

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON
Wednesday, May 13, 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, Sarah Hanson, 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. Commissioner Magruder seconded. **Vote:** MM & CG in favor. Approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Madison Riethman, Assistant Public Health Director, is here regarding a follow-up from the 10:00 am meeting on Grant Funded Promotion Specialist Positions. After the discussion, Madison will come back next week.
2. Amy Hansford, Finance Director, gave a financial quarterly update.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board recessed the regular scheduled meeting to enter an executive session. Pursuant to ORS 192. 660(2)(e), to conduct deliberations with person(s) designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. Jacyn Normine.

Coming out of the executive session with no action taken.

Returning to the Public Meeting, Commissioner Smith entertained a motion to Approve C54-2026, Settlement Agreement and Release of Claims with Rural Organizing Project ("ROP") and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, reflecting Grammatical Corrections made by Commissioner Magruder, and Authorize County Counsel to Sign. Commissioner Garrett moved to Approve, Commissioner Magruder Seconded. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

ADMINISTRATOR BOARD MATTERS

- A discussion was held on reducing the membership tier with the South County Chamber. The Board agreed to reduce from Platinum to Silver, resulting in savings of \$1,100.00.
- Reminder that the Board needs to discuss Donation Allocations for FY26/27 and consider a new tenant lease for Columbia Business Alliance (CBA) for storage space in the basement of the John Gumm Building and Civic Center. Commissioner Smith supported the idea of reducing the donation request to CBA by making an in-kind match for rental

spaces, including storage space and the use of county facilities to help with janitorial/facilities assistance.

- With the PIO position being slated for lay-off on June 30, 2026, Jacyn requested to invite the PIO to the table to discuss where job duties should be allocated and potential training for job duties. The Board agreed to bring this back to a work session and invited the PIO to the table for their input.
- Public Works received another Kudo for a job well done on trimming in the Deer Island area.
- Oregon State University, Steve Young has invited the Commissioner to attend the NWREC VIP Day and celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the OSU programs.
- NW Regional Childcare will be meeting on the 1st floor of the John Gumm Building and Civic Center on May 14, 2026, from 9-11 am.
- Updated that the revised John Gumm Building and Civic Center Rental Agreement/Policy is with County Counsel and should be coming to a meeting soon for discussion.

BOARD ROUNDTABLE

- Commissioner Magruder will meet with HSEMC to work out an IGA.
- Commissioner Garrett met with the Task Force, and it went well. They worked on a pathway to research and work that's been done so far and hope to have a final project by mid-September.
- Commissioner Magruder also received an email from Holly Miller regarding broadband about a potential private investor.
- Commissioner Smith asked if we wanted to have any more conversations in executive session regarding the budget. Commissioner Garrett has asked Sarah Hanson a question regarding layoffs and will come back after talking with HR.

ADJOURN

With nothing further to come before this Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:29 pm.

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


The next regular scheduled meeting is on May 20, 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