

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**October 2, 2019**  
**Bartholomew Building, Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present**

Chair Jim Doherty

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay

Commissioner Don Russell

Darrell J. Green, Administrator

Justin Nelson, 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:** No items

**Consent Calendar**

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

1. *Accounts Payable, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, \$178,439.85; Void Check, September 27<sup>th</sup>, \$1,236.38*
2. *Minutes: August 28<sup>th</sup>*

*Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Business Items**

Discussion - Compensation Board Appointments

Karmen Carlson, Human Resources Director

Ms. Carlson explained two openings exist on the Compensation Board. They are positions formerly held by Kevin Ince and Andy Fletcher. The Commissioners requested the vacancies be publicly advertised. Ms. Carlson said she would return on November 13<sup>th</sup> with any resulting letters of interest.

OR-2019-13 – Appointing Members to the Board of Property Tax Appeals & Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Gilliam County for the Exchange of Appraiser Services for Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA)

Bobbi Childers, Clerk

Ms. Childers explained the IGA is an annual agreement in the event either County needs an independent appraiser for cases in which a citizen appeals a tax value.

Chair Doherty noted a member of BOPTA has served for quite a while and asked if members should reapply, in order to be consistent with past practice when appointing members to other boards/committees.

Ms. Childers discussed the training required and the fact members cannot serve on the board of a taxing district. However, there is an exception, she said. The Governing Body representative (Commissioner Russell) does have the ability to serve on a taxing district board.

Chair Doherty said it was important to understand the unique requirements and thanked Ms. Childers for the clarification.

*Commissioner Lindsay moved approve:*

1. *Order No. OR-2019-13 – In the Matter of Appointing Members to the Morrow County Board of Property Tax Appeals, terms to be October 15, 2019-June 30, 2020:*
  - a. *Don Russell appointed as a member of the County Governing Body Pool and as Chairperson*
  - b. *Ed Rollins and Dean Kegler as members of the Non-Office-Holding Pool*
2. *Intergovernmental Agreement between Morrow County and Gilliam County (each County’s Tax Assessor to act as an independent appraiser for the other County in BOPTA cases).*

*Commissioner Russell seconded. He then noted he should abstain as a member of BOPTA.*

*Chair Doherty seconded the motion. Aye: Chair Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay.*

*Abstained: Commissioner Russell. Motion carried.*

#### Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Report

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director

Ms. Lindsay began by presenting a gift to Commissioner Russell on behalf of her former high school principal, Trevor Russell, with whom she recently had a meeting in Prineville. She explained Mr. Russell is a relative of the Commissioner and he asked Ms. Lindsay to deliver two birdhouses he made. Ms. Lindsay said Mr. Russell is on a “mission” to bring back bluebirds to Oregon and has made and donated 3,500 birdhouses.

Ms. Lindsay then provided an update of activity at CCS in the previous quarter of the year. Multiple documents and reports were presented and discussed. Some discussion highlights included:

- People who commit suicide have a significant amount of contact with the health care community in the months before they die. Despite that, most in the medical community aren’t performing a suicide screening, even for people taking anti-depressants. She said CCS is working with Pioneer Memorial Clinic and Columbia River Health to see if they are willing to do things differently when it comes to screening for suicide. CCS also made the decision to sponsor a training, “internally and externally,” called QPR. It stands for Question, Persuade, Refer and provides tools for people to have a conversation with someone who is feeling suicidal, she said. CCS will provide it for all its staff members.
- CCS now offers Mend, a software platform that allows patients the option to be seen remotely for sessions using a smartphone, tablet or computer.
- Funding for school-based counseling is anticipated to increase from the State of Oregon and the Morrow County School District. This will mean a counselor will be available in every school since the Ione School District has dedicated funding through the School Based Health Center for a ¾ time person located there.

### Discussion – Airport Advisory Committee Appointments

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

Sandi Pointer, Public Works Management Assistant

Mr. Scrivner and Ms. Pointer discussed efforts to advertise the vacancies on the committee and reviewed the nine letters of interest submitted. Discussion.

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to appoint the following members to the Airport Advisory Committee, noting the Board will need to review and approve the bylaws:*

- 1. Undersheriff John Bowles as the Emergency Management Representative*
- 2. Steven Puntteny as the Emergency Management Alternate*
- 3. Sheryll Bates as the Economic Development Representative*
- 4. Barbara Van Arsdale as the Tenant/Pilot Representative*
- 5. Sean Wood as the Tenant/Pilot Alternate*
- 6. John Boyer as the Business User Representative*
- 7. Sean Wood as the Business User Representative Alternate*
- 8. Sandi Pointer as the Public Works Representative*
- 9. Matt Scrivner as the Public Works Representative Alternate*
- 10. Wayne Seitz as the Member at Large, Position 1*
- 11. Thomas Wolff as the Member at Large, Position 1, Alternate*
- 12. Ragna TenEyck as the Member at Large, Position 2*
- 13. Thomas Wolff as the Member at Large, Position 2, Alternate*

*Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

The Board agreed by consensus to designate Commissioner Lindsay as its representative on the Airport Advisory Committee and Commissioner Russell as the alternate.

### Award Bid for Surveying & Engineering Services

Matt Scrivner

Mr. Scrivner explained Public Works issued a Request for Proposals for Surveying & Engineering Services and received one response. The response was reviewed by a five member panel and the recommendation was to award the bid to Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc. He added the firm currently doing this work for the County, Ferguson Surveying & Engineering, will subcontract to Anderson Perry on County projects but Anderson Perry will be the lead as the contractor.

*Commissioner Russell moved to award the bid for Surveying and Engineering Services to Anderson Perry and Associates, Inc. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Acceptance of Right-of-Way Dedication in the Irrigon Area, Billy Griffin, Applicant

Carla McLane, Planning Director

Ms. McLane explained the particulars of the easement dedication and said while it is a public road with the County having authority over it, it is not a County road. This will be the first of multiple requests for dedication, she added. Discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved to accept the Road Right-of-Way Dedication over the existing easement as shown on the Partition Plat submitted, as required by Land Partition LP-N-462. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Discuss Plans for the Association of Oregon Counties Annual Conference

Each year at the AOC Annual Conference, there is a County Product Tasting event where counties showcase their locally produced items. The Commissioners discussed options and were tasked with contacting businesses and reporting back next week.

#### Irrigon Building Update

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green said the nine firms that submitted proposals were narrowed down to four: Fortis, Mortenson, Kirby Nagelhout, and Total Site Services. These firms are eligible to respond to the County's Request for Proposals, which will be published October 4<sup>th</sup>. Demolition of the building behind the Irrigon Annex is scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup>. He said he's been working with the State of Oregon Procurement Office on the process to obtain furniture for the new building.

#### **Department Reports**

##### Administrator's Monthly Report

Mr. Green reviewed his report. He said the Bartholomew Building Lower Level remodel will begin October 9<sup>th</sup>. He also discussed the three meetings with employee groups to review the Retirement Plan presentation that was also presented to the Board on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

##### Fair Office Quarterly Report

Fair Secretary, Ann Jones, was unable to attend. Her report was reviewed in her absence.

##### Sheriff's Office Monthly Report

Undersheriff John Bowles was unable to attend. The report was reviewed in his absence.

**Break:** 10:58-11:07 a.m.

**11:07 a.m. Executive Session** – Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions

**12:14 p.m. Closed Executive Session and returned to Regular Session**

#### **Department Reports, continued**

##### District Attorney/County Counsel Quarterly Report

Justin Nelson, D.A./County Counsel

Mr. Nelson reviewed his report of activity for the quarter, as well as other staff members in the office.

## Treasurer's Monthly Report

The written report submitted by Treasurer Gayle Gutierrez was reviewed.

**12:36 p.m. Executive Session** - Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions

**12:55 p.m. Closed Executive Session and returned to Regular Session**

### **Business Items, continued**

#### Road Use Agreement with Wheatridge Wind Energy/NextEra Energy, Inc.

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Road Use Agreement with Wheatridge Wind Energy, effective October 2, 2019. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion:*

*Commissioner Lindsay noted she recused herself from an earlier vote related to the Wheatridge Project because her family's ranch, Turner Ranch, was listed as a landowner. She said the Road Use Agreement has no financial impact to herself or her business. When the committee was formed to work with Wheatridge/NextEra representatives on the Agreement, she said the Board agreed to her working on the committee because of the location and constituency. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

### **Correspondence**

- Record of Decision for the Department of the Navy Real Estate Actions in Support of the Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project at Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility Boardman, Oregon
- Thank you letter from the Board of Commissioners to Captain Matthew Army, Commander, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, regarding his recent visit to the County to meet with the Commissioners and staff.

### **Commissioner Reports**

- Commissioner Lindsay said as a Regional Solutions Advisory Board Member, she received a call from Courtney Crowell, Greater Eastern Oregon Region Coordinator, about the following: Regional Solutions has been working with a company in Stanfield since last spring to find a place for its effluent water after it was no longer able to take it to the digester it had been using. After working with the Department of Environmental Quality and Business Oregon, a temporary solution emerged but it requires a four-to-six week process for a conditional use permit from Umatilla County. The request of Morrow County is for funds to assist in keeping the company open since it employs some Morrow County residents. Chair Doherty and Commissioner Russell asked Commissioner Lindsay to send them more information on the request while they take it under consideration. Commissioner Lindsay reported Sixth District Circuit Court Judge Daniel J. Hill attended the most recent meeting of LPSCC (Local Public Safety Coordinating Council) and subsequently contacted her about the County's plans to resolve the space issues in the Courthouse. His preference is to house the Justice of the Peace (JOP) elsewhere, citing the transition due to the retirement of the current JOP would be the

opportune time to do so. The Commissioners then discussed various options, including evaluating spaces off-site. Regarding updating the agreement between the County and the City of Boardman for Building Inspection Services, Commissioner Lindsay said all options will be discussed with Boardman City Manager, Karen Pettigrew. She said she will report back on the progress of those meetings.

- Commissioner Russell discussed an article in the East Oregonian about two eastern Oregon businesses fined by DEQ. He asked when there will be a “reality check” for fines like these when at the same time, Portland’s answer to its stormwater issues is to “only dump sewage into the river 10 times per year” with no fines.

### **Signing of documents**

**Adjourned:** 1:32 p.m.