

**JUL 29 2016**

**Clatsop County Board of Commissioners**

**Regular Meeting**

**June 8, 2016**

**Doc#** 2016070084

Chair Scott Lee called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm., in the Judge Guy Boyington Building, 857 Commercial Street, Astoria, Oregon. Also present were Commissioners Sarah Nebeker, Lisa Clement, and Lianne Thompson and Dirk Rohne.

Staff Present:

- Cameron Moore County Manager
- Heather Reynolds County Counsel
- Monica Steele Budget & Finance Director
- Tiffany Brown Emergency Manager
- Tom Bergin Sheriff
- Paul Williams Chief Deputy

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Thompson made and Clement seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.*

**PRESENTATION**

a. Clatsop Forestry & Wood Products Economic Development Committee

Kevin Leahy and Mark Gustafson representing the Clatsop Forestry and Wood Products Economic Development Committee addressed the Board on an update of what the committee has been up to. Leahy said the primary goals of the committee are to educate community leaders and the public about the status and importance of the forest sector in the regional economy and to stimulate economic planning efforts and economic development projects in the forest sector. The economic importance of the sector in Clatsop County includes 1719 forest sector jobs. Roughly 30% of the county economic base is tied to this sector. Gustafson said he is not involved with the manufacturing part of the timber in the county but is involved with the logging. Gustafson spoke about an article in the Daily Astorian regarding a survey asking the public about their impression of timber harvesting. The survey showed the timber harvesting issue is ugly. The trees are a crop that can be harvested, replanted and grow back again. Gustafson did a job in 2000 which drew a lot of public attention but now you would never know it had been harvested and there is a brand new crop of trees in that location. Gustafson said people seem to be more offended of clearcutting versus removing the trees and black topping the area. To make sure loggers are doing the right thing in the woods, the Oregon Forest Practices Act determines how timber harvesting will be accomplished. This covers water protection, soil erosion, and wild life habitat. All the areas are totally regulated. Gustafson referenced the amount of jobs in wood products in the county and said management has changed over the years of the state forests and less harvesting has happened. Gustafson asked the Board to keep in mind the large natural resource base citizenry in Clatsop County. Leahy wanted to reiterate the tax revenues that support the local schools and the college. Leahy invited the commissioners to the Annual Leader's Tour on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Rohne thanked Leahy and Gustafson for their presentation. Rohne believes timber is a sustainable resource and an incredible understated asset to Clatsop County. Nebeker asked Gustafson if the Linn County lawsuit was something the Board should consider

1 being involved with. Gustafson gave his personal opinion and does believe the state is failing to  
2 promote timber harvests. Thompson thanked Leahy and Gustafson for their presentation.

3  
4 b. Timber Revenue

5 Sheriff Bergin and Paul Williams, Chief Deputy, spoke on timber revenues for the Rural Law  
6 Enforcement District (RLED). Bergin said they want to see an involved sustainable logging  
7 operation. Bergin said when the Rural Law Enforcement was formed, the initial tax rate was  
8 sufficient to cover operation costs. With the passing of Measures 5, 47 and 50 it has caused the  
9 District to depend on timber revenues. The actions that were used to remedy the increased costs  
10 were to reduce staff, extend the use of vehicles, delay hiring and chose to not address unmet  
11 needs. If timber revenues are not sufficient, it causes lack of services for the citizens. The  
12 Sheriff's office has been able to depend on the beginning fund balance to make up the difference  
13 between expenses and the roller coaster of revenue. Bergin said with careful financial planning  
14 and reductions in expenditures they have avoided a negative beginning fund balance. Bergin  
15 asked the Board to understand the role of timber revenues to maintain solvency and provide  
16 current service levels. Bergin said a \$300,000 per year increase in timber revenue would lead to  
17 sustainable operations for the foreseeable future. It would take the harvest level from the current  
18 harvest level of 73 million board feet to 93.3 million board feet. This type of increase would not  
19 destroy Clatsop County. Reduced timber revenue to the RLED also affects the general fund.  
20 Bergin said within two to three years he will have to reduce the criminal division by three  
21 deputies. Bergin asked the commission to support reasonable timber revenue to maintain their  
22 service levels. There was an agreement with all sides involved to log a sustainable harvest  
23 amount but Bergin said the county hasn't even come close to that level. Nebeker asked for  
24 clarification on the Linn County lawsuit. Reynolds said the Linn County lawsuit is not before the  
25 commission at this time. It is a class action lawsuit and there are two sides to every story.  
26 Thompson said the community does better if they come together with a comprehensive  
27 discussion. Rohne said he has seen the timber dollars provide bond payments for public  
28 employee's retirement. Lee said the Board will not make any decision on the forest management  
29 plan but there needs to be stability.

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31 **BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC**

32 Drew Herzig, 628 Klatskanine Ave., Astoria. Herzig wanted to thank the Board for Cameron  
33 Moore coming to the city council meeting and introducing himself. Herzig also thanked Tiffany  
34 Brown, Emergency Manager, for addressing the city council regarding the Cascadia Rising  
35 exercise.

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37 Helen Westbrook, 2860 Log Bronc, Astoria. Westbrook stated she is discouraged by the  
38 representation of Clatsop County regarding the forests. Westbrook said at the Forest Trust Lands  
39 Advisory Committee (FTLAC) meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup> Commissioner Thompson abstained from  
40 both votes because she had no direction from her commission. Westbrook said at the last Board  
41 meeting Chair Lee assured Thompson she was doing a good job and encouraged other  
42 commissioners to direct their questions to Thompson or County Manager Moore. Westbrook said  
43 Thompson reports that she can't weigh in on forestry issues because her fellow commissioners  
44 have not spoken. Westbrook asked the Board to stop hiding behind the Linn County lawsuit.

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46 Carolyn Eady, 1990 Sheridan, Astoria. Eady attended the Columbian River Estuary Conference held at  
47 the Liberty Theater. The focus was on the impact of climate change in this region. Eady said scientists are

1 trying to factor the impact of sea level rise and warming temperatures on current and future restoration  
2 activities. Eady says she does not want to eliminate all timber harvesting. Eady asked if what is being  
3 done can promote clean and cool water in the streams and rivers that flow through the forest. Eady said  
4 that research published last year stated because of the current level of clear cuts in state and private forests  
5 it is now contributing to climate warming. Eady would like the Board to make a clear and forceful  
6 statement to the Board of Forestry.  
7

8 Roger Dorband, 462 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Astoria. Dorband brought up the 2030 Vision Plan which cost the county  
9 \$30,000 to form a uniform opinion about what direction the people in the county would like to see the  
10 county go. Dorband said most of the language has to do with preserving the forests. Dorband quoted a  
11 part of the vision, “We protect and enhance our scenic beauty and natural resources as the foundation for  
12 our prosperity and quality of life. We preserve our forests. We balance the natural resource base with  
13 scenic beauty. We recognize the contribution of forestry while transitioning to the emerging economy of  
14 the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Dorband said there was a list of 16 points for economic goals and not one included  
15 timber harvest or increased timber harvest. Dorband said with Thompson’s abstaining at the FTLAC  
16 meeting on two votes it gave Tim Josi a quorum to continue his call before the Oregon Board of Forestry  
17 for increased county revenue from timber harvest. Dorband would like to see funding from taxing  
18 recreational marijuana and eliminate the Oregon Forest Resources Institute.  
19

20 Issa Simpson, 926 Duane Street, Astoria. Simpson brought members from Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare  
21 (CBH) that she represents and to speak on their behalf. Simpson said the members conducted a vote of no  
22 confidence against the Clinical Director of CBH. Since that time there have been investigations into some  
23 of the concerns raised in the vote of no confidence. There were significant finds in the report by the  
24 investigator hired by CBH. Simpson said CBH has lost great clinicians over the last few months and it  
25 will take a big change to keep the ones that are there now. Simpson said her members want to see the best  
26 services possible provided to the citizens of Clatsop County with adequate training and clear consistent  
27 policies and program goals. Simpson said her members were willing to provide information to  
28 investigators that was a risk for them. Simpson would like to see CBH management and its stakeholders  
29 allow staff to take part identifying the means to improve the internal and external relationships and  
30 services CBH has in the community. Moore said the Clinical Director that was the subject of the no  
31 confidence is no longer employed by CBH. Moore shared the concerns and said there will be other  
32 changes that need to be made.  
33

### 34 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

35 *Thompson moved and Nebeker seconded a motion to approve the consent calendar. Motion*  
36 *carried unanimously.*

- 37 a. Approve 15-16 Budget & Appropriation Adjustments ..... {Page 7}
- 38 b. Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes 5-11-16..... {Page 11}
- 39 c. Acceptance of May 17, 2016 Primary Election Abstract/Canvass of Votes..... {Page 15}
- 40 d. Consideration of Compensation Plan Amendment – New Position..... {Page 17}
- 41 e. Consideration of Compensation Plan Amendment – Casual Position ..... {Page 25}
- 42 f. Public Health Contract Amendment..... {Page 31}

### 44 **PUBLIC HEARING**

- 45 a. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget

46 Monica Steele, Budget & Finance Director, addressed the Board to consider testimony from any  
47 and all persons who may wish to comment on the budget which was approved by the Budget  
48 Committee on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Steele stated no action is required by the Board at this time. Staff is  
49 evaluating the need to request adjustments to the approved budget based on new information that

1 was not available when the budget was approved by the Budget Committee. The 2016-17 county  
2 budget totals \$64,374,900 which includes unappropriated ending fund balances of \$3,996,800 in  
3 the special projects funds, \$1,507,900 in the general fund and \$1,608,110 in the general roads  
4 fund. The Board has approved appropriation authority in the amount of \$57,116,850. *Rohne*  
5 *moved the Board hold the public hearing on the 2016-17 approved county budget to consider*  
6 *testimony from any and all persons who may wish to make comment pursuant to ORS 294.453*  
7 *and Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.* Lee opened the public hearing. No  
8 public testimony. Lee closed the public hearing. Budget adoption is scheduled for June 22, 2016.  
9

10 b. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget for 4-H Extension Special Service District

11 Steele addressed the Board to consider testimony from any and all persons who may wish to  
12 comment on the 4-H & Extension Special Service District budget which was approved by the  
13 Budget Committee on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Steele stated no action is required by the Board. The 2016-17  
14 approved budget for the Clatsop County 4-H & Extension Special Service District totals  
15 \$647,950. Lee looked for a motion to hold the public hearing. *Thompson moved that the board*  
16 *hold a public hearing for the 2016-17 Clatsop County 4-H & Extension Special Service District*  
17 *approved budget to consider testimony from any and all persons who may wish to make*  
18 *comments pursuant to ORS 294.453 and Nebeker seconded. Motion carried unanimously.* Lee  
19 asked for public testimony. No public testimony. Lee closed the public hearing. Budget adoption  
20 is scheduled for June 22, 2016.  
21

22 c. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget for Road District No. 1

23 Steele said the Road District Budget Committee approved the 2016-17 districts' annual budget.  
24 Steele asked the Board to consider testimony from any and all persons who may wish to  
25 comment on the approved budget. The 2016-17 approved budget for Clatsop County Road  
26 District No. 1 totals \$3,513,300. *Thompson moved the Board hold a public hearing on the 2016-*  
27 *17 Clatsop County Road District No. 1 approved budget to consider testimony from any and all*  
28 *persons who may wish to make comment pursuant to ORS 294.453 and Nebeker seconded.*  
29 *Motion carried unanimously.* Lee opened the public hearing. No public testimony. Lee closed the  
30 public hearing. Budget adoption is scheduled for June 22, 2016.  
31

32 d. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget for Rural Law Enforcement District

33 Steele said the Rural Law Enforcement Budget Committee approved the district's 2016-17  
34 annual budget. The 2016-17 Rural Enforcement District budget totals \$4,387,490 which includes  
35 unappropriated ending fund balance of \$1,473,350. The Board has approved expenditure  
36 authority in the amount of \$2,914,140. *Nebeker moved the Board hold the public hearing on the*  
37 *2016-17 Clatsop County Rural Law Enforcement District Approved Budget to consider*  
38 *testimony from any and all persons who may wish to make comment pursuant to ORS 294.453*  
39 *and Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.* Lee asked for public testimony. No  
40 public testimony. Lee closed the public hearing. Budget adoption is scheduled for June 22, 2016.  
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42 e. Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget for Westport Sewer Service District

43 Steele said the Westport Sewer Service District Budget Committee approved the districts 2016-  
44 17 annual budget. Steele asked the Board to consider testimony from any and all persons who  
45 may wish to comment. The 2016-17 approved budget for the Westport Sewer Service District  
46 totals \$183.160. *Thompson moved the Board hold the public hearing on the 2016-17 Westport*

1 *Sewer Service District Approved Budget to consider testimony from any and all persons who*  
2 *may wish to comment pursuant to ORS 294.453 and Nebeker seconded. Motion carried*  
3 *unanimously. Lee asked for public testimony. No public testimony. Lee closed the public*  
4 *hearing. Budget adoption is scheduled for June 22, 2016.*

5  
6 **BUSINESS AGENDA**

7 a. Franchise Agreement with Medix and Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee  
8 Appointments

9 Tiffany Brown, Emergency Manager and Duane Mullins with Medix addressed the Board.  
10 Brown said Medix has had a franchise agreement with the county to provide ambulance service  
11 for over 30 years. Brown said they created an online public survey for community feedback on  
12 Medix services. Approximately 120 responses were received which were split with both positive  
13 and negative feedback. Rich Mays, Interim County Manager, encouraged the Ambulance  
14 Advisory Committee (ASA) to look at a renewal process. Brown said they used the survey in  
15 contract negotiations and believes they have a stronger contract which addresses some of the  
16 issues that were expressed by the public. Two of the primary concerns were adequate ambulance  
17 coverage in the county and the impact of hospital transports and out-of-area transfers. Brown  
18 said the contract increased the core area, the number of ambulances to stay within the core area  
19 and also included a performance assessment schedule in the franchise agreement. Mullins said  
20 the recent process they went through has been excellent. The input they have received has been  
21 very helpful. Mullins is looking forward to the assessment process. Mullins said Medix has been  
22 the county's provider for 40 years and would like to keep providing service. Lee asked how often  
23 the periodic assessment would take place and Mullins said every 18 months. Thompson asked if  
24 Medix covers Cove Beach and Mullins said yes they cover that area. Moore thanked Brown for  
25 all the work she did on this. Brown said there was some confusion on term limits on the ASA so  
26 she would like to ratify the appointments that are listed. Reynolds said the ASA advises on  
27 bringing the franchise agreement to the Board and they were confused on when committee  
28 members were appointed and what their term limits are. Reynolds suggests as part of this agenda  
29 item that the Board ratify the members of the ASA and approve the agreement. *Thompson moved*  
30 *to ratify the Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee appointments and approve the*  
31 *ambulance franchise agreement with Medix, authorizing the Chair to sign and Nebeker*  
32 *seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

33  
34 b. Memorandum of Understanding and Resolution & Order in the matter of adjusting  
35 Jurisdictional Boundaries of Ambulance Service Area Plan

36 Brown said she received a call from two fire chiefs in Columbia County and Clatskanie and they  
37 informed Brown they have been responding to areas in Clatsop County that you actually have to  
38 drive through Columbia County to get into. Brown would like to enter into a contract to provide  
39 ambulance services in those areas. The Ambulance Service Plan says that the county can only  
40 contract with one provider. This is simply putting into writing what has been occurring all along.  
41 The solution takes form of a Memorandum of Understanding with Columbia County by making  
42 the areas in question part of Columbia County Ambulance Service Area. Dave Crawford, Mist-  
43 Birkenfeld Fire Chief, said the solution fits everyone's needs which allows Columbia County to  
44 serve the people directly. Reynolds spoke about an example of two neighbors who were on each  
45 side of the county line where one had a 12 minute response time and the other had a 60 minute  
46 response time because they had two different sets of rules. *Thompson moved to approve the*

1 *Resolution & Order authorizing the Memorandum of Understanding with Columbia County and*  
2 *authorize the Chair to sign both the R&O and the MOU and Clement seconded. Motion carried*  
3 *unanimously.*  
4

5 c. Adoption of Resolution & Order allowing property tax exemption

6 Tom Bergin, Sheriff, asked the Board to consider approving a tax exemption for the surviving  
7 spouse of any public safety officer killed in the line of duty. Bergin said the legislature passed  
8 Senate Bill 1513 which allows the county to exempt the first \$250,000 in assessed value of the  
9 home that is owned by the surviving spouse of a public safety officer. Bergin said the first person  
10 that would be eligible for the exemption would be Amy Gooding, wife of Jason Gooding who  
11 was killed in the line of duty. *Nebeker moved to approve the Resolution & Order to exempt from*  
12 *property taxation the first \$250,000 in assessed value of the homestead of the surviving spouse of*  
13 *a public safety officer killed in the line of duty and Clement seconded. Motion carried*  
14 *unanimously.*  
15

16 **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

17 Thompson said the Cascadia Rising exercise was very impressive. Thompson said she received a  
18 staff update from the Board of Forestry meeting where the Forest Trust Land Advisory  
19 Committee (FTLAC) is interested in the Department of Forestry's policy option package about  
20 recreation. There is concern about the forest development fund shortage. The timber inventory  
21 has not been confirmed. Thompson said she was not on the Board when the Vision 2030 was  
22 adopted but attended several meetings regarding the Vision. Thompson said in those meetings  
23 the people who attended were articulate and passionate but did not constitute the members of the  
24 Chamber of Commerce or representatives from various industries around the county. Thompson  
25 felt the attendees were community activists. Thompson said Commissioner Josi made a request  
26 as the Chair of the FTLAC that Clatsop County change its policy and authorize its representative  
27 to vote on Clatsop County's behalf. Rohne said there was no policy that said the representative  
28 had to check with the Board before making a vote. Lee said there was a letter written to  
29 Commissioner Josi requesting the representative come back to the Board before voting on a very  
30 important decision. Lee said Thompson is asking the Board agree to allow her to vote on agenda  
31 items that come before the FTLAC. Lee said he trusts Thompson will make the right decisions at  
32 those meetings. Nebeker said she can see why it would be difficult to attend the meetings and not  
33 be able to vote. However, Thompson does not know what the Board would like because they  
34 don't meet to discuss these issues. Nebeker thinks the Board needs to come together and share  
35 more information. Clement said she would need to be more informed on the agenda item before  
36 telling Thompson how to vote on the agenda item. Lee would like to table the discussion to next  
37 meeting. Thompson would like to have a work session to establish policies. Nebeker would also  
38 like a work session and to know more about the fiscal issues. Clement said they have seen a lot  
39 of public testimony from people on different sides of the issue that want more information so the  
40 Board should take a more in depth look at the issue. Lee said the position right now is the  
41 Department of Forestry needs to come up with a new forest management plan. Thompson and  
42 Lee met with the Governor's Natural Resource's Advisor who said he would like a wish list from  
43 Clatsop County. Lee said he told the governor there needed to be some leadership from her  
44 office to give direction to the Department of Forestry. Thompson reported the Land Use Board of  
45 Appeals (LUBA) determined that the discontinuation of the Arch Cape Design Review  
46 Committee is a land use decision.

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Rohne attended the Astoria Visual Arts Auction and Fundraiser which raised monies to provide students opportunities to see fine arts in Portland and help educate people as part of their art curriculum.

Nebeker said the Royal Nebeker Scholarship Fund awarded the first scholarship to continue their studies for higher education. Israel Nebeker's new single went to #2 and tickets for his band's performance at the Liberty Theater sold out in 30 minutes.

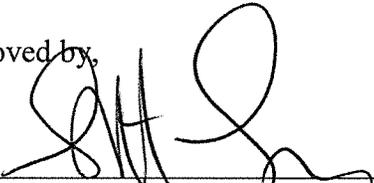
Clement said Seaside High School had their awards night for graduates and awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships. Astoria's awards night will be coming up and both schools report higher graduation rates. Wahkiakum County has recently changed the name of Jim Crow Point to Brookfield Point and Jim Crow Creek to Harlows Creek.

Lee said there will be more conversations with the governor's office once the judge makes a decision on the class action lawsuit. Lee attended the NOHA (Northwest Oregon Housing Associates) meeting and they are working on housekeeping issues to facilitate the merger of NOHA and Clatsop County Housing Authority (CCHA). NOHA has lent CCHA \$25,000.00 to make the trust fund whole. The only hurdle left is to sell Clatsop Shores which is on the market. Lee will be giving a report to Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association (OCZMA) on the current status of gill netting on the Columbia River. Lee said OCZMA has a partnership with the University of Oregon's graduate students to do an overview of OCZMA and see what direction they would like to go in the future.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Moore said he spoke at the Seaside Chamber of Commerce event and has met with the Seaside Downtown Development Association and continues to build relationships around the county. Moore also did a ride along with the sheriff. Moore said the Arch Cape Design Review Committee appealed the decision the Board made to LUBA and LUBA rejected the request to dismiss the motion. As of now, the Committee is not discontinued. There will be further discussions on this

**ADJOURNMENT 7:28pm**

Approved by,  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Lee, Chairperson