

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**November 20, 2019**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present via telephone from the Association of Oregon Counties Annual Conference in Eugene:**

Chair Jim Doherty  
Commissioner Melissa Lindsay  
Darrell J. Green, Administrator  
Justin Nelson, County Counsel

**Present in Heppner:**

Kate Knop, Finance Director  
Roberta Lutchter, Executive Assistant

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:** 9:05 a.m.

**City & Citizen Comments:** No comments

**Open Agenda:** A discussion regarding a purchase in last week's Accounts Payable (APs) was requested.

**Consent Calendar**

Ms. Lutchter said Item B in the Consent Calendar (Purchase of Real Property Agreement, Stiffler, LLC) was not ready to move forward as it lacked a legal description.

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

- 1. Accounts Payable, November 21<sup>st</sup>, \$86,038.94; Retirement Taxes, November 14<sup>th</sup>, \$25,391.80*

*Chair Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Commissioner Russell joined the meeting in progress.

**Business Items**

Letter to the Base Realignment and Closure Office

Commissioner Russell requested the Board review a letter drafted by Debbie Pedro with the Columbia Development Authority encouraging the Army to close the Section 106 mitigation process and move the land transfer process forward. Discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved to sign the letter to Thomas Laderle, Chief, Army BRAC Office (Base Realignment and Closure). Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Intent to Award Design-Build Team

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green outlined the interview and scoring process of the four finalists. He said the team of Fortis Construction Inc. and CIDA scored the highest during the County's "robust process." Brief discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved to grant the "Intent to Award" for Project Bid Number 2019-2 to Fortis Construction Inc., and CIDA to construct the Morrow County Government Center in Irrigon. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Correspondence**

- Preliminary July 2019 Population Estimate for Morrow County by Portland State University's Population Research Center (12,680)

### **Accounts Payable Discussion**

Discussion centered on a purchase by the Sheriff's Office of a women's vest with no Sheriff's Office logos or insignias that did not appear to fall under the criteria for a uniform expense. Commissioner Lindsay said after asking the Finance Department about the purchase, Finance Director Kate Knop forwarded her the IRS guidelines that indicate the purchase is a fringe benefit and not a uniform. Commissioner Lindsay said this is the second time the same type of purchase has been questioned. Commissioner Russell asked that it be researched further. Chair Doherty agreed, and asked Mr. Green and Ms. Knop to look into the matter.

### **Commissioner Reports**

- Commissioner Lindsay discussed a presentation she attended that morning regarding Public Health. She also said updates from Department Directors at BOC Meetings might be better served in a work session or business meeting setting.
- Commissioner Russell said he planned to meet on November 25<sup>th</sup> with the Sheriff and Undersheriff to work out the details for bringing in a car crushing company to several locations in the County to help deal with abandoned vehicles.
- Chair Doherty said he's in discussions with Multnomah County about a visit by their Commissioners to Morrow County.

**Adjourned:** 9:31 a.m.