

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

MINUTES

December 16, 2015

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Henry Heimuller, Commissioner Anthony Hyde and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel and Jan Greenhalgh, Board Office Administrator.

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

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2015 Board meeting; December 2, 2015 Staff meeting; December 8, 2015 Emergency meeting; and December 9, 2015 Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

***Paulette Lichatowich, PO 439, Columbia City:*** Paulette was here to talk about transportation issues. She read a prepared statement into the record regarding the recent events on Hwy 30. During the week of December 7 to 13, Highway 30 was impacted by two events. The landslide on I-5 in Washington and the truck/train accident in Linnton. In both cases there was the potential for Columbia County residents' health, safety and economy to be effected by events outside this county. The two incidents are indicators that we should be better prepared for handling traffic during times of disruptions and emergencies. She believes that financial assistance could be obtained to implement planning and upgrades to our county roads for evacuation and/or improved traffic patterns. The landslide on I-5 in Washington diverted interstate traffic to Oregon Highway 30. The question is, could that detour have been handled differently? Could I-5 southbound lanes have been used for both northbound and southbound traffic? And, in Linnton and at the St. John's Bridge, there is a huge bottleneck of traffic when accidents happen. Is it possible, for traffic in an emergency situation, to be handled more effectively? An emergency in Multnomah County at the oil and gas tank farm and underground pipelines in the Linnton area will impact our county greatly. Therefore, she would ask that we participate in expedited planning and coordination for health and welfare on behalf of both counties' residents. She suggested working with groups such as the Regional Solutions Team, ODOT, the Governors Office and other agencies of both Oregon and Washington to address these issues.

Commissioner Hyde stated that the Board will be receiving an after action report today from the Road Department. He agreed with Paulette's comments and noted that, with the lands now saturated and more heavy rains expected, this event is not over.

**Rory Hammond, 66335 Bishop Creek Road:** During the traffic situation, he didn't see any police action directing traffic. Along with the line of traffic from Portland to Rainier, there was a huge bottleneck at the Rainier/Longview bridge and he suggested a plan be developed to deal with these types of situations.

### **HEARING: RENEWAL OF AMBULANCE SERVICE FRANCHISES:**

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of Soliciting Public Input on the Applications for Renewal of the Ambulance Service Franchises".

Sarah stated that this hearing has been published as required and this is the time set for the public hearing to solicit input on the ambulance service franchises. Applications were sent out to all 5 existing franchisees. They all responded and EOC staff is recommending that the Board renew of the all existing franchises. This hearing is part of the process. Sarah has prepared orders for Board consideration. Commissioner Heimuller mentioned that he has talked with many of the fire chiefs and it was determined that there is a need to form a committee to review the existing Ambulance Service Area plan to update with any new current standards.

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

**Mark Kreutzer, CRF&R Board President:** He asked the Commissioners if there has been anything in the past 5 years that CRF&R, or any other ASA's, have done or could do to improve, or is that what the committees purpose will be. Commissioner Heimuller clarified that it would be the purpose of the committee to look at the current process and determine if there is a need for any improvements to be made, to ensure that we are providing the best customer service to our residents. Commissioner Fisher feels there is a glaring need out there. We depend a lot on our volunteers and there are issues that need to be addressed and, even if there is no funding for improvements, they can still be identified and articulated. All of this said, the Board totally supports and appreciates the work done by the fire departments and EMT's.

With no further testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed. After some discussion;

- Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 58-2015, "In the Matter of Renewing a Franchise for Ambulance Services to Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District for Service Area 2 (Scappoose)". The motion carried unanimously.

- Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 59-2015, "In the Matter of Renewing a Franchise for Ambulance Services to Columbia River Fire & Rescue for Service Areas 3 (St. Helens) and 4 (Rainier)". The motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 60-2015, "In the Matter of Renewing a Franchise for Ambulance Services to Clatskanie Rural Fire Protection District for Service Area 5 (Clatskanie)". The motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 61-2015, "In the Matter of Renewing a Franchise for Ambulance Services to the Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District for Service Area 6 (Mist-Birkenfeld)". The motion carried unanimously.
- Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 62-2015, "In the Matter of Renewing a Franchise for Ambulance Services to Metro West Ambulance Service for Service Area 7 (Vernonia)". The motion carried unanimously.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

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

- (A) Ratify the Select to Pay for week of 12/14/15.
- (B) Cancel the 12/30/15 Board and Staff meetings.
- (C) Approve the supplemental budget for the 2015 Columbia County Housing Rehabilitation Project #H15014.
- (D) Order No. 64-2015, "In the Matter of the Livestock Attack by a Dog Owned by James Leroy Goodman".
- (E) Representation Letter to Pauly, Rogers and Co., for audit purposes **and authorize Commissioner Fisher to sign.**

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

- (F) FY 2016 Cultural Participation Grant Agreement FY16CPT-14045 and authorize Darrel Whipple to sign.

- (G) Amendment #3 to the 2015-2017 IGA #148004 with OHA and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (H) State Waterway Lease ML-10462 Sublease Agreement with the Yacht's Landing Marina Association.
- (I) State of Oregon Department of State Lands Consent to Sublease 9849-L and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (J) Settlement Agreement with James Goodman and authorize the Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

**PROCLAIM 2016 AS “YEAR OF WELLNESS”:**

After some comments on what is being done to encourage wellness in Columbia County, Commissioner Heimuller read the proclamation into the record. With that, Commissioner Fisher moved and Commissioner Hyde seconded to proclaim 2016 as “Year of Wellness”. The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Heimuller pointed out that, with the slides, floods, etc., he wants to get the word out to everyone how dangerous it can be out there. We have more rain coming in the next couple of days and it’s going to be serious. We have already lost one county resident who was trapped in a flooding car and couldn’t get out. Everyone should keep an eye on your neighbors and be conscious of their needs. Staff is working around the clock to deal with the results of this weather event so please be patient.

On Monday, he attended the Oregon Business Leadership Summit in Portland, then headed to a meeting at the OLCC office to discuss how they plan to open recreational marijuana stores next year. There are still a lot of unknowns.

The County will be holding their annual employee service awards today and, directly afterwards, the holiday luncheon.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hyde commented on the Oregon Leadership Business Summit and the discussions held on priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

He attended the O&C Annual Board meeting where he was elected President of the O&C Board.

Two weeks ago, he was in Colorado Springs for the NACo Board meeting.

He talked about the recent weather event and how Vernonia was effected. Thanks to the \$85+ million spent on mitigation after the last disaster, it paid off and Vernonia is much more resilient and storm resistant. That said, they are still not out of the woods because a new storm is coming.

### **COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Fisher reported that no one should be traveling on Scappoose-Vernonia after dark for the next couple of days because of the potential for flooding and slides.

He also reported on the Oregon Leadership Business Summit. We need to stop dividing ourselves on the issues and work together for the benefit of all.

With the annual service awards taking place today, he expressed his appreciation for all county employees and the hard work they do, through good times and bad.

### **ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS:**

The Board recognized the following employees for their years of service to Columbia County: Lori Baker (10); Shelley Blickenstaff (10); Sophie Frazier (10); Andrea Jurkiewicz (10); Roger Kadell (10); Josh Luttrell (10); Sarah Hanson (15); Dave Peabody (15); Nancy Sullivan (15); Kelley Lundberg (25); Dean McMann (25); Donnie Titus (25); Linda Wheeler-Crain (25); Dave Hill (20). The Board thanked all for their service through good times and bad times. Each and every employee is truly appreciated.

While all were present, Todd Dugdale reported the results of the recent food drive held at the County, in conjunction with the IGA store, which ended up helping 78 families of 5. This drive has become a competition between county departments, and this year, the winning department was the Sheriff's Office, who donated \$530. The annual roaming recognition plaque will go to them once engraved.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 16<sup>th</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: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Hyde, Commissioner

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

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