

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2019
Bartholomew Building
Heppner, Oregon

Present

Chair Jim Doherty
Commissioner Melissa Lindsay
Commissioner Don Russell
Darrell Green, Administrator
Kate Knop, Finance Director
Justin Nelson, County Counsel
Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: 9:01 a.m.

City & Citizen Comments: Commissioner Russell stated his appreciation for the hard work done by the employees of the Road Department throughout these multiple snow events; Chair Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay both voiced their agreement.

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the following items in the Consent Calendar:

- 1. Accounts Payable, February 28th, \$351,584.80; Two Payroll Payables, February 14th, HRA VEBA, \$2,875 and Employee Final, \$87.68*
- 2. Minutes: January 23rd*
- 3. Oregon Department of Agriculture, Wolf Depredation Compensation & Financial Assistance County Grant Program 2019 Application, and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 4. Letter in support of Senate Bill 445 pertaining to the Oregon Invasive Species Council*

Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Grant Applications: Special Transportation Fund & Section 5310 – Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities

Anita Pranger, Coordinator, The Loop

Ms. Pranger said in the past, these two grants have been the primary source of operating funds for The Loop. Brief discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Special Transportation Fund Biennial Grant Application, July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$135,400; and the Section 5310 Biennial Grant Application, July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$136,345, and authorize Chair Doherty to electronically sign both grant applications on behalf of the County. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Budget Transfer Resolution Numbers R-2019-5 and R-2019-6

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop explained R-2019-5 would increase budget appropriations in the General Fund in the amount of \$650,200; Echo Winds Fund in the amount of \$59,241, and Community Corrections Fund in the amount of \$6,976. Discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve Resolution No. R-2019-5 - In the Matter of Appropriations for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2018. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Resolution No. R-2019-6 would move budget appropriations within the General Fund, Public Works General Maintenance from Materials & Service to Capital Outlay in the amount of \$44,104, according to Ms. Knop, and also included another transfer within the General Fund, Health Department from Materials & Services to Capital Outlay in the amount of \$30,000. Discussion.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve Resolution No. R-2019-6 - In the Matter of Transferring Appropriations within the Morrow County General Fund, Pursuant to ORS 294.463(1). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Process to Change Utility Permit Approval Authority

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green reviewed the history in recent years where permit approval authority moved from the Board of Commissioners to the Public Works Director. More recently, the Commissioners discussed pulling back some of the approval authority to the Board. Mr. Green asked for specific guidelines as to when the Board wanted to approve permit applications. After discussion, the Commissioners liked the idea of reviewing applications under two conditions: those that involve 200 feet, or more; and those that are of concern, for any reason, to the Public Works Director or Road Master. The Board also asked County Counsel to determine what options are available to them, particularly concerning the ability to deny an application as there is concern the County could run out of space in its right-of-way. By consensus, the Board directed Mr. Green and Mr. Nelson to meet with Public Works Director Matt Scrivner to obtain his opinion on a reasonable distance, and to prepare an Ordinance for adoption in the near future.

Road Use Agreement (Olson Road, Wilson Lane, Laurel Lane)

Mr. Green said he, Commissioner Lindsay, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Scrivner met yesterday with representatives from Vadata (Amazon) to discuss the Road Use Agreement. He explained the agreement presented today closely resembled the agreement originally sent to Vadata. Vadata reps removed almost every one of their objections, he said. This agreement is now as good as, or better than, the original agreement, said Mr. Green.

Mr. Nelson said Vadata's corporate counsel from Seattle was at the table and able to approve changes, which allowed for much better communication. He said it was Vadata's complete lack

of communication earlier that led to the issues with the original draft of the Road Use Agreement. At yesterday's meeting, everyone acknowledged the need to work together, and the need for communication, he said.

Commissioner Lindsay said another important conversation involved Morrow County taking over discussions regarding easements and road right-of-ways in order to have better "control over what that looks like. Additional discussions.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Morrow County Road Use Agreement with Vadata, Inc., as presented; as part of its PDX90 construction project located on property described as Tax Lot 411 of Assessor's Map 4N 25E 09; for use on a number of County roads for hauling operations and other construction traffic, specifically Olson Road (portion north of Wilson Lane and south of Interstate 84), Wilson Lane (portion east of the City of Boardman to the intersection with Laurel Road) and Laurel Road (entire length from Wilson Lane to intersection with Interstate 84). Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Progressive Design-Build process for north County building

Mr. Green recommended engaging Thaxton Parkinson, PLLC to assist with the new building project in Irrigon. He cited the following reasons:

- To establish project goals
- To develop a Request for Qualifications or a Request for Proposals
- To assist with hiring an Owner's Representative
- To draft and negotiate a contract with the Design-Builder

Commissioner Russell commented he was ready to move forward and hire Robynne Parkinson to get the project started.

Commissioner Russell moved to hire Thaxton Parkinson, PLLC for the scope of work outlined as Owner Preparation/Establish Project Goals, Development of RFP/RFQ; Facilitation of the Selection Process, Training, and Post Award Assistance. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Lindsay said prior to spending money for this, the Commissioners needed a conversation as to their combined vision for the project because she was not sure there was one. Chair Doherty and Commissioner Russell stated they believed the size and budget range had been established in earlier meetings. Commissioner Lindsay disagreed and asked that 12,500 square feet and under \$8,000,000 be clearly stated and then she would "jump on board." Commissioner Russell said the number needs to be sufficient to build the quality building we want and if that's \$6,000,000-8,000,000...but the \$6,000,000 range is where he thought it would land, but he didn't know that for sure. Vote: unanimous approval.

Department Reports

Road Department Monthly Report

Eric Imes, Assistant Road Master

Mr. Imes reviewed the Road Report for February. After a brief discussion, Chair Doherty requested the mandated list of road priorities for snow removal be posted to the website.

Commissioner Reports

- Upcoming meeting schedules were discussed. A brief discussion took place on Friday's Public Hearing in The Dalles on the Carbon Cap & Trade bill.

Signing of documents

Break: 10:42 a.m.-10:53 a.m.

10:53 a.m. Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(g) – To consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations

12:25 p.m. Closed Executive Session: No decisions

Adjourned: 12:25 p.m.