

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

STAFF MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2016

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Commissioner Henry Heimuller. Commissioner Earl Fisher was not present.

Commissioner Hyde called the meeting to order.

CONTRACT WITH ECONORTHWEST:

Sarah Hanson and Jennifer Cuellar met with the Board to discuss the status of the ECONorthwest contract for CCDA consulting services. Jennifer explained that our primary consultant at ECO has started his own firm, Tiberius Inc. This led to ECO asking about how to continue providing services to the County. The options are to continue the contract with ECO through the end of the contract term (June, 2017), and ECO will subcontract with Tiberius or contract directly with Tiberius for the majority of the CCDA work. The Board discussed the alternatives, including an option of bringing administrative work back into the Board's office now that it has increased staff. The Board discussed that it would be better to wait to make any change in the contract until we have a better understanding of what services can now be handled with County staff. The Board's consensus was that Jennifer and Sarah let ECONorthwest know that we will continue under our existing contract and reevaluate as we get closer to the end of the fiscal year. No formal decisions were made at this time.

REQUEST TO FILL (1) PROBATION OFFICER POSITION:

Janet Evans came before the Board to request authorization to fill (1) Probation Officer position in the Adult Corrections Department. This position was approved in the 2016-2017 budget. After a brief discussion, ***Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to authorize Janet Wright to fill one Probation Officer position. The motion carried unanimously.***

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM:

Robin McIntyre explained that the grant the County received for the St. Helens Transit Center triggered a Federal Transit Administration requirement for the County to adopt its own Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) policy and program. Prior to that, the County was under ODOT's DBE program. Now that all funds under the FTA grant have been expended, Robin recommends that the County repeal its DBE program and adopt the ODOT DBE program. After discussion, Robin was directed to place this on the next consent agenda for Board action.

BUILDING CODE VIOLATIONS PROCESS:

Robin McIntyre and Todd Dugdale were present to discuss a proposal to amend the building code violation process in the Enforcement Ordinance. The County's current process, adopted a few years ago to comply with Senate Bill 915, allows a building

code violator to appeal a civil penalty to the LDS Director, who would then issue a decision based on written evidence without a hearing. Robin recommends that the Enforcement Ordinance be amended to provide an opportunity for a hearing and that the Board be the hearings body. The Board was in general agreement. Robin and Todd will prepare an amendment to the Enforcement Ordinance for the Board's review.

While present, Robin also informed the Board that two orders would be placed on their next consent agenda. The orders authorize liens against individuals who have failed to pay their civil penalties for building code violations.

“NO SHOOTING” SIGNS AT FISHHAWK QUARRY:

Dave Hill met with the Board to address issues with people shooting at the quarry at the end of Fishhawk Road. Dave received a request from the Mist - Birkenfeld Neighborhood Watch Organization to place "No Shooting" signs at the Fishhawk Quarry. Dave referenced his memo to the Board dated August 31, 2016.

The County does not have enough Sheriff Patrol to enforce no shooting at our quarry sites so it was recommended that this situation be monitored for a while to see if there are any more issues, either at this quarry or at other locations. The County used to allow target practice at our rock quarry across from the Road Department office in St Helens, but that has been discontinued and there are very few places where people can now target practice.

It was mentioned that putting up no shooting signs may actually aggravate the situation, especially without enforcement. Aggravation could include other private properties and also the County's equipment that the Road Department regularly leaves at project locations. Dave suggested that by keeping things status quo, it might be better than making the situation worse. No action was taken on this matter.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 7th day of September, 2016.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: _____
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: _____
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: _____
Jan Greenhalgh
Board Office Administrator

By: _____
Not Present
Earl Fisher, Commissioner