

**INFORMAL MINUTES**

**October 26, 2009**

2:00 p.m.

Oval Office

PRESENT: Commissioners Leslie Lewis, Kathy George, and Mary P. Stern.

Staff: Laura Tschabold, John M. Gray, Jr., and Ken Summers.

Guests: Hannah Hoffman, News-Register; and A. John Montgomery, 530 NW Birch St, McMinnville.

\* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Leslie called the meeting to order.

\* Minutes - Approve formal session minutes from July 22, 2009.

\* Contracts/Grants - See agenda for details. Ken Summers discussed the memorandum of understanding regarding the county's Zodiac boat, explaining that it had been signed in July by the Coast Guard, but was delayed while he looked into a requirement that Air Support ensure that the boat is insured while not in use. He stated that the sheriff has agreed to assume that responsibility and cover the cost. John agreed to make the necessary modifications to the language.

\* Committees - Appoint Laura Tschabold to represent Yamhill County as a board member for the Yamhill County Affordable Housing Corporation.

\* Policy - Consideration of adopting a county policy on access by media to executive sessions, as continued from October 21, 2009.

Holiday Schedule - The Board discussed the schedule for Board sessions during November and December.

County Administration - A.J. Montgomery introduced himself as a former employee of Linn County. He referred to the News-Register article from October 21, 2009, regarding the plans for reorganization of the county's administrative structure and stated that the changes sound favorable. He pointed out that neither Linn nor Polk County has an assistant administrator and suggested that Laura be the sole administrator for a year to see if an assistant is really necessary. He stated that the potential large salary increase for her that was mentioned in the article would not be good for public relations in this economic climate, especially if the county hires an assistant as well. He said that if the county decides to do an outside recruitment for an assistant, there are many retired people with experience who still work and should be given consideration. Kathy noted that the salary level is still under discussion. Mary added that, while the commissioners liked much of what they saw at Linn and Polk Counties, there were some things that they didn't like regarding the administrative structure. The commissioners thanked Mr. Montgomery for his input.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Anne Britt  
Secretary