

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

October 5, 2016

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Commissioner Anthony Hyde, Commissioner Henry Heimuller and Commissioner Earl Fisher, together with Robin McIntyre, County Counsel and Laury Lapping, Acting Board Office Administrator.

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

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2016 Board meeting and September 28, 2016 Staff meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

**VISITOR COMMENTS:**

None.

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> READING: ORDINANCE 2016-8 IMPOSING CIVIL PENALTIES:**

This is the time set for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance No. 2016-8, "In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Enforcement Ordinance Procedure for Imposing Civil Penalties on Building Code Violations". Robin gave a brief description of the ordinance. Todd Dugdale, Land Development Services Director, explained that this ordinance would amend the procedure for imposing civil penalties for building code violations in three ways. First, it would provide a hearing before the Board of Commissioner's. The current code provides that any appeal is filed in writing only and does not provide a public hearing. The second would be to incorporate the schedule of fines. Lastly, it clarify the process for recording liens for unpaid fines. Currently it's 30 days and this would extend it to 60 days. Robin stated that a hearing is not required for this type of ordinance. There is an emergency clause and would require a unanimous vote. With no objections, Robin gave the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance 2016-8 by title only. With that, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2016-8, "In the Matter of Amending the Columbia County Enforcement Ordinance Procedure for Imposing Civil Penalties on Building Code Violations". The motion carried unanimously.

**HEARING: ORDER NO. 59-2016 VACATION OF HOVLAND WAY**

This is the time set for the public hearing, "In the Matter of the Proposed Vacation of an Unnamed, Platted Right of Way off of Hovland Way, near St. Helens, Oregon". Robin gave a recommendation that the hearing is being held because it is a vacation of a road and all abutting property owners have consented.

Lonny Welter, Road Department Transportation Planner, stated that the road department has reviewed and approved the vacation. This area off of Hovland Way is undeveloped and a grass field. This vacation gives right of way access if the property owner chooses to develop.

The hearing was opened for public testimony.

With no testimony coming before the Board, the hearing was closed for deliberations. Commissioner Heimuller stated that this has been a long time coming and it is nice to see it actually going back to the property owners. Commissioner Fisher stated that it is nice to see everybody working together on this. After discussion, Commissioner Heimuller moved and Commissioner Fisher seconded to approve Order No. 59-2016, "In the Matter of the Vacation of an Unnamed Platted Right-of-Way off of Hovland Way, near St. Helens, Oregon". The motion carried unanimously.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Commissioner Hyde read the consent agenda in full. Items (C) and (D) were pulled and held over. With no other 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 10/03/16.
- (B) Approve revised hiring letter for Charles Stolte.
- (C) Order No. 57-2016, "In the Matter of Approving Local Criteria for Extended Enterprise Zone Benefits for the South Columbia County Enterprise Zone and the Lower Columbia Maritime Enterprise Zone". (***Pulled for staff meeting discussion***)
- (D) Approve 2014 Foreclosure Deed and authorize the Chair to sign. (***Pulled and held over***)

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

- (E) Dog License Vendor Agreement with Columbia Humane Society and authorize Chair to sign.

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMISSIONER HYDE COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Hyde traveled to Portland last Friday to attend a meeting of the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization. This is a five County emergency management meeting. Tonight is a celebration at the Elks Club for the moving of CEPA to our local emergency planning committee and our Columbia County Homeland Emergency Management Commission.

**COMMISSIONER HEIMULLER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Heimuller attended a meeting with members of CAT in Salem on Monday to talk about the housing crisis that is happening in rural Oregon. There is a need for low income housing and they talked about how to get all of the local and state Government agencies to work on this together. There is a huge inventory of bank foreclosed homes that are sitting vacant for various reasons and they are trying to rattle the cages to see how those can be used for low income housing. He believes that people at the meeting heard that message.

He will be attending a NOHA meeting tomorrow with a lot of the same conversations that he just had in Salem.

Commissioner Fisher and Commissioner Heimuller attended the Columbia County Traffic Safety meeting this morning at the Village Inn. These are open to the public and is always the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00am.

He attended the Industrial Way/Oregon Way project redesign meeting. This is in regards to the upcoming road construction that will be taking place on the Washington side of the Lewis & Clark bridge. That project is a long way into the design phase and he noticed there were only 2 Oregonians at the meeting. This is going to be a huge project and the public needs to know about it. For questions, go to their website and check out the information.

Finally, it is Halloween in St. Helens and that is our signature event here. There are events going on every weekend throughout October. Last year, over 15,000 people came to our town and it was a catastrophe. This year they anticipate close to 25,000-30,000 people and steps have been taken for traffic control, parking, etc. It's going to be busy but a lot of fun.

**COMMISSIONER FISHER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Fisher commented that HalloweenTown was grid lock for getting out of town last year and this year ODOT is working on Gable Rd and Hwy 30, so it could be interesting at times - so make sure to plan ahead.

Sometimes we do things in Government for good reasons but that can create problems. The County needed trees cut down that are a danger to the road but we had to wait until we got an arborist to decide whether or not the birds would be impacted. The county does not want to destroy birds, but 5 trees coming down probably aren't going to impact birds. What it did do, is cost us time and money. We have all kinds of rules and regulations, but they all cost money and no one talks about that side of it when they create the laws. We need a transportation bill in this state.

He attended the CCMH meeting last night where they talked about changes in mental health. They have growing pains since they are re-developing properties on Gable Rd. and are turning them into office spaces. They will be hiring between 30-50 people, many of them specialists.

This coming Thursday and Friday, he will be attending GOBHI meeting in Astoria. There are a lot of changes going on there, but they are good changes. Bus Safety was talked about at the meeting this morning and people need to be very careful in those areas. Make sure you really pay attention.

There was no Executive Session held.

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

Dated at St. Helens, Oregon this 5<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016.

NOTE: An audio CD of this meeting is available for purchase by the public or interested parties. A video of the meeting is also posted on our website at [www.co.columbia.or.us](http://www.co.columbia.or.us)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony Hyde, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Laury Lapping  
Acting Board Office Administrator

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