

**MINUTES
INFORMAL SESSION**

March 23, 2004 10:00 a.m.

Room 108, Courthouse

PRESENT: Commissioners Kathy George, Mary P. Stern, and Leslie Lewis.

Staff: Rick Sanai, John Krawczyk, Steve Mikami, and Dan Linscheid.

Guests: David Bates, News-Register.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Kathy called the meeting to order at 10:02.

* Personnel - Steve presented requests for personnel action received from various departments. See agenda for details.

* Contracts - See agenda for details.

* Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (PL 106-393) - John K discussed a letter from O&C Counties urging commissioners to be involved in supporting the re-authorization of PL 106-393. He stated that if the act is not renewed, county revenue will decrease dramatically. Consensus: approve a letter to the Oregon congressional delegation supporting the re-authorization of PL 106-393 and a letter to local chambers, school districts, and businesses encouraging their support.

* Minutes - See agenda for formal session minutes to be approved.

* Road Vacation - Approve Docket RV-3-2004, a petition for vacation of a portion of Fairview Street in Sheridan, no hearing required under ORS 368.351.

Resignation - The Board acknowledged the resignation of Leslie Thomas from the Mental Health Advisory Board.

Baker Creek Road Bridge Repair - The Board acknowledged the CRB's approval on March 11, 2004 of a contract with Contech, Inc. for emergency repair of the Baker Creek Road bridge.

* Parkway Committee Grant - Consideration of approval of an amendment to the Yamhill County Parkway Committee grant to extend the deadline to December 31, 2004 and revise the project description. Leslie stated she wants to review the new project description before approving the amendment. The Board agreed to place the item on the non-consent agenda.

* Surplus Property - See agenda for surplus county property to be sold and miscellaneous equipment from the Sheriff's Office to be declared as surplus county property.

* Committee Appointments - See agenda for details.

* Contracts - See agenda for details.

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Respite Week - The commissioners agreed to join the governor in his support of respite care by attending a fundraiser event at Calamity Jane's restaurant on April 26, 2004 and signing a duplicate of his proclamation.

Goal-Setting Sessions - Leslie suggested that at upcoming goal-setting sessions the commissioners could provide some background of what county government does and review the organizational chart. A work session was scheduled for March 30, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. to discuss the presentation.

Economic Development Funds - Mary reported that the City of McMinnville is not interested in joining with Sedcor. She suggested asking cities for potential economic development proposals to be considered next year, and recommended that the funds available this year (about \$30,000) be used to approve grant requests from cities. Leslie stated that the Council of Governments (COG) is willing to work with cities in deciding what kinds of applications to submit. John K stated that the Economic Development Committee traditionally has had some voice in allocating funds and will consider the Board's recommendations. The idea of eventually hiring an economic development specialist was discussed, but it was agreed that would be more appropriate at a city level.

Mary described a website created by Oregon Economic Development Association (www.oregonprospector.com), which allows owners to list industrial and commercial properties for sale or lease, and provides information such as the size and demographics of surrounding areas.

Recess for four minutes. Kathy reopened the meeting at 11:20.

Payroll Position - John K reported that the candidates for the payroll position have been narrowed to three finalists who are currently in the process of retesting. He said a temporary employee will be able to start as early as tomorrow.

Chehalem Valley Middle School Informal Session - The Board discussed a request to hold an informal session at the middle school April 27, 2004 during Back-to-School week. They agreed to involve the students by having them role-play presentations to the Board in a re-enactment of an informal session. Agenda items will be selected in advance to allow the students to prepare and to contact county departments for information and advice. There was some discussion of potential agenda items.

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Anne Britt
Secretary