

Columbia County Board of Commissioners
July 23, 2025, Board Meeting
Hybrid from the
John Gumm Building and Civic Center, St. Helens, OR. 97051.

Present: Commissioner Kellie Jo Smith, Commissioner Margaret Magruder, Spencer Parsons, Senior Assistant County Counsel, and Jacyn Normine, Board Office Administrator.

CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Smith called this meeting to order at 10:00 am and led the flag salute.

APPROVE AGENDA

Commissioner Magruder moved to approve the agenda, adding item E to the consent agenda, 48-2025, In the Matter of a Special Procurement for a Contract to Provide Logging Services, and authorize the chair to sign. Commissioner Garrett seconded.

- **Vote:** KJS/MM/CG all in favor. Motion approved.

VISITOR COMMENTS - 3 MINUTE LIMIT

No comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Smith read the consent agenda in full. Commissioner Garrett moved, and Commissioner Magruder seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote: KJS/MM/CG all in favor. Motion approved.

- A. Approve Select to Pay for July 17, 2025, FY24/25 and FY25/26.
- B. Approve Corrected Order No. 35-2025, In the Matter of the Distribution of Proceeds Under ORS 275.275 [2025 Distribution: Gas & Land Sales] [Corrected to Modify Exhibit B Staff Time Computation Error].
- C. Approve Order No. 45-2025, In the Matter of the Transfer of Jurisdiction Over a Portion of Three Roads (Time Extension).
- D. Approve Letter of Support for the Lower Columbia River Watershed Council's Engagement Grant Application.
- E. Approve Order 48-2025 In the Matter of a Special Procurement for a Contract to Provide Logging Services and authorize the chair to sign.

AGREEMENTS / CONTRACT / AMENDMENTS

Commissioner Smith read agreements, contracts, and amendments in full. Commissioner Magruder moved, and Commissioner Garrett seconded to approve the agreements, contracts, and amendments as presented.

VOTE: KJS/MM/CG1 all in favor. Motion approved.

- A. Approve C111-2025, Intergovernmental Agreement No. 25415 with the Oregon Department of Justice for Child Support Enforcement and Authorize the Chair to Sign.
- B. Approve C93-2025, Public Services Contract with Braxling Inc. for Rock Crushing Services at Ross Pit.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Ed McGlone, Assistant County Counsel, and Paul Vogel, CET Executive Director, are requesting approval of C109-2025, Personal Services Contract by and between Columbia County and Robert Cromwell Consulting, LLC. This contract will provide consulting services for a grant that was submitted on behalf of the county and funded by Business Oregon. After discussion, Commissioner Magruder moved to approve C109-2025, and Commissioner Garrett seconded. **VOTE:** KJS/MM/CG1 all in favor. Motion approved.

2. Mike Russell, Public Works Director, and Steve Niemela, ODFW Watershed Manager, are here to give an update on the Reeder Road, Sauvie Island Pilot Program. We have been running this program for a couple of weeks and are working on making it permanent. We have completed multiple tasks to ensure that signage and outreach are complete. We have completed three successful weekends. Landowners and emergency vehicles have been able to get through. We have reduced or eliminated beach traffic and parking issues on Reeder Road. We have also added a QR code that gives a local map with other locations where someone could go swimming. We have had a few struggles and some frustrated people, but we are working on ways to minimize those issues. The Board directed staff to extend the pilot program through September.
3. Melissa Enright, General Services Office Coordinator, is here to propose a logging contract with Evenson Logging for Phase 2 of Carcus Creek Timber Harvest. After discussion, Commissioner Magruder moved to approve C112-2025 Logging Contract with Evenson Logging Company for Carcus Creek #2. Commissioner Garrett seconded. VOTE: KJS/MM/CG1 all in favor. Motion approved.
4. Suzie Dahl, Land Development Services Director, is here to request approval of C25-2025-1, Amendment 25-021-001 Columbia County NSEP CERP Agreement. This amendment was sent to all counties throughout Oregon that applied for this grant. There was not enough time for all the communities to complete the work on time, so the contract has been extended to December 31 for this year. Commissioner Garrett moved to approve C25-2025-1, Amendment 25-021-001 Columbia County NSEP CERP Agreement with the chair to sign. Commissioner Magruder seconded. VOTE: KJS/MM/CG1 all in favor. Motion approved.

COMMISSIONER MAGRUDER COMMENTS

We had a lovely evening last night at the City/County dinner at the Elks. I see a couple of the attendees in our audience today. It is always a nice opportunity to get together with people around the County. We had a grand county fair last week. It was very hot last week during Senior Days, but we Seniors were able to get through it. Queen My Fair Lady Sharon Jump was crowned at the My Fair Lady/Gentlemen. We served 350 lunches to seniors. Commissioner Smith and I are off to the Eastern Oregon Economic Conference and will be bringing back information. The first week in August, I am the grandmother in Charge at the Polk County Fair. He is hoping for year number 6 of the Grand Champion Pen of Market Chickens. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped the Columbia County Fair be successful, and to all the people at the auction who contributed to another successful year.

COMMISSIONER GARRETT COMMENTS

It is good to be back. I was in Philadelphia last week for the National Association of Counties' annual meeting. I was able to sponsor and pass a resolution with little debate that Columbia County and Oregon, in general, have sponsored since 2017 regarding materials and preferences used in Public Works projects to keep those requirements at a local level with local engineers and local building authorities. Thank you to Paul Vogel, Ed, and Melanie Olson for helping us reach an agreement to hire Mr. Cromwell to lead our energy load transmission community planning task force.

COMMISSIONER SMITH COMMENTS

This year the fair gave water away for free. Many bottles of water were given away, and there were onsite large containers that someone could fill their water bottles. I was able to buy three rabbits that will continue their lives and will add to the future rabbits. I also got a turkey that is already sitting in my freezer. Next week, the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization will join

us here at John Gumm on Tuesday to discuss emergency drinking water. We are off to Eastern Oregon to Pendleton. With no work session this afternoon, we will head into executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Ed McGlone, Assistant County Counsel,
 - a) Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(h), to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body regarding current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Coming out of the executive session with no action taken.

ADJOURN

With nothing further to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:29 AM.

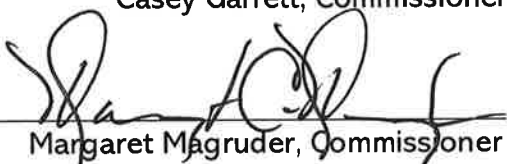
The recording of this meeting is posted at www.columbiacountyor.gov/meetings

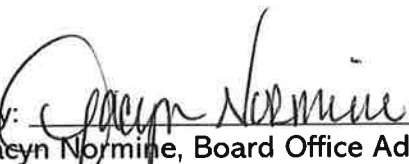
The next regular scheduled meeting is on July 30, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: 
Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

By: 
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By: 
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

By: 
Jacyn Normine, Board Office Administrator,