

**BOARD OF SKAMANIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**Meeting of December 16, 2014**

The Board met at 9:00 a.m. on December 16, 2014 for a staff meeting at the Commissioner's Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners Christopher Brong, Chair, Doug McKenzie and Robert Anderson present. Discussion included the Financial Management report, 2015 Budget, update from the Treasurer on the Newly Elected Officials training, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District request to present an annual update, an upcoming meeting with the Department of Natural Resources, and an update on a proposed joint contract with Wahkiakum and Pacific Counties to retain a lobbyist for encumbered lands, with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 9:20 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. December 16, 2014 at the Commissioner's Meeting Room, 240 NW Vancouver Avenue in Stevenson, with Commissioners Christopher Brong, Chair, Doug McKenzie and Robert Anderson present, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Traci Bowlby read a letter encouraging the Commissioners to fund the 4-H Coordinator position at ½ time to ensure the future of the 4-H program.

Bob Talent commented about budget reductions, advising that reductions should comply with the law.

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

1. Minutes of December 9, 2014.
2. Reappointments to Mosquito Control Board – Nels Madsen, position #1 and Paul Willis, position #3.
3. Resolution 2014-84 creating new fund numbers for Community Development.
4. Resolution 2014-89 updating the Community Action Work Plan.
5. Resolution 2014-90 suspending the 2015 Sheriff's ER&R Replacement Payments.
6. Agreement with Lance Fitzjarrald for representation of indigent persons entitled to representation in District Court at public expense.
7. Agreements with American Fidelity Assurance Company for renewal of Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plans for #501 All Other Employees, #502 Law Enforcement Guild, #503 Public Works/Facilities & Recreation Unit, #504 Managers Unit, #505 Office and Professionals Employees Unit, and #507 Commissioners Office Employees Unit.
8. Agreement with USDA Forest Service to extend the expiration date to allow for expenditure of remaining funds for treatment of noxious weeds on National Forest lands in 2015.
9. Contract with Archaeological Services, LLC, amendment #4 to increase the amount for services and amend the scope of work to provide a cultural resource survey of the Blue Lake Rock Quarry Project.
10. Contract with Department of Social & Health Services - Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration to increase the contract amount, extend the date, and amend the statement of work to support the in-house diversion program.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to approve vouchers for the period ending December 12, 2014 in the total amount of \$338,132.87.

The Board gave updates on their attendance at various meetings. Commissioner Anderson advised of a joint workshop with the Port Commissioners last week regarding Wind River Business Park. Commissioner McKenzie advised of attending meetings regarding the budget, SRS and unions. Commissioner Brong advised of attending a Southwest Washington Behavioral Health meeting.

The meeting recessed at 9:45 a.m. and reconvened at 10:00 a.m., with Commissioners Brong, McKenzie and Anderson present.

Department Heads presented the following reports:

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

The Board participated in a workshop to discuss the Note Fund. Commissioner Anderson advised he would prioritize County properties and would discuss surplus properties with Umpqua Bank.

The meeting recessed at 10:20 a.m. and reconvened at 10:30 a.m., with Commissioners Brong, McKenzie and Anderson present.

Keith Chamberlain, Columbia River Gorge Commission representative for Skamania County gave an overview of meetings for October, November and December 2014.

The meeting recessed at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened at 11:05 a.m., with Commissioners Brong, McKenzie and Anderson present.

Brian Bishop, Program Manager and Ian Payne, Loss Prevention Specialist of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) presented a proposal to provide third party administrator for workers' compensation claims administration and loss prevention services.

Commissioner McKenzie moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson and motion carried unanimously to approve an agreement with AWC for Workers' Compensation Group Retro Program Participation for Non-City Entities and Designation of Employer Representative.

The meeting recessed at 11:25 a.m. and reconvened at 2:00 p.m., with Commissioners Brong, McKenzie and Anderson present.

The Board discussed national forest issues, an amicus brief regarding a Growth Management Act appeal, topics for discussion for Commissioner Brong's upcoming meeting with a representative from the Department of Natural Resources, the Pacific Crest Trail, and affordable housing projects, with no action taken.

The meeting recessed at 2:20 p.m. and reconvened at 5:30 p.m., with Commissioners Brong, McKenzie and Anderson present.

A public hearing was held to consider Resolution 2014-81 establishing a comprehensive Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. There were no comments from the public. Tim Homann, County Engineer gave a staff report. Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-81.

Commissioner McKenzie moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-82 adopting the 2014 Annual Road Program.

A public hearing was held to consider Resolution 2014-86 adopting the 2015 Final Budget. Commissioner Brong advised that the 2015 Budget to be considered for adoption included SRS funding that was not reauthorized by Congress and further advised of how that loss would affect the County. Comments from the public included Paul Pearce, Fair Board Superintendent and 4-H Leader (and former County Commissioner) who stated that he clearly understood the County's financial situation, advised that SRS would be taken up by the Senate first thing in 2015, and offered a suggestion to reduce the Fair Board contract and give the Fair Board and 4-H an opportunity to raise money for Fair and 4-H programs. Letters were submitted from Laura and Charles Sheppard, Cynthia and Stu Oviatt, and Tina Goodnight, on behalf of Jennifer Ireland, advising of 4-H programs and the need to continue funding for Cooperative Extension/4-H. Other comments included the importance of 4-H programs for youth. The hearing was closed to public comments. The Board thanked everyone for coming in support of 4-H and advised they would be making budget decisions by mid-January for all county departments, as well as 4-H, as a result of the loss of SRS funding. Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-86.

Commissioner McKenzie moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-87 Setting Current Expense Property Tax Levies for 2015.

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie and motion carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2014-88 Setting County Road Property Tax Levies for 2015.

Commissioner McKenzie moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson and motion carried unanimously to approve Certification of 2015 Current Expense and County Road Property Tax Levies to the Assessor .

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

**ATTEST:**



Janet Johnson  
Clerk of the Board

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SKAMANIA COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Chris Brong  
Commissioner

[Signature]  
Commissioner

Robert Anderson  
Commissioner

Aye 3  
Nay \_\_\_\_\_  
Abstain \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent \_\_\_\_\_