

COLUMBIA CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MINUTES

May 12, 2026

Members present: President Commissioner Carl Siler
Vice President Commissioner Scott Gates
Commissioner Samara Thompson
Commissioner Tad Varga

Members absent: Secretary Commissioner Angela Cotter
Commissioner David Smith (Ex-Officio)

Also in attendance: Community Development Director Chip Hill
Mayor Ryan Daniel
CCRDC Attorney Greg Hockemeyer

President Siler called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the April minutes. Vice President Gates made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

Old Business-

LML Property – Someone dumped concrete on the property, but Chip Hill said he will make sure the concrete is removed. President Siler did not have any updates.

Van Buren/Washington Streets Site – There are no updates regarding this site.

Former Jail Property – Chip reported one proposal came in, however the public notices were sent improperly, so the RFP will be republished and any proposals will be taken under advisement. Chip is going to advertise the RFP in the newspaper.

Smith Brothers Property – Chip received one appraisal and is waiting on the second. The north parcels were appraised at \$43,000 and the building was appraised at \$95,000. President Siler said a sampling plan was submitted. Commissioner Varga made a motion to allow President Siler to authorize change orders for up to \$20,000 for this property, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

Trees – Commissioner Thompson asked Chip if the dead trees off State Road 9 by Radio Road could be replaced. Chip said they are under warranty and will be replaced.

Thomas Marshall Plaza – Chip said the ripples in the stone are being looked at for repair.

New Business-

Resolution No. 2026R-1 – Commissioner Varga made a motion to approve the resolution for the Redevelopment Commission's need to capture incremental assessed valuation, seconded by Vice President Gates. A vote was taken; all voted aye.

Other Business-

WCCS CTE Updates – Lori Heuer and Jennifer Reiff presented on the progress of the CTE program at Columbia City High School and fundraising opportunities for the new CTE building. The commissioners discussed potentially providing a donation from the Business & Professional Fund for signage. Lori and Jennifer will get renderings and quotes for signage to present to the RDC.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:39pm.

Submitted by Ashley Buckles, Executive Assistant to the Mayor