

County Commissioners

March 7

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in regular session with Chairman Robert Hunt presiding, Commissioners Marion Sahagian and A.J. Ahlborn, county counsel John Hunnicutt, and board secretary Gloria Salvey present.

Notice of acceptance of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee was received from Glen Higgins.

The Board discussed the Subdivider Agreement presented by Norman R. Brown for "Cedar Grove Estates." Commissioner Sahagian suggested that the proposed amount of the bond for road improvements be increased from \$47,000 to \$55,000 based on the fact that the streets will not be put in for two or three years, and because of the inflation factor, did not feel that \$47,000 was sufficient. The Board concurred with this recommendation, and Hunt indicated he would write a letter to Mr. Brown advising of this.

A news clipping from the March 2, 1979 Oregon Journal, relating to designation of "lagging counties" was reviewed. The news item related specifically to the lagging areas tax credit, which gives business a 10 percent break on state corporate excise (income) taxes for those areas so designated and approved by the Economic Development Commission and the governor. The Board adopted a resolution requesting the Governor to continue Columbia County as a "lagging" area, allowing the tax break for any industry coming to the county.

New offers were received from W.G. Ostrander for Lots 7-12 inclusive, Block 13, Blanchard's Addition to Rainier, of \$3,880, and for Lots 7 and 8, Block 14, Blanchard's Addition to Rainier, of \$1,160. The Board accepted these offers, since they were amounts indicated as appraisal value by the Assessor's office.

Board approved liquor license renewal applications for Goble Tavern and for Jay Dee Tavern.

Board approved an Agreement with the City of St. Helens be signed, allowing the county to utilize the city's building inspector for "A" level inspections.

Mr. Chuck Rilea, SAIF, met with the Board to discuss the Safety program inaugurated by the county several months ago. He indicated the program was working well and has accomplished quite a bit, there were still some items that needed attention. He reported specifically one vehicle, a car, had been in for service on a steering problem, and was released. Shortly thereafter, the vehicle lost the steering gear, and fortunately, no

accident resulted, but it could have been an extremely hazardous situation, both for the employee driving the vehicle, and for others who may have been on the road at the same time. He noted also that numerous complaints about the varying head conditions in the courthouse have been received. Commissioner Ahlborn stated that with regards to motor vehicle maintenance, there are forms to be submitted requesting a vehicle be repaired, or checked, but unless the driver completes this form, no action is taken. This was to alleviate the problem of verbal complaints being made, and stated that if a problem is brought to the mechanics' attention, in writing, it is repaired. With regard to the Courthouse heating variations, Commissioner Hunt and Commissioner Ahlborn both indicated that the heating problem in the jail had been corrected, but that in the past, numerous instances have been found where air and or heat vents have not been connected to anything. Hopefully, these situations have been corrected.

Dan Sprague met with the Board. Prior to allowing Mr. Sprague to speak, Hunt advised him that the Board was going to allow him only 15 minutes to speak, and while it regretted the necessity of doing this, it was felt by all the Board members that there was not a great deal of point in listening to Sprague's comments as no answers were available to his questions. Sprague discussed the River Ranch Road matter (Magruder property and subdivision). He stated that last July, the Board was going to come to some sort of a decision about what they were going to do about it.

Mr. Sprague stated he wanted to know what the county's decision was with regard to whether or not diking district roads were public ways. Hunnicutt indicated that each of the diking roads would have to be judged on its own merit. Considerable research into each of them would have to be made to determine whether or not they had ever been closed to traffic, if they had ever officially been dedicated as public ways, or whether the diking district had ever taken any official action either way.

Mr. Sprague then questioned both Sahagian and Ahlborn. Both suggested to Sprague that if he felt there was a problem, he should take it to the courts, and felt that he was asking questions of the wrong body, that if any action, or answers, were necessary, this should be resolved through the court's determination of the matter, that the Board was not in a position to answer his questions.

Commissioner Sahagian discussed a Personnel Action submitted by the Juvenile Department recommending the appointment of Kristie Goodman to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Alan Manring. She suggested that since Stan Mendenhall is currently funded through the Countercyclical funds, there will be a need for that position to be transferred to the budget, if possible, together with the fact that Ms. Goodman is on "temporary" status, her position supposedly to be funded through the schools, that Mr. Mendenhall be allocated the vacant position in the department. This action would leave Ms. Goodman where she is until after it has been determined whether or not sufficient

funds would be available to carry her either in the county budget, or appropriate school funding has been made. Hunt and Ahlborn concurred and asked Sahagian to contact both Judge Kalberer and Tewksbury to point out the possibility that both positions might not be funded next budget year and ask for their instructions as to whether they still wished Ms. Goodman appointed to this position.

Commissioner Sahagian commented regarding a request received from Reta Kerry, clerk, for a motor pool vehicle to be used March 8, 9, 12, 13, and the last week of March, for elections travel. Ahlborn made a telephone call to the road department to advise them to get a car ready for Mrs. Kerry.

Larry Conrad, of the Planning Department, met with the Board to present a schedule for the cities urban growth boundaries meeting with the Planning Commission and the city planning commissions of Vernonia, Scappoose and Rainier.

March 14

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in scheduled session with Chairman Robert M. Hunt presiding, Commissioners Marion Sahagian and A.J. Ahlborn, county counsel John F. Hunnicutt and board secretary Gloria Salvey (dep. clerk) present. Also in attendance was Ms. Julie Cole, who was present to learn the procedures used by the Board for their regular meetings.

Geneva Shadley, member of the Public Housing Authority, met with the Board regarding bills, for the Housing Authority having been submitted for payment, and her being advised the account had been overexpended and her bill was not to be paid. She asked why certain expenditures had been allowed to be made against that budget line, and was advised that because there had been no other place to make the charges necessarily involved to obtain the HUD Housing Rehabilitation Grant fund charges had been made against this account, and were to be reimbursed in full out of the \$30,000 which had been set aside for administration of the grant.

Mrs. Shadley also questioned the authority of the Public Housing Authority regarding the approval of loans, and signing of checks. It was her understanding that the Housing Authority was to have full responsibility for this, but in accordance with the agreement signed with Community Action Team, Inc., this was not what was included in the agreement. She was advised that checks could be signed by any two authorized persons, there being two from CAT, Inc., and the Housing Housing Authority, authorized to sign the checks. After further discussion, she recommended that all checks be approved and issued on a monthly basis at the regular meetings. Commissioner Hunt stated he was no reason why there should ever be an emergency, resulting in authorized signators not being available, and felt this might be a good recommendation. He also suggested members of CAT, Inc., and the Housing Authority, get together for a meeting, to

get this question spelled out. He asked Mrs. Shadley if she would contact both the Housing Authority members and cast members, and set up a meeting preferably during the week of March 26 and recommended either the 26th or 27th as a possible meeting date. Mrs. Shadley said she would set up the meeting, and advise him of the date and time.

Mr. Ron Rankin, Parole and Probation Officer, accompanied by Mike Dane, of the Community Corrections Service, met with the Board to discuss the Community Corrections Service, and in addition to an explanation of the program, presented options available to the county for funding of the program. After lengthy explanation by Mr. Dane, Commissioner Hunt stated that next Tuesday evening there was to be a meeting held of the local advisory group, and Mr. Dane stated he would be present to explain the matter to the advisory group.

Commissioner Sahagian questioned how the original committee had been selected, and asked the Board if they had made the appointments. Mr. Dane responded by saying there were certain people who were appointed as a part of the rules, such as the circuit judge, the district attorney, etc., and there were 7 lay members. These seven had been selected by other members of the committee, and met approval of George Wilson, who was the State Probation and Parole Manager for this area at the time. However, Chuck Choate is now acting in this position. Mr. Dane continued by saying that a letter of intent is needed as soon as possible, and it would be a non-binding commitment. He further suggested that if the Board wished, it could contact either Yamhill or Polk County commissioners, who had participated in it.

Commissioner Ahlborn moved and Commissioner Sahagian seconded to sign Resolution No. 29-79, regarding Bergsoe Metals Corporation, and requesting the governor to continue to designate Columbia County as a lagging area for the purpose of receiving a tax break for locating here. Motion carried.

Commissioner Ahlborn discussed the matter of the denial by the City of Rainier to allow the hookup of Hudson Park to the city's sewer system, and indicated that because of this restriction, it was going to be necessary to curtail the use of Hudson Park for large groups. He stated that at this time, Reynolds Aluminum of Longview, and Crown Zellerbach, had both requested reservation dates for company picnics in July, but these would have to be denied, because of the septic problems. Commissioner Hunt suggested that it might be possible to allow large organizations to use the facilities, if they were to provide portable facilities to be utilized in addition to the rest-room facilities there. It was the consensus that a maximum usage would have to be determined, and it would be necessary to learn how many rented facilities would be needed for a given amount of park users.

Notice of acceptance of appointment to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee was received from Preston Thomas.

Sam Hollinger met with the Board regarding right of way acquisition of certain property at Keasey. After discussion with Mr. Hunnicutt, it was determined that a letter could be written to each of three property owners involved, which they would acknowledge reading, and deeds conveying the right of way could be prepared by the board secretary after receiving the legal descriptions from the surveyor. The deeds would require indication of amounts paid and/or agreements made in exchange for the right of way. The letter to the property owners, acknowledging receipt, were required by the State prior to the letting of bids for the bridges involved.

Commissioner Ahlborn moved and Commissioner Sahagian seconded a contract between the county and the City of Vernonia be signed, providing for plumbing inspection services within the city limits. Motion carried.

Mr. Hunnicutt discussed with the Board a run to be held, hopefully at the Fairgrounds, similar to that recently run in Scappoose. He indicated this would be held May 6, and Bob Weber and Tim Jones were making the necessary arrangements. The proceeds from the run would be divided between the senior citizens groups and two other organizations. He added that contact will be made with the Sheriff's office to see if two intersections could be protected.

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