

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2020
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present

Vice Chair Don Russell
Commissioner Jim Doherty
Darrell J. Green, Administrator
Kate Knop, Finance Director
Justin Nelson, County Counsel

Karmen Carlson, Human Resources Director
Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant
Excused
Chair Melissa Lindsay

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

City & Citizen Comments: No comments

Open Agenda: Vice Chair Russell noted Chair Lindsay was not in attendance today.

Consent Calendar

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

1. *Accounts Payable, January 23rd, \$142,539.88; Three Payroll Payables: January 3rd, \$1,843.06; January 6th, \$5,337.41 & \$1,649.37*
2. *Minutes: November 20, 2019*
3. *Appointment of Finance Director, Kate Knop, as Budget Officer for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year*
4. *Letter in support of the Boardman to Hemingway perpetual easement on Navy property (addressed to Ralph Sprout, Realty Specialist, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest)*

Vice Chair Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Public Hearing: Order No. OR-2020-2: In the Matter of Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Miller and Sons Disposal Services LLC

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

Sandi Pointer, Public Works Management Assistant

Ms. Pointer said the rate increase request was taken up at the January 14th meeting of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC).

Mr. Scrivner said the Public Works Director is the designated Solid Waste Administrator, according to the Solid Waste Management Ordinance and, as such, makes recommendations to SWAC on rate increases. He said he recommended the increase at the January 14th SWAC meeting where the committee voted in favor of the increase and recommended the Board of Commissioners approve the same.

Commissioner Russell said the request is a 15% increase and asked how long it's been since the last increase by Miller and Sons.

Mr. Scrivner replied it was in 2011.

Ms. Pointer said she suggested to Miller and Sons they evaluate if an increase might be needed every four or five years.

Vice Chair Russell called for proponents to speak.

Ryan Miller, Miller and Sons, said he was available for questions.

Vice Chair Russell called for opponents to speak. Hearing none, he closed the hearing at 9:08 a.m.

Commissioner Doherty moved to accept the rate increase request from Miller and Sons Disposal Services LLC, and approve Order No. OR-2020-2: In the Matter of Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Miller and Sons Disposal Services LLC. Vice Chair Russell seconded. Discussion: The Commissioners urged Miller and Sons to look at smaller, more frequent rate increases in the future. Vote: Unanimous Approval.

SWAC Member Appointment

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

Mr. Scrivner said the vacancy was advertised and one application was received.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the appointment of Chris Rauch to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Position 3 representing an owner of real property near Finley Buttes Landfill; term to be January 22, 2020 to July 1, 2023. Vice Chair Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Irrigon Building Update

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green said the contract with Fortis is still being worked through, as is the replat of the property in Irrigon.

Possible Budget Hearing Date Change

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop explained one of the Budget Committee members was unable to attend the first day of the meetings scheduled for April 14-16. She proposed several options for the Board to consider. The Board opted to proceed with the scheduled dates since a quorum will be present and the member who cannot attend on Tuesday can be brought up to speed on Wednesday.

Columbia River Enterprise Zone II Board – Funds Distribution

Commissioner Russell relayed the most recent funding distribution: Housing & Community Development - \$2,464,310.43; Education - \$731,261.72; Public Safety - \$492,323.99; Zone Sponsors - \$2,036,976.12; Zone Taxing Districts - \$117,217.52.

Discussion took place on estimated future funding to be received by CREZ II. Commissioner Doherty requested ideas for next year's funding distribution be discussed at a BOC Meeting prior to the CREZ II Board meeting where the distribution is decided.

Department Reports

Road Department Report

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

In addition to reviewing the Road Report, Mr. Scrivner provided the following update on projects:

- Blattner Energy is in the area for the Wheatridge Project. They have a temporary office in the former school building in Lexington. They are starting a laydown yard on Baseline Lane where everything will be delivered and taken from. The start date and first location for turbine construction is still being determined.
- Received a call from the Caithness/Shepherd Flat project manager regarding the retool they plan for next year. They want to talk about a road use agreement soon.
- The Columbia Improvement District (CID) canal bridge replacement project should be done in time for the growing season and ready to go in March.

Clerk's Quarterly Report

Bobbi Childers, Clerk

Ms. Childers reviewed her report. She asked the Board about the motives behind the Budget Committee meetings to review the Treasurer's salary. The Commissioners talked about the annual review of all the elected officials' salaries by the Compensation Board. In addition, it was explained that since this is the election cycle for the Treasurer, it seemed the appropriate time to reevaluate the duties and pay, which falls within the authority of the Budget Committee.

Human Resources Quarterly Report

Karmen Carlson, Director

Ms. Carlson reviewed her report.

Surveyor's Quarterly Report

Stephen Haddock, Surveyor

Mr. Haddock reviewed his report, which included a request to move forward with the review and update of the subdivision ordinance to allow the requirement of title reports for partitions. The Board agreed by consensus to his request. It was also decided that County Counsel will work with Mr. Haddock, Assessor/Tax Collector Mike Gorman and the Planning Department to bring it forward.

Public Health Department Quarterly Report

Sheree Smith, Director

Ms. Smith reviewed her report. She also said she was working on the statistics regarding the number of people served by her office, as requested by Chair Lindsay.

Weed Department Quarterly Report

Dave Pranger, Weed Coordinator/Inspector

Mr. Pranger reviewed his report.

Correspondence

- Flyer for the 2020 Eastern Oregon Economic Summit, July 23 & 24 in Hermiston

Commissioner Reports

Since the Work Session was scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. and it was past that time, the Commissioners opted to postpone their reports.

Cancelled: Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 11:20 a.m.