gone back almost that many years. Commissioner Smith participated in a history tour in the City of St. Helens on Sunday with individuals from the Oregon Heritage Commission, along with their staff, reps from Travel Oregon, and Restore

Oregon. They gave us \$20,000 to restore the bell tower. They got to tour around the museum and meet Jen and Les. We had Erin Salisbury from the Main Street Alliance. We viewed the John Gumm building and went down to the Dawn to Dusk, the old courthouse, Judge Grant's the old house and the Klondike. They ended with dinner at Crooked Creek. Yesterday we had the RDPO and want to give a shout-out to Scappoose for their preparedness.

**RECESS to ENTER INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Pursuant to ORS. 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

Coming out of the executive session with no action taken.

**ADJOURN**

With nothing further to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:39 AM.

The recording of this meeting is posted at [www.columbiacountyor.gov/meetings](http://www.columbiacountyor.gov/meetings)

The next regular scheduled meeting is on August 6, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacyn Normine, Board Office Administrator

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner