

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2019
Bartholomew Building
Heppner, Oregon

Present

Chair Jim Doherty

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay

Commissioner Don Russell

Darrell J. Green, Administrator

Richard Tovey, County Counsel

Karmen Carlson, Human Resources Director

Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: 9:00 a.m.

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: Commissioner Russell asked Undersheriff John Bowles about a portable car crusher that was brought in by the Sheriff's Office sometime in the past. He asked if that should be considered again, particularly for the large number of abandoned vehicles in the West Glen area outside Irrigon. Undersheriff Bowles said not only did it work well, but old tires were also accepted; the idea should be explored. Chair Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay supported looking into the concept.

Consent Calendar

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

- 1. Accounts Payable, May 23rd, \$249,332.03; Manual Check, May 13th, \$27,117.75; Four Payroll Payables: April 23rd, \$165,222.95; April 30th, \$190,786.67; May 8th, \$167,407.78; May 13th, \$3,000 (HRA VEBA)*
- 2. Minutes: April 24th & May 1st*
- 3. Form FSA-578, Report of Commodities (land surrounding the Lexington Airport), and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 4. Morrow County Personal/Professional Services Contract with JLC Contracting, Inc., for Mowing and Brushing Services, effective May 22, 2019-May 22, 2022*
- 5. Eighth Amendment to the 2017-2019 Oregon Health Authority Agreement #153133 for the Financing of Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders and Problem Gambling; increase the Intoxicated Driver Program Fund by \$16,530 for the biennium (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2019); and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 6. Resolution R-2019-10, Amended County Assessment Function Funding Assistance (CAFFA) Program Grant Application*

Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Public Hearing on the Approved Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Kate Knop, Finance Director, via telephone conference

Chair Doherty opened the Public Hearing at 9:05 a.m. and called for the Staff Report.

Ms. Knop read the “Notice of Budget Hearing” portion of Form LB-1. She said the total budget appropriation, as of today, was \$43,618,361.

Chair Doherty said during the Budget Committee Meetings, funds were set aside to potentially look at again before the close of the budget. He asked if this would be the appropriate time to discuss those.

Ms. Knop said now would be the time but she would have to make modifications to the budget if changes were made and it’s scheduled to be adopted on June 19th.

Chair Doherty asked the process if he wanted to suggest a different use of funds.

Ms. Knop restated the budget adoption timeline and said budget resolutions can occur after July 1st. She said the budget currently has unappropriated dollars in contingency.

Chair Doherty said he was specifically looking at the \$50,000 awarded to the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) each year in conjunction with the 15-year Strategic Investment Program (SIP) agreement on the PGE/Carty project. The County made the payments to CREA for the first two or three years, but at the Budget Meetings it was decided to use those funds elsewhere. CREA is now aware of the County’s decision, explained Chair Doherty, but that frees up \$600,000 for the remaining years of the SIP agreement. Can those funds now be earmarked for Health Care Accreditation and/or the software systems necessary to implement that, he asked. Perhaps the other Commissioners have ideas for those funds as well, he said.

Commissioner Lindsay said Health Care Accreditation has to happen and the County has not yet focused any resources toward it.

Ms. Knop explained the \$50,000 is in the SIP Fund for PGE and is currently appropriated to Long-Term Goals, Other Expenditures. That was approved by the Budget Committee, she said, and the Board can decide how to appropriate those dollars.

Chair Doherty said he did not see the need to revisit any other items in the budget; Commissioners Lindsay and Russell agreed.

Chair Doherty said this is with the understanding the Board will continue to determine how to put this money to work for the County. He called for proponents to speak, no response; opponents to speak, no response. Chair Doherty said the Public Hearing would remain open for the duration of the meeting.

Legislative Updates

Commissioner Lindsay said several of her fellow Commissioners around the State were making a “last ditch run” at funding for County Fairs. She also said she continued to track proposed funding for Courthouse improvements.

Business Items

Irrigon Building Update

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green said the protest period ends today regarding the selection of the Owner's Representative for the Irrigon building project. He reported the firm that was selected, Hill International, received a draft Owner's Rep Agreement that was written with the assistance of County Counsel and the consultant hired by the County, Robynne Thaxton Parkinson. That agreement will be brought to the Board for discussion and approval, he said. Mr. Green said he anticipated the agreement will be signed June 6th so that Hill International can attend the June 7th meeting with Ms. Parkinson and the Board to discuss the next steps in the process.

Quotes for Facilitated Morrow County Goal Setting Workshop

Mr. Green proposed the idea of a facilitated goal setting workshop at the May 8th BOC Meeting. He returned today to present the three quotes. Discussion.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve hiring David Rabiner to facilitate a Goal Setting Workshop, flat fee of \$5,500. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Reclassification Request for Review

Karmen Carlson, Human Resources Director

A Reclassification Request was received January 29th and later denied, based on the County's evaluation system (JOBMEAS™) used to compare the Reclassification Request form and the job description submitted by the employee. According to Personnel Policy, the next step involved a salary survey, which was brought to the Board on March 27th, at which time the Board concurred a salary survey was conducted. On April 16th, the employee asked for a Request for Review. Again, according to Policy, the Board is being asked to concur, or not, that Policy has been followed, said Ms. Carlson.

Ms. Carlson said she gathered information from 12 counties, made four other telephone contacts and did not find any evidence to alter her original finding that the position remains at Pay Range 8 on the General Employee Wage Scale. If the Board concurred Policy was followed, Ms. Carlson said she will send a letter to the employee stating that and outline the next process – a review by an appeal committee. She said the appeal committee needed to be created and she planned to bring it forward as an agenda item for the June 5th BOC Meeting.

After discussion, Chair Doherty and Commissioner Russell concurred Policy was followed; Commissioner Lindsay did not.

Eastern Oregon Workforce (EOWB) Board Appointment

Commissioner Lindsay said Morrow County has two representatives on the EOWB but one position is vacant; the other is held Heppner Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sheryll Bates.

Commissioner Russell said he contacted Kalie Davis, Workforce Training Coordinator with the Port of Morrow, and she eagerly agreed to be nominated. Brief discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to appoint Kalie Davis to the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board to fill the position vacated by Debbie Radie. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Chair Doherty asked that the Board's appreciation be conveyed to Ms. Radie for her service on this board, as well as to Ms. Bates for her continued service.

Order No. OR-2019-9, Solid Waste Collection Rate Increase, Sanitary Disposal, Inc.

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

Mike Jewett, Manager, Sanitary Disposal, Inc.

Mr. Jewett said the rate increase to the majority of customers will be 9.6%, or \$1.46 per month for a 90 gallon cart. There are about 1,000 customers on their weekly route and the last increase was in July 2016, he said.

Mr. Scrivner outlined the steps in a rate increase request and said the last step is review by the Board. If the Board approves the increase, the accompanying Order is signed, he said.
Discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve Order No. OR-2019-9 – In the Matter of Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Sanitary Disposal, Inc.; effective July 1, 2019. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Award Bid, Asphalt Emulsion

Matt Scrivner

Eric Imes, Assistant Road Master

Mr. Scrivner said three responses were received from the Request for Quotes for Liquid Asphalt Emulsion. After review by a panel, he said Public Works recommended Blue Line Transportation Co. Inc. Both Mr. Scrivner and Mr. Imes discussed the reasons for recommending Blue Line above the others.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to award the bid for the supply, delivery and application of liquid asphalt emulsion to Blue Line Transportation Co. Inc. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

Road Department Monthly Report

Mr. Imes reviewed the Road Report for May.

Mr. Scrivner provided an update on the following:

- Bridge project on Rhea Creek – supplier had a few issues so the project is behind by a few days. Work on Snyder Bridge will probably start on May 28th.
- Permit for a 72” waterline from the Columbia Improvement District was delayed again as CID decided to reroute the line.
- A meeting will take place May 23rd with representatives from Windwave about the fiber design going down Rippee and Olson Roads and Wilson Lane.
- Work by UEC on Olson Road was shut down after its consultant put in permanent power to the Amazon site without permits. UEC representatives were very apologetic but Mr. Scrivner said if he had been properly notified, UEC’s plans could have been designed into the same project by Windwave. Commissioner Lindsay commented UEC should be made to remove all their work. Chair Doherty agreed and said there have been similar discussion about a different company. Real consequences are needed, otherwise what is the point, he said.

Correspondence

- Flyer for the Morrow County Wheat League/Oregon State University Extension Crop Tour & Social, Thursday, June 20th, 3:00 p.m.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Lindsay attended the Military Economic Advisory Committee (MEAC) Meeting where the County’s GIS Planning Tech, Stephen Wreccics, presented a draft preliminary map overlaying all the current and proposed energy projects. She said it was very interesting. Commissioner Lindsay asked the Association of Oregon Counties to send a letter in support of increased statewide funding of County Fairs.
- Commissioner Russell reported on the Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors spring conference he attended in Hood River. He said he is on OACES’ Board of Directors and noted the conference was also attended by Mr. Scrivner, Mr. Imes and Sandi Pointer, Public Works Management Assistant.
- Chair Doherty said he intended to relay more details in the near future on last week’s Western Interstate Region Conference he attended in Spokane. Chair Doherty said he wanted to thank Tom Meier, former Juvenile Department Director, who opted to move on. In addition, he wanted to thank Cindy Greenup, Office Manager in the District Attorney’s Office, who resigned relative to some challenges she had. He said he wished them both well.

10:52 a.m. – Closed Public Hearing

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.