

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

MINUTES

May 13, 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 Cynthia Zemaitis, Acting Board Office Administrator.

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

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Al Peterson, 155 Clark Street, St. Helens. He is a member of SHEDCO and they are working on a project that needs Board approval. He talked about an artist from New Orleans named Candy Chan. Post-Katrina she did a project entitled Before I Die. She lives in a dilapidated section of town and had the idea of getting community involvement of what they aspired to. She did a simple project by taking a boarded up building and allowed people to write and put drawings on it. This project has now gone around the world, in probably 70 cities, including once at a school in Portland. Al explained that SHEDCO has lost their Main Street Coordinator due to family health issues. However, when she was in college, she did a project with Candy in Ann Arbor. She contacted Candy and asked if she would do a project in St. Helens, and she has agreed. Al would like to do this project in the Courthouse Plaza. The Arts Commission has promised to pay the expenses, and thinks this a great idea. This would also attract tourists. The structure would be an 8 foot tall wall around the concrete center of the plaza where the canon used to be. People would be able to write on the chalk board. It would be up there through 13 Nights during this summer. Commissioner Hyde felt we should probably get some permission from the artist that allows us to move forward with this. Al will work on getting that. He did talk to John Walsh, who agreed to work with the County for any agreements needed. Robin informed the Board that they would need a license agreement with the City to put the structure up, and asks Al to get the Board a copy of the proposal in writing. Commissioner Fisher expressed his concern about people leaving messages that shouldn't be left. Al stated that they intend to monitor it and will wipe off anything offensive. Commissioner Hyde and Commissioner Heimuller both agreed this is a great proposal. Commissioner Heimuller stressed that, with this being a free-standing structure and not firmly attached to a building, that the structural soundness needs to be addressed should some teenager attempt to scale the wall. Al stated that the supports will be angled in and be anchored to the ground.

While present, Al Peterson stated that the City held a Planning Commission meeting the other day which included discussion on the marijuana issue. Only 2 people showed

up who were in favor of marijuana and wanted them to open the rules somewhat. The Planning Commission has been concentrating on locating dispensaries in light industrial zones. These folks wanted it in more retail locations. They didn't get a second on a motion for the retail, but did on a motion for the light industrial, but no consensus was reached.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Commissioner Heimuller noted there are two proclamations listed on the consent agenda, however he wanted to read them in full prior to approval. The Board agreed and Commissioner Heimuller read both proclamations into the record. These will both be formally approved on the consent agenda.

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 the week of 5/11/15.
- (B) Approve the 2015 Social Gaming License for Wayside Inn.
- (C) Approve the Seattle-to-Portland Public Road Event Permit and Indemnity Agreement and authorize the Chair to sign.
- (D) Approve the request of Joe Luttrell for a refund of \$1,647 due to a change in his land use application.
- (E) Proclaim the week of May 18-23, 2015 as Emergency Medical Services Week.
- (F) Proclaim May 10-16, 2015 as Parent Education Awareness Week.

AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS

- (F) Public Recreation Facility License No. 43142-LI with the Oregon Department of State Lands for the Coon Island Boat Docks and authorize Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Heimuller was in Salem on Friday to attend a AOC Health & Human Services meeting; again on Monday for transportation-related issues at AOC and then to a Transportation Advisory Commission to discuss the lack of a transportation bill. It was refreshing to hear from ODOT that in the over-all scheme of roads and bridges in the country, Oregon is not in bad shape, although it is on the decline. The projections are good and, from a state highway system, it is great to hear some good news. However, without appropriate funding to move forward, the public transportation systems may be hurt. With declining funds from the federal government, the future of continuing public transportation is scary.

He will be attending the NWACT meeting this week. The loss of Shirley Kalkoven is still being felt by this group.

COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hyde noted that 4 days before Shirley Kalkoven passed, she asked him if Commissioner Heimuller was ready to take over for her. She had Henry all geared up to take over.

On Thursday he was in Salem as one of the co-chairs of the Forest Trust Council sub-committee and representing O&C with regards to the coalition focused on some permanent legislation to replace the SRS safety net.

On Friday he was at the Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue for the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization meeting, a consortium of nearby counties. The IGA has been approved by all 5 counties and the Organization is being staffed. It is a great organization and he is glad the Columbia County is part of it, but he will be happy to be replaced by a new Chair. There was a shift in the grant about a decade and a half ago where the money came to the State from the federal government. A change in legislation allowed the director to decide how to disburse that funding. They were told that the funding would be stable, but they found out just a couple of days ago that the funding would be cut. With all of the work they have been doing with the legislators, Commissioner Hyde hopes they will be able to prevent that from happening.

He was in Salem on Monday for various AOC meetings.

Yesterday, he attended the HSEMC meeting, where they talked about the Cascadia Subduction Zone exercise that is coming up next year. It will be very difficult, looking at a 9.0 Richter scale quake and what might happen. Five minutes of a 9.0 quake would destroy more than 75% of the infrastructure. The real planning falls back into Ashelter in place. There are so many issues that may come up, it is hard to plan around it.

COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:

He spent last week in Savannah as a member of the City County Insurance Pool that many counties in this state belong to. He represents the AOC in this Pool. Expenses were paid by CCIS, not the county. The program was very interesting, incurring the issues on marijuana being raised in Colorado, such as the appropriate set-backs, workers compensation. Also discussed risks around police departments and the impact on insurance rates. He attended a session on IT and security issues, and left feeling he didn't want to use his computer again. It made him realize why we need to follow our security policies to the letter.

He travels through Rainier every day, and they are getting closer to finishing the street updates on Highway 30, which is beautifying the city.

With regards to the Oregon Emergency Management cuts that might be coming later this week, the State economist will project what they believe the economy will do, and it appears that it will be a good forecast. This will come out before the kicker kicks in, but they also hope there will be enough to give money back to some programs that have been cut, including Emergency Management. It will be interesting to see what happens.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 13th of May, 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: _____
Cynthia Zemaitis
Acting Board Office Administrator

By: _____
Earl Fisher, Commissioner