

**COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
LAND INFORMATION AND RECORDS COMMITTEE MINUTES**

October 15, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sanderson at 3:10 p.m.

Present: Jack Sanderson, Neil Ford, JoAnn Wingers

Also Present: Kristen Anderson, Lisa Walker, John Hartman, Harlan Baumgartner

With no objections the agenda was approved.

With no objections the minutes of the Regular August 13, 2007 meeting were approved.

On motion of Baumgartner / Ford Register of Deeds vouchers were approved.

On motion of Baumgartner / Ford Land Information Department vouchers were approved.

Lisa Walker presented the Register of Deeds Budget Review. The Register of Deeds has no compensatory time to report. Discussion followed.

Kristen Anderson presented the Land Information Department Budget Review. The Land Information Department has no compensatory time to report. Discussion followed.

1. Register of Deeds Update

Ms. Walker noted that revenues are down due to a decrease in the housing market. In addition revenue will be down in 2008 due to an unexpected loss of existing customers who have previously purchased a CD of images totaling about \$12,000. Further, 'Master Mortgage' documents filed by many national banks will result in decreased pages being recorded with individual documents. The result of this will likely be decreased revenues. Legislative changes raising fees may help to offset the loss of revenue statewide.

An update on the Register of Deeds Finance Committee Budget Hearing was provided. Budget cuts in the Register of Deeds resulted in the job sharing of one existing position with the County Clerk's Office. Ms. Walker will also be making cuts to the microfilming project as a result of losing staff.

Ms. Walker noted that the Register of Deeds office remodeling has been completed. The committee was invited to visit the office to view the changes.

Discussion followed

2. Land Information Department Update

Ms. Anderson updated the committee on Land Information projects and normal department work. She noted that work is progressing as expected. The committee was updated on the new updates to the Tax Parcel Data Search online application. By clicking the "Zoning" tab a zoning map of the selected parcel will be displayed. It was noted that zoning is intended to be used as a reference only. Official designations will need to be obtained by contacting the Planning & Zoning Department. For information about city or village zoning, please contact local officials. Columbia County only provides information for rural zoning. Discussion followed.

3. Advertising on the internet

Supervisor Sanderson introduced the topic of advertising on the internet. He noted that the county would be able to use advertising on the county web site as a possible source of revenue generation.

At the request of Ms. Anderson, John Hartman (MIS Director) provided an overview of discussions held at the Management Information Services Committee on the topic of advertising on the internet. Ms. Anderson provided the committee with informational minutes from previous discussions of the Land Information and Records

Committee in 2000 and a memorandum to corporation council.

Mr. Hartman noted that the MIS committee and the Ad-Hoc Web Advisory committee did not support the idea of advertising on the internet due to possibility of conflicts of interest. It was also noted that at the time of that discussion no other counties could be found that had advertising on websites.

Supervisor Baumgartner was concerned that the act of posting advertisements would be a county endorsement of the advertiser. Concerns about available web page 'space' were also discussed. Supervisor Baumgartner indicated that a proposal from the Land Information and Records Committee to the Executive Committee would be entertained, however more research and planning would be required.

Supervisor Sanderson suggested that an advertising agency would be beneficial in moving the idea of advertng on the internet forward. It was noted by Supervisor Wingers that any example government websites would be beneficial to bring to the Land Information & Records Committee.

Discussion followed.

4. Discussion of Juneau County inquiry related to the Columbia County Land Records System

Supervisor Sanderson provided the committee an update on the request of Juneau County to acquire the Columbia County Land Records System. Ms. Anderson and others provided the committee background information on previous requests from vendors for acquiring the system. Supervisor Sanderson introduced the topic of providing the Land Records System to Juneau County for a possible fee to be determined. The county's intellectual property rules dictate that the governing committee and the finance committee approval a request for providing intellectual property over \$3,000 in value. Discussion followed on the differences between selling a packaged software product of the Columbia County Land Records System, providing of the source code as free 'open' source code, or providing the source code 'as is' for a minimal fee. Supervisor Sanderson will provide the Juneau County Treasurer with an update on committee discussions. The committee agreed that the Land Records System is not suitable for providing to Juneau County as a 'packaged' software solution.

5. 2007 Assembly Bill 496

Following discussion, the committee approved a motion by Wingers / Baumgartner to draft a letter to deciding committee stating the opposition of Columbia County Land Information and Records Committee stating the committee opposition to AB 496. Supervisor Ford abstained. Supervisor Sanderson will be drafting the letter.

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be Monday, November 12, 2007 at 3:00 pm.

On motion of Ford / Wingers the meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Stoltenberg, Secretary

Kristen Anderson, Director of Land Information

CC: Committee
Chair Baumgartner
Vice-Chair Wopat
Lisa Walker