

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON
Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 1:00 p.m.
Hybrid from the
John Gumm Building and Civic Center in
St. Helens, Oregon

WORK SESSION

Present: Commissioner Kellie Jo Smith, Commissioner Margaret Magruder, Commissioner Casey Garrett, Ed McGlone, Assistant County Counsel, and Jacyn Normine, Administrator.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Smith called this meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

APPROVE AGENDA

- Commissioner Garrett moved to approve the agenda and add 2H to the executive session and a #2 discussion for items for the ASA timeline. Commissioner Magruder seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Vote: MM & CG in favor. Approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board recessed the regular meeting to enter an executive session. Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f) to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection, and 2(h) to consult with legal counsel regarding the legal rights and duties of the public bodies about current litigation or publication with Sarah Hanson, County Counsel.

Coming out of the executive session with no action taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Holly Miller, IT Director, presented the additional information that the Board had requested the week prior. This information includes the following if the Board decides to move forward with the Broadband Project. Letter to Broadband Office notifying that we will move forward or withdraw by June 10, 2026.

If we move forward, the next steps would be to contract with the Broadband office, set up a non-profit to include construction bids, fielding and truthing with PUDs and COOPs, and pre-signups to utilize the network. Commissioner Smith and Magruder would like to see additional numbers, commentary, and stakeholder ownership, and they will continue to pursue these. Commissioner Garrett cannot see that he will be able to gain more confidence by June 10, 2026, the deadline, and stated that he is still a no vote on moving forward. Holly will return to the June 3, 2026, work session meeting with the additional information requested.

2. Jaime Aanensen, Public Health Director, and Corey Padron, Emergency Management Director, came before the Board to discuss Franchise Contracts for the Ambulance Services in Columbia County.

In August of 2025, County Counsel Sarah Hanson sent the Franchises attorney the amended contract and requested that they review and redline it, then return it for consideration. To date,

this has not come back. After discussion, the Board directed staff to contact the Franchises' attorney and ask them to return their redline.

ADMINISTRATOR BOARD MATTERS

- A letter of support for the Port regarding a grant application.
Commissioner Garrett moved to approve the Letter of Support for the Port of Columbia County FY26/27 PIDP Grant Application. Commissioner Magruder seconded. **Vote:** KJS, MM & CG in favor. Approved.
- Quarterly department head meeting at 2:30 pm on June 4, 2026
- The event scheduled through the City of Scappoose to be held at the JGB on May 29 & 30 has been canceled.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE

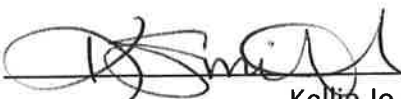
Commissioner Magruder gave a document to the other Board members and discussed a few key points that needed to be changed. Commissioner Garrett nominated Commissioner Magruder as the liaison for Emergency Management to oversee procedures and processes as the stand-alone department prepares to merge with Public Health on an interim basis before being delegated to its primary department.

ADJOURN

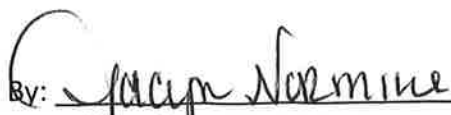
With nothing further to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 pm. The recording of this meeting is posted at www.columbiacountyor.gov/meetings


The next regular scheduled meeting is on June 3, 2026.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By:  _____
Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

By:  _____
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

By:  _____
Jacyn Normine, Administrator,

By:  _____
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner