

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

March 31, 2010

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Earl Fisher and Commissioner Rita Bernhard, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel, Robin McIntrye, Assistant County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Secretary.

Commissioner Fisher called the meeting to order and led the flag salute.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2010 Board meeting and March 17, 2010 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Richard Melton, 55141 Columbia River Hwy, Scappoose: He received a letter from a Commissioner informing him that he has the right to have a porch light on his property, should be allowed to hold a garage sale and post political signs on his property. This is in direct conflict with what Robert Crain has stated. Either the Commissioners are correct or Robert is correct, it can't be both ways. He has continually been told he can't do any of these things, per Robert Crain. He would like a definitive answer as to what he can or cannot do on his property.

Erica Hall, 52563 North Road, Scappoose: Erica stated that it's been about 7 months since she has come before the Board on her personal concern with a neighboring dog kennel. She addressed her concerns as outlined in her written statement which she submitted to the Board.

Scott Groves, 57218 Old Mill Road, Scappoose: He is here concerning the on-going dog kennel problem with his next door neighbor, Samantha Miller. He has asked Roger Kadell, Animal Control Officer, what can be done about the ongoing nuisance issues and Roger stated that he is reluctant to cite Ms. Miller because she has filed an appeal on her denial for a kennel license. He is asking the Board to look into this and lift any restrictions on Roger so that he can cite her on the nuisance violations.

HEARING: DESIGNATE COMMISSIONER POSITION AS NON-PARTISAN:

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of Designating the Office of Columbia County Commissioner as Nonpartisan; Referred for the November 2010 General Election".

After a brief background on this ordinance, the hearing was opened for public hearing.

With no testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed. Sarah gave the second reading of Ordinance No. 2010-1, by title only. This ordinance includes an emergency clause and will become effective immediately upon adoption.

Commissioner Fisher initiated this ordinance and is very supportive of it. He feels it is in the best interest for Columbia County. The policy decisions made by the Board are very rarely partisan decisions. He understands this may be a sensitive issue for some, however, there are many who have asked why this hasn't been done before now. Commissioner Hyde stated that he

has seen non-partisan Commissioner positions around the state and the effects are very diminutive. This just makes good sense. Commissioner Bernhard has heard both pro and con from members of the public on this issue. The main concern is that there are philosophical differences between parties, however, this Board doesn't make partisan decisions and she is in favor of sending this too the voters to decide.

After deliberations, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to adopt Ordinance 2010-1, "In the Matter of Designating the Office of Columbia County Commissioner as Nonpartisan; Referred for the November 2010 General Election". The motion carried unanimously

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. With that, Commissioner Bernhard moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for 3/23/10 3/29/10.
- (B) Approve the 2010 Liquor License renewal for "Alston Country Store & Video".
- (C) Appoint Jim Jackson to the Transportation/Road Advisory Committee for a two (2) year term.
- (D) Reappoint Herman McNeeley to the Farm Use Board for a two (2) year term.
- (E) Order No. 7-2010, (Amending Order No. 2-2010), "In the Matter of Authorizing Filing Civil Penalties and Fees Against Edward Ribaya in the Columbia County Lien Records for Failure to Pay".
- (F) Order No. 8-2010, "In the Matter of Allowing Rose Peets to Serve Alcohol at a Wedding to Take Place at Camp Wilkerson on September 11, 2010.

- (G) Order No. 9-2010, "In the Matter of Allowing Chris Ouellette to Serve Alcohol at a Wedding to Take Place at Camp Wilkerson on July 17, 2010".
- (H) Order No. 10-2010, "In the Matter of Allowing Amanda Thompson to Serve Alcohol at a Wedding to Take Place at Camp Wilkerson on August 7, 2010".
- (I) Order No. 11-2010, "In the Matter of Allowing Angela Goans to Serve Alcohol at a Wedding to Take Place at Camp Wilkerson on July 31, 2010".

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENT:

- (J) Cooperative Service Agreement Trust Fund between Columbia County, Oregon and the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (K) Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement Predisaster Mitigation Program Contract with Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District.
- (L) Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement Predisaster Mitigation Program Contract with Columbia River Fire and Rescue.
- (M) Public Services Contract with Martin Sheet Metal, Inc. for Esby Station Transit Center roof replacement.
- (N) Memorandum of Agreement between Columbia County and Rainier Little League for the Use of Hudson-Parcher County Park for 2010 through 2015 seasons.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde will be attending the first meeting of *ConnectOregon* III this Friday.

Last week he was off for Spring Break, however he did attend a FEMA Regional meeting on Wednesday at the Portland Airport. Derek White was also present for that meeting. They are looking at somewhere between \$5 and \$9 million grant for the Vernonia School project.

On Monday, the Board met with Department Heads on the FY 2010-2011 budget.

After the budget meeting, the Board attended an Economic Development meeting over at the City of St. Helens Council Chambers.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

BOC Minutes

3/17/10

Page 5

Commissioner Fisher commented on the Economic Development meeting held Monday at the City of St. Helens. He believes that economic development is essential for this county to move forward.

He attended a tour of Port Westward held by PGE. Afterwards, he went to the Port of St. Helens meeting held in Clatskanie. The Port announced Letters of Intent with a couple of companies looking to site at Port Westward.

He also attended the City/County meeting hosted by the City of Clatskanie.

Last Friday, he spent time with Senator Johnson and they toured the St. Johns Hospital. They discussed the agreement between the hospital and OHSU for trauma patients.

He was not able to attend the VA meeting the other night as he was attending a meeting in Clatskanie on Doernbecher Hospital. This hospital has done a lot for many children in Columbia County.

The county is going through very difficult times right now and he wanted to publicly say thank you to the county employees and feels the county is lucky to have them.

COMMISSIONER BERNHARD COMMENTS:

Commissioner Bernhard commented on the City/County meeting. The Port is looking at purchasing property adjacent to Port Westward.

She also attended the Budget meeting with department heads and agrees that the employees are very motivated to make things work and meet the upcoming challenges.

She attended the Economic Development meeting at the City of St. Helens. It seems to be the biggest topic of discussion for this county. This also seems to be a topic of discussion for the Commissioner candidates as well.

She attended the meeting held last night on Veterans Services. There was some heated discussion at times. They feel that the County should be giving more money to the VA. She tried to explain how the general fund is distributed. She reiterated to them that the Commissioners are very committed to the VA services. There was a gentleman there who is interested in doing an initiative for a tax base on the ballot. We can expect citizen comments during the upcoming budget meeting regarding the VA budget. She said that all three Commissioners would be willing to have further conversations with their representatives.

PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH BANNER, LLC:

Sarah stated that the CASA contract is terminated as of today, March 31st and the Banner, LLC Contract will become effective tomorrow, April 1, 2010. Banner has reviewed the contract and is comfortable with it. Sarah noted that this contract is for a 6 month term and will be revisited on December 31, 2010. Commissioner Bernhard had concerns about the transition and how that would effect the volunteer base for this program. After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the Personal Services Contract with Banner, LLC to provide CASA services. The motion carried unanimously.

UNMET NEEDS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Sarah reviewed the requests from the Unmet Needs Committee which require Board approval. After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve a temporary loan in the amount of \$3500 from the Unmet Needs Fund to pay Oregon Realty for Fair Market Value assessments related to the buy-out program pending reimbursement from HMGP funds and CDBG funds. The motion carried unanimously.

Secondly, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to approve the application to FEMA for Flood Mitigation Assistance Funds up to \$15 million for the acquisition and demolition of the flood damaged Vernonia School and authorize Katharine Denckla to sign. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(i)(e):

The Board recessed the regular session to go into Executive Session as allowed under ORS 192.660(2)(i)(e). Upon coming out of Executive Session, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Bernhard seconded to instruct staff to send a letter of eviction, effective June 15, 2010, on tax lot #5N1W33-DD-08000. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 31st day of March, 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: _____

BOC Minutes

3/17/10

Page 7

Recording Secretary:

By: _____
Jan Greenhalgh

Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____

Earl Fisher, Commissioner

By: _____

Rita Bernhard, Commissioner