

BOARD OF SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of January 2, 2013

The Board met at 9:00 a.m. on January 2, 2013 for a staff meeting at the Commissioner's Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners Robert Anderson, Doug McKenzie and Christopher Brong present. Discussion included debit and credit card accounts, office calendar, line item adjustments, phones, agenda, scheduling, and authorizations to purchase, with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 9:19 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. January 2, 2013 at the Commissioner's Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners Robert Anderson, Doug McKenzie and Christopher Brong present, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rick Jessel thanked the Board for their willingness to serve the citizens in this time of nearing bankruptcy and the perception of corruption. He advised of three issues 1) that the contract for electronic data processing services benefits Rod Richardson, who is the son of former Commissioner Jim Richardson, is illegal and was not awarded in compliance with RCW 39.04.270; 2) that paying for dependent health insurance for Commissioner Pearce through the 1st quarter of 2013 is a gifting of public money in violation of the State Constitution; and 3) that the golden parachute contracts for department heads violates the State Constitution, Article 8 Section 7.

Ole Helgeson of his concerns with three issues 1) the contract for electronic data processing services that benefits Rod Richardson, who is the son of former Commissioner Jim Richardson, is illegal and was not awarded in compliance with RCW 39.04.270; 2) the gifting of money to Commissioner Pearce to pay his health insurance after he left employment; and 3) the issue of the golden parachute contracts for department heads.

Gloria Howell submitted a letter regarding the December 4, 2012 approval to continue dependent health insurance for Commissioner Pearce through the 1st quarter of 2013, and advised that her comments made to the Board on December 18, 2012 were not clearly reflected in the minutes of December 18, 2012 and that those minutes were no longer posted on the county website.

Sheriff Dave Brown advised he intended to speak about the Richardson Group IT contract and the continuation of dependent health benefits for former Commissioner Pearce, but advised that Dr. Jessel and Mr. Helegerson stated the same position that he held. He advised that the oath of office for elected officials is to uphold the constitution of the country and the state and if a perceived or real violation is sustained, it violates the oath of office and requires mandatory action by the people

The Consent Agenda was tabled to allow new Commissioners to review the Minutes of December 28, 2012.

Commissioner McKenzie moved, seconded by Commissioner Brong and motion carried to appoint Commissioner Anderson as Chair for 2013, with a review in six months.

Commissioner Brong moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to appoint Commissioner Brong as Vice Chair for 2013.

The meeting recessed at 9:46 a.m. and reconvened at 9:48 a.m., with Commissioners Anderson, McKenzie and Brong present.

The Board met with the Prosecutor in executive session regarding potential litigation from 9:48 a.m. until 10:02 a.m., with no action taken.

Department Heads presented the following reports:

- Karen Witherspoon, Community Development Director reported on general administration, Planning Division, Environmental Health Division, and Building Division.
- Kirby Richards, Community Health Director reported on behavioral health, public health, and developmental disabilities.
- Scott Pineo, General Services Director reported on department activities, facilities management, events & recreation management, human resources, risk management, senior services and information technology.
- Larry Douglass, Public Works Director reported on Engineering and County Road projects, ER&R, and Solid Waste.

The meeting recessed at 10:26 a.m. and reconvened at 10:43 a.m., with Commissioners Anderson, McKenzie and Brong present.

The Board met with the Prosecutor in executive session regarding potential litigation from 10:43 a.m. until 12:36 p.m., with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 12:36 p.m. and reconvened at 2:02 p.m., with Commissioners Anderson, McKenzie and Brong present.

The Board reviewed and selected internal and external Commissioner Assignments for 2013, and discussed department head performance plan review and encouragement of teamwork.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to contact Richardson Group IT and discuss a remedy to the issue of conducting a non competitive bid process for the current signed contract for county IT services.

Commissioner Brong moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to request staff to look into the details of how to resolve/change the current insurance policy for insurance being processed for outgoing Elected Officials and/or employees after either their term is complete or termination, and to review this at the January 8th BOCC meeting.

Commissioner McKenzie moved, seconded by Commissioner Brong and motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

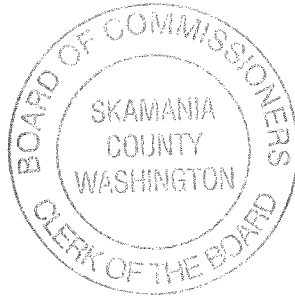
1. Minutes of December 26, 2012.
2. Acknowledge receipt of designation of Sterling Bank as depository bank for Skamania County funds for 2013.
3. Acknowledge receipt of Property Tax Refunds granted by Treasurer during 2012.
4. Agreement with the City of Stevenson to provide funding for promotion of events for Skamania County Fair and the Columbia Gorge Bluegrass Festival.
5. Contract with Mark Day, amendment #1 to adjust the percentage of fees paid to the instructor for providing a Tae Kwan Do program.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.


ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner

Aye 3
Nay _____
Abstain _____
Absent _____