

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED  
PRIOR TO THE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' SESSION  
ON  
THURSDAY, June 2, 2022  
AT  
10:00 A.M.

Questions, concerns or comments about these items can be directed  
to staff or the Commissioners by contacting the Commissioners' office at

(503) 434-7501

OR

[BOCINFO@co.yamhill.or.us](mailto:BOCINFO@co.yamhill.or.us)

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Lindsay Berschauer  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:00 PM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Support To Amend the Ordinance 832  
**Attachments:** Letter to the BOC May 25 2022 Amend Ordinance 832.odt; Letter to the BOC May 25 2022 Amend Ordinance 832.pdf

Resubmitting for 6/9 public hearing.

### Lindsay Berschauer

Chair, Yamhill County Board of Commissioners

[berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us](mailto:berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us)

Phone: (503) 434-7501

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**From:** Manson <daddeespattie@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:38 AM  
**To:** Mary Starrett <starrettm@co.yamhill.or.us>; Lindsay Berschauer <berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us>; Casey Kulla <kullac@co.yamhill.or.us>  
**Subject:** Letter of Support To Amend the Ordinance 832

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Attached is my letter in support of amending the Ordinance 832. Please include my letter in your packet of testimonies that will be considered during your BOC meeting. I've provided my letter to you in two different formats to ensure you are able to print it accordingly.

Regards,

Patricia Manson

**To:** Commissioner Lindsay Berschauer – Chair  
Commissioner Mary Starrett  
Casey Kulla

**Date:** May 25, 2022

**Sub:** To consider whether to amend Ordinance 832, the Term Limits Ordinance, to make term limits inapplicable to the Yamhill County Sheriff, Yamhill County Clerk, Yamhill County Assessor, and the Yamhill County Treasurer.

Dear Commissioner Lindsay Berschauer, Commissioner Mary Starrett and Casey Kulla,

It is imperative that Yamhill County amend Ordinance 832.

I was one of the many individuals who voted in favor of term limits when it was on the ballot several years ago. I felt term limits would act as a safety net “for the people” to be able to rid our County of selfish, unethical, theatrical career politicians who demonstrate the unwillingness to represent the County and Co-Commissioners responsibly and respectfully. The example that comes to mind is Casey Kulla. He has grossly failed his duties as a Yamhill County Commissioner. He literally voted against issues that clearly support the very best interests of the Yamhill County People. In addition, I find his involvement in the Lindsay Berschauer Recall absolutely disgusting, unethical and extremely unprofessional. With this said, **the term limits would be ineffective in his case.** My faith in the Yamhill County Voters would prevail. “Fool us once”... We are a smart people and would not allow him to serve 3 terms. This is the case with any individual who proves to be ineffective. Put it to a vote.

The voters of Yamhill County are wise. We give credit where credit is due. We support those who utilize their voices in a manner that mirrors our expectations as representatives. Some may argue this point, but the truth has been presented again, as we recently voted loud and clear in support of Commissioner Lindsay Berschauer and Commissioner Mary Starrett. “We the people have spoken!” It is the right of the people to have a say as to who will represent them. We have a right to choose from new candidates and seasoned candidates. This is the beauty of our democracy. Please respect this right and amend the Ordinance 832. **The ordinance does not make sense.** Why eliminate qualified, experienced candidates “just because.” Let the people decide.

To add to my testimony, I would like to share that my experience with our Yamhill County Clerk, Brian Van Bergen and Sheriff Tim Svenson has been impeccable. Both are solid, respectful and intellectual individuals. Both are critical professionals in our County. Our voters did a fine job voting these two warriors into office. There is no question that they are both the best of the best. Their mindsets are healthy. They make decisions that are in the best interest of the Yamhill County people while upholding the law proudly. It would be detrimental to lose either one of these fine men. I believe it would be virtually impossible to replace either one of these gentlemen. Both have such a poise about them. They have the education, integrity, and experience it takes to master their roles indefinitely. Both set a standard that surpasses other Counties. The wisdom and expertise that Mr. Van Bergen and Sheriff Svenson so humbly demonstrate adds to the value of our County. We are a wealthy County! They both have impeccable characters and represent our communities well. Again, The ordinance does not make sense. Why eliminate qualified, experienced candidates after so many years “just because.” **Let the people decide.**

Let us agree, and amend the Ordinance 832. It is what’s best for our County. **“We The People” of Yamhill County deserve the right to retain valuable County employees and representatives. It is our constitutional right.** We deserve the respect to be allowed to practice our democratic right. Allow us to vote accordingly. Please amend the Ordinance 832. After one term, the individual, should they desire, would be placed back on the ballot. This would allow “The People” to reevaluate their worth as our representative, regardless of the seat they hold, as Commissioner, Sheriff, Clerk, Assessor or Treasurer. It really is that simple. I do not believe a qualified, ethical, responsible, reliable amazing individual should be shunned after serving respectfully for so many terms. Their many years of experience and expertise is extremely important as we all know. In addition, **it has been proven in the Douglas County Circuit Courts that term limits are unconstitutional.** Trust the people. Trust your community. **Please amend Ordinance 832 accordingly.**

Sincerely,  
Patricia Manson  
Yamhill, Oregon  
Daddeespattie@aol.com

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Lindsay Berschauer  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:02 PM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Subject:** FW: Term Limits

Resubmitting for 6/9 public hearing

### Lindsay Berschauer

Chair, Yamhill County Board of Commissioners

[berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us](mailto:berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us)

Phone: (503) 434-7501

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**From:** chiefjg4@frontier.com <chiefjg4@frontier.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2022 9:07 AM  
**To:** Lindsay Berschauer <berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us>; Mary Starrett <starrettm@co.yamhill.or.us>  
**Subject:** Term Limits

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Greetings, Yamhill County Commissioners.

We believe the county should seriously consider aligning with state law, regarding term limits. That said, our belief is that non-partisan positions, such as County Clerk, Sheriff, Assessor, and Commissioners would seem to make more sense in not being subject to term limits. We do believe the election cycles should continue, and that these positions should be on the ballot periodically as they are today. This continues to allow citizens to hold elected officials accountable for the results they achieve for our county and the communities therein.

Sincerely,

John and Diane Gallup  
604 NW Mt Bachelor St

McMinnville, OR 97128

We are registered voters in Oregon

Sent from Frontier Yahoo Mail for iPad

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** atalt@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 29, 2022 5:14 PM  
**To:** BOC Info; Casey Kulla; Mary Starrett; Lindsay Berschauer  
**Subject:** Re Term Limits

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Attention County Commissioners and interested parties,

Sorry I missed the meeting and discussion on term limits but I will 'chime-in' just the same.

Every election provides the opportunity for a term limit.

Job performance normally improves with experience and this goes for county commissioners and county clerks, for example.

Businesses do not fire their most experienced and knowledgeable employees.

Further, term limits in Yamhill County are arguably illegal due to Oregon State law.

Throw out this flawed Yamhill County ordinance.

Jim Talt  
Newberg

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Elena Mudrak <mudrake43@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 30, 2022 11:30 AM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Cc:** Ken Huffer; starretm@co.yamhill.or.us; Lindsay Berschauer; Casey Kulla; N M  
**Subject:** Public Comment

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Good afternoon,

I wanted to express my sincere terror and anger in response to the push by commissioners Starrett and Berschauer to eliminate their own term limits. It's absolutely horrendous, anti-democratic, and unacceptable. As YC residents we have voted on this before and sent a resounding "no" to the question. It's an insult and out-of-touch to suggest this for our county.

Elections are part of our civic duty, and elected officials should not be so scared by the fleeting nature of their policies that they might not sustain past their tenure. Have confidence in your county to do what is right for it and not to be controlled by the unobstructed, money-hungry power trip of two elected officials.

From democracy,  
Elena

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Mary Starrett  
**Sent:** Monday, May 30, 2022 12:59 PM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Subject:** Fwd: Term Limits

Mary Starrett  
Yamhill County Commissioner

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** oldhplcguru@gmail.com  
**Date:** May 29, 2022 at 1:21:33 PM PDT  
**To:** Lindsay Berschauer <berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us>, Casey Kulla <kullac@co.yamhill.or.us>, Mary Starrett <starrettm@co.yamhill.or.us>  
**Subject:** Term Limits

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Commissioners Berschauer, Kulla, and Starret,

I read an article in the May 27 News Register that you would like more community input about the current discussion of removing term limits for the Yamhill County assessor, clerk, sheriff, and treasurer. Part of my perspective on this is as a small business owner for about 35 years, part of which involved a laboratory in McMinnville with 20-30 employees.

I am strongly in favor of removing term limits for the offices in question. In my experience, these offices require expertise that is acquired by education and/or years of experience and have a significant learning curve, even when starting with a high level of past experience. In cases like this in a normal business, I like to keep the highly skilled employees as long as possible so that I don't have to pay the added expense of retraining and suffer the loss of historical perspective in the job. I think the risk of creating a small fiefdom in any of these departments is low with regular reviews of performance via the polls. If someone is not performing well, someone else can be elected. I don't know if it is possible or necessary to consider mid-term termination of such individuals for grievous breach of conduct or trust, but perhaps that should be considered. On the other hand, such a process may already be incorporated in their current employment contracts.



Finally, with the majority of Oregon counties not having these term limits, it seems like the standard has been set, both for liberal and conservative counties. Yamhill County should join them.

So my bottom line is that you should remove term limits for clerk, sheriff, assessor, and treasurer.

Thanks for considering this.

- John Dolan

\*\*\*\*\*

John Dolan  
7195 NW Wallace Rd  
McMinnville, OR 97128

[oldHPLCguru@gmail.com](mailto:oldHPLCguru@gmail.com)

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## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Fiona Gwozdz <fgwozdz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2022 12:43 PM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Cc:** Casey Kulla; Lindsay Berschauer; Mary Starrett; N M  
**Subject:** Public Comment: Do NOT Eliminate Term Limits

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Dear Board,

Please do NOT eliminate term limits. It is absolutely infuriating to think that a community as uniquely diverse as ours would limit our opportunities for representation by eliminating term limits. We deserve the opportunity to bring different voices to the table and to have those voices better reflect a future that is inclusive, kind and open to solutions. I fear if we do away with term limits we are ultimately giving power and control to those who already have the most of both.

More than that, fresh voices, opinions and viewpoints are needed to ensure the most creative, of-the-moment solutions to our most pressing problems can be pursued. Without term limits, we could get mired in the "way things are always done" and new ideas will never be pursued. We do not need a permanent political class dictating how we run our county. We need fresh ideas, unique perspectives and the opportunity for people from all walks of life to serve as our local leadership.

Term limits help keep our representatives focused and create an energy around their service period. If that time limit is taken away, they would not have the urgency and eagerness to accomplish goals. That kind of approach is the opposite of what we Yamhill County needs, especially in light of so many issues. We need creative, committed leaders who bring refreshing, energized ideas to the table. We don't need career politicians looking to hold our county hostage by emboldening a vocal minority through their decisions.

Do not make this political power grab. You will simply create further distrust in your leadership approach and the County Commission as a whole.

Thank you,

Fiona Gwozdz Mancill  
McMinnville

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Lindsay Berschauer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2022 1:17 PM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Subject:** FW: Term Limits

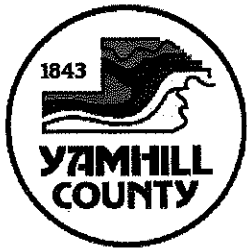
### Lindsay Berschauer

Chair, Yamhill County Board of Commissioners

[berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us](mailto:berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us)

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**Sent:** Sunday, May 29, 2022 1:21 PM  
**To:** Lindsay Berschauer <berschauerl@co.yamhill.or.us>; Casey Kulla <kullac@co.yamhill.or.us>; Mary Starrett <starrettm@co.yamhill.or.us>  
**Subject:** Term Limits

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have a significant learning curve, even when starting with a high level of past experience. In cases like this in a normal business, I like to keep the highly skilled employees as long as possible so that I don't have to pay the added expense of retraining and suffer the loss of historical perspective in the job. I think the risk of creating a small fiefdom in any of these departments is low with regular reviews of performance via the polls. If someone is not performing well, someone else can be elected. I don't know if it is possible or necessary to consider mid-term termination of such individuals for grievous breach of conduct or trust, but perhaps that should be considered. On the other hand, such a process may already be incorporated in their current employment contracts.

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Thanks for considering this.

- John Dolan

\*\*\*\*\*

John Dolan  
7195 NW Wallace Rd  
McMinnville, OR 97128

[oldHPLCguru@gmail.com](mailto:oldHPLCguru@gmail.com)

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## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Diane Reynolds <diane@provokinghope.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 31, 2022 6:25 PM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Subject:** Term limits Conversation

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

Thank you Lindsey for the opportunity give to use my voice.

My thoughts are that if this is unconstitutional then we need to repel or whatever it is that is the procedural name.

Thanks,  
Diane

### **"Working together for the solution"**

Our website is full of resources, check it out

Diane Reynolds-Founder/President  
Pastor/CEO  
THW, CRM, PSS  
Provoking Hope Recovery Support  
213 NE 10th McMinnville, OR 97128  
971-261-2259 office 503-883-9647 Fax  
Non Profit Community Organization #45-3155924

## Carolina Rook

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**From:** Kimberley Sapunar <ksapunar13@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 1, 2022 6:37 AM  
**To:** BOC Info  
**Subject:** public comment on Ordinance 587

[This email originated outside of Yamhill County]

To the Board of Commissioners,

My comment is in regard to the consideration of Ordinance 587 to eliminate term limits. I strongly disagree with the removal of term limits for the commissioners. Each commissioner is elected as a servant to the people of Yamhill county, and term limits allows for new people and ideas and to continually become part of the county administration to serve the citizens. It is also unethical to move to rescind term limits and apply that removal to the currently elected and seated commissioners. Voters did not elect the current commissioners thinking that their terms may never concluded, You can't change the rules once you are in power, it's not democracy.

Thank you  
Kim Sapunar  
1778 SW Goucher Court  
McMinnville, Oregon