

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

MINUTES

December 2, 2015

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Henry Heimuller and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Robin McIntyre, Assistant County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Office Administrator. Commissioner Hyde was not present.

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

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2015 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The minutes for November 4, 2015 Board meeting and November 25, 2015 Board meeting were carried over.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

***Cynthia Anderson, PO Box 1199, Rainier:*** She is a farmer in Columbia County and is here as an unpaid lobbyist. She is passionate about Columbia County and wants to see it supported by those in power. With the new rules allowing pot grows, we need to be very diligent in protecting our water resources. She also recently purchased a dairy farm and has water rights but still wants to make sure that our waters are protected.

**HEARING: INITIATE FORMATION OF CC RIDER TRANSPIRATION DISTRICT:**

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of Initiating the Formation of the Columbia County Rider Transportation District". The formation of a special district is a process decided by state statute, which requires 2 public hearing. This is the first of those two. The Board has before them an Order which would approve the formation of the Columbia County Rider Transportation District. Another hearing will be held on January 13, 2016 to put it on the May ballot.

***Janet Wright, CC Rider, 1155 Deer Island Road, St. Helens, Oregon.*** In September, the Board instructed staff to prepare the necessary documents to initiate the formation of the CC Rider Transit District. The Board has an Order before them that would establish the boundaries of that district, with a permanent assessment rate of \$0.23/\$1000 of assessed property value and setting the second public hearing for Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. She would recommend the Board approve this Order.

Michael Ray, CC Rider, gave detailed information with a power point presentation, starting with the history of the transit services in Columbia County from the 1970's to present.

At this time, the hearing was opened for public testimony.

**Rory Hammond:** He asked what the difference is between boarding rates as opposed to passenger rates. Mike explained that the boarding rates are averages taken over a 5 years versus actual counts. Rory asked some additional questions for clarification.

With no further testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberations. Commissioner Fisher spoke about the importance of having a transportation system in our county and how necessary it is for many of our community members. If people want to have this service, they are going to need to pay for it, so they should have a voice in this. He supports this measure. Commissioner Heimuller noted that transportation is basically another leg on the chair, along with good schools, public safety, etc. After looking at the percentages of those who use the transit system to get to work in Portland, he can see that's an issue getting more people to use the service rather than drive. Anyone coming into Scappoose after 5:00 pm can attest to the bottle neck of traffic. It would be beneficial to many to have those who can to use the bus system. Together, we need to fund those services that are a benefit to all of us. After discussion, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve Order No. 55-2015, "In the Matter of Approving the Formation of the Columbia County Rider Transportation District". The motion carried unanimously.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Commissioner Heimuller read the consent agenda in full. With no changes/additions, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Heimuller seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for week of 11/30/15.
- (B) Appoint David Somann to the Columbia County Parks Advisory Committee for a 4 year term.
- (C) Approve Enforcement Letters of Authority for the following: Rod Hansen; Tristan Wood; Lonny Welter; Butch Guess; Julie Stephens; Judy Reed; Kathy McMullen; Steve Pegram; Lt. Dustin Hald; Lt. Brian Pixley; Lt. Steve Salle; Dep. Derek Hibbs; Deputy David Brown; Deputy Collin Brehm; Deputy Jon Kinsel; Deputy Michelle Vandenburg; Deputy Bill Goodwin; Deputy Tyler Miller; Deputy David Chaney; Deputy Joe Jenkins; Deputy

Robert Wagner; Deputy Kim Johns; Deputy Kelli Smith; Jay Tappan; and Eric Smythe.

- (D) Order No. 56-2015, "In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Enforcement Ordinance, Incorporating Position and Personnel Changes".

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (E) Rental Agreement with Brandon and Brianne Gutenberger for Hudson Parcher Park.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Heimuller pointed out that Jan Kenna, who ran our Columbia County Commission on Children and Families for many, many years, has now fully retired as of 11/30/15. She has been so important to the kids of Columbia County and she was truly appreciated and will be missed.

Janine Dilley, 911 Director, is also retiring and will be replaced by Steve Watson.

He will be in Warrenton tomorrow for a NOHA meeting.

Yesterday, he attended the CEPA meeting at the 911 center. This group is always active in planning and preparing for emergencies. This is an open meeting to the public and he encouraged anyone interested to attend.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Not present.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

He appreciated the opportunity to be able to call in to the meeting last week for the Marijuana deliberations.

Commissioner Fisher wanted to mention that Jan Kenna, Director of Columbia County Commission on Children & Families, has retired. He has worked with Jan for many years even before becoming a Commissioner. She was a long time, invaluable employee and will be very missed. She was also his sounding board on many issues. Best of luck to Jan in her retirement.

He wanted to thank the volunteers on the Transit Committee. We could not operate this county if it were not for the continued support of volunteers. He truly appreciates their hard work.

He wanted to mention the need for all of us to work together. He sits on the CCMH Board, the Early Learning Council, and many others. He finds that many of these groups have a lot of the same issues, but not everyone is working together toward the same goals. We need to all work together.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Henry Heimuller, Chair

By: Not Present  
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jan Greenhalgh  
Board Office Administrator

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