

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

January 28, 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 January 21, 2015 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the January 21, 2015 Board meeting were carried over one week.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

***William Allen, 175 N. 1<sup>st</sup> St., St. Helens:*** He is here today because he feels that Commissioner Hyde owes him, and others who spoke at the Enerfin public hearing last week, an apology for his derogatory remarks to some of the testimony made. Mr. William read his prepared statement into the record. Further, because of the comments made by Commissioner Hyde were specifically about the application, Mr. Allen feels that Commissioner Hyde should recuse himself from voting on this application.

Sarah noted that the Enerfin public hearing has been closed to verbal testimony and left open only to written testimony. Because Mr. Allen's letter refers to the Enerfin application, it will be entered into the record, marked ***Exhibit "17"***.

**PAULY ROGERS COUNTY AUDIT REPORT:**

Matt Graves, Pauly Rogers & Co., came before the Board to talk about the audit process and the results of the FY 2013-14. The letter that he provided under separate cover talks about things Matt is required to communicate to the County under ICPA standards. Contained in this letter is the results of the audit and states that the County received a clean opinion, meaning that Pauly Rogers has no reservations on the financial statements. They also did an audit of the State Minimum Standards for Audits and there were no exceptions found. There is also a federal audit that's done and no issues of non

compliance were found. After a brief summary of the audit report, Matt stated that there were no exceptions found and it was another great audit.

The Board thanked Matt for his hard work on the audit report and Jennifer for all of the work that she and her staff do for this county.

**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 1/23/15.
- (B) Appoint Julie Stephens to the Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee for a three year term.
- (C) Order No. 46-2014, "In the Matter of Authorizing the County Road Official to Perform Road Maintenance on a Portion of Dutch Canyon Road in the City of Scappoose".

**AGREEMENTS/CONTRACTS/AMENDMENTS:**

- (D) Approve use of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds in the amount of \$200,402.96 for acquisition of the Vernonia Senior Center.
- (E) RegJin Participant Intergovernmental Agreement Regional Partner Agency-Full Entry.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COUNTY SHERIFF - OFFICE RESTRUCTURING:**

Sheriff Dickerson came before the Board to discuss some staffing reorganization in the Sheriff's Office, and he is finding the need for a clerical staff supervisory position. It would be an internal promotion and will not effect his budget. Jean Ripa has already reviewed this request. After consideration, Commissioner Hyde moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the creation of the position of Support Services Supervisor in the Sheriff's Office and assign to non-exempt salary range 25 and authorize the Sheriff to fill the position. The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Heimuller participated in an phone meeting with the NW Area Work Source group, trying to solidify steps forward with the stepping down of Agnes Balassa of the Governor's Office who has been the driving force behind this process. However, things are moving along and he is very thankful that the group is working very well together to get this process underway.

He met with Jeff Kemp, Pacific Stainless, who will be one of our Columbia County Work Source Board member representing. He also met with 3 representatives from Oregon Area in Scappoose who will also serve on the Board to represent business in Columbia County.

He and Commissioner Fisher attended the 5 area lunch at the Scappoose Senior Center. They are always very well received and the food was great.

This week, he attended the CAT Board meeting and they are focusing on planning as the director, Jim Tierney is just a few years away from retirement, along with a couple other long term staffers.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Last week, Commissioner Hyde visited with the Clatskanie RFPD Board to talk about their future and the potential for amalgamating the needs out at Port Westward with the expansion of their fire department.

Monday, he was in Portland for the PCC Presidents Advisory Council meeting that he sits on. They talked about a lot of things, one being the potential for a real brick and mortar campus in Columbia County. Any county that doesn't offer higher education is just not complete and effects our economic development. While there, he visited with Karen Williams who is the staff for the Public Infrastructure Commission that he sits on. This Commission is charges with getting back to the legislature in the next four months with a plan for financing large infrastructure projects, large being \$50 million and up.

Yesterday, he attended the Sacagawea luncheon with all of the medical teams for student health care program.

He continues with phone calls and meetings regarding the Secure Rural Schools funding and hopefully within the next 60 days we will see some movement on some positive legislation.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

As a brief followup to the SRS funding, back in 2008 the County received \$2.6 million and last year it was zero. This huge reduction in revenue has a practical impact on our local communities.

He talked about the Transportation Bill that ties in with the fuel emissions. Real people are going to be hurt because of not having transportation available to them because of transit services not being available, bridges falling down, roads deteriorating and not fixed, etc. It is extremely important that our transportation infrastructure needs are met. This in turn leads to economic development so we can get the resources for our people by bringing big business into the County. We made the newspapers yesterday by showing the Oregon has the least amount of students graduating in the Country! That is totally not acceptable.

**The Board recessed the meeting at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m. at the Justice Facility to conduct the annual Jail Inspection.**

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 28<sup>st</sup> of January, 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