

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2020
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Commissioner Jim Doherty; Staff: Darrell J. Green, John Bowles, Roberta Lutchter, Richard Tovey

Present Via Zoom

Staff: Stephanie Case, Bobbi Childers, Mike Gorman, Lindsay Grogan, Gayle Gutierrez, Diane Kilkenny, Justin Nelson, Matt Scrivner, Linda Skendzel, LeAnn Wright, Gregg Zody. Non-Staff: Torrie Griggs, Leah Harris, Erika Lasater, Karen Pettigrew, Lori Roach, David Sykes

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: 9:02 a.m., followed by roll call

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: Commissioner Russell requested a discussion about the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA).

Chair Lindsay said there was a last-minute addition of two Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) applications from the Port of Morrow. She noted they were uploaded to the Agenda Packet.

Consent Calendar

Chair Lindsay asked to remove the OLCC Renewal Notifications to Business Items.

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

- 1. Accounts Payable dated August 27th in the amount of \$134,355.15*
- 2. Minutes: July 22nd & August 5th*
- 3. Amendment 1 to Oregon Department of Agriculture Grant Agreement #ODA-4219-GR, Wolf Compensation & Financial Assistance Additional Award - \$8,000, and authorize Commissioner Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 4. The Loop and Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc., Service Agreement; effective when signed by all parties (August 26th) and shall expire on June 30, 2023; GOBHI shall compensate the County \$50 for each GOBHI-Medicaid authorized passenger*
- 5. Award Bid and Contract for Tree Removal Services with Boyd's Tree Service, effective when fully signed and shall expire one year from that date. The contract may be given a one-year extension for a maximum of two years, at the discretion of the County; hourly rate \$292.66*

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

OLCC License Renewal Notification – Love's Travel Stop and Willow Run Golf Course

The Board discussed the recent ownership change for Willow Run Golf Course (sold to the Port of Morrow). OLCC was notified of the change but it came after the Renewal Notification was mailed to the County. Because the Port of Morrow has applied for a new liquor license at that location, the Willow Run liquor license renewal would not be processed, according to the OLCC.

Commissioner Russell moved to acknowledge the Sheriff's recommendation for Love's Travel Stop #650 OLCC Liquor License Renewal. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Oregon Department of Transportation Fund Exchange Agreement

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

Mr. Scrivner said the agreement exchanges Federal for State dollars at 94¢ on the dollar. He said he would like to apply toward the Little Butter Creek overlay and chip seal project.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve and sign ODOT Agreement #34362; effective when fully executed; availability of grant funds to end two years after that date; recipient wishes to exchange \$315,162 Federal funds for \$296,252.28 in State funds. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Vehicle Purchase Request – Community Corrections

Undersheriff John Bowles

Undersheriff Bowles said \$45,000 was previously budgeted for a new vehicle purchase for Community Corrections.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the Purchase Pre-Authorization Request from Community Corrections for a 2021 Dodge Durango Pursuit AWD, \$35,247.74, not including the cost of outfitting; and authorize Undersheriff Bowles to lock-in pricing and order the vehicle. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Morrow County Government Command Center Update

- A recap of last week's Listening Session for employees was provided by Mr. Green. He said current resources available to employees were reviewed, including whether or not the work from home agreements should be an option. The group discussed a two-tiered authorization for work from home requests – approval by the supervisor and a second person not yet designated.
- Human Resources Manager Lindsay Grogan provided overviews of FMLA (Family and Medical Leave Act) and COVID-19 paid time off. She stressed several times that employees concerned about work schedules and child care should contact her as soon as possible. She said several options can be explored, such as flex time, potential part-time and intermittent.
- Chair Lindsay said the Command Team discussed sending a letter to the Governor requesting Phase II, but were not in complete agreement on the issue. She said she planned to bring a letter forward next week for consideration by the Board.
- Chair Lindsay said if the County were to be allowed back to Phase II, she wanted the cabins at the Park opened up, just like the last time the County entered Phase II. Both Commissioner Russell and Commissioner Doherty said they agreed with being consistent with past practice.

Coronavirus Relief Funds Projections

Mr. Green said the County started with \$552,000 in CR Funds and was now down to \$210,952. He asked the Commissioners if they wanted to establish priorities for the remaining funds. He

said if the County continued using them in the same manner, such as for contact tracers, the funds would perhaps carry the County through the end of the year.

Commissioner Doherty talked about the importance of contact tracers, but balancing them with other needs, like food banks. He called the hierarchy of needs a conundrum.

Chair Lindsay requested a list showing where the funds have already been spent and a list showing where the funds could be spent.

Commissioner Russell recommended continuing forward with what the County has been doing, unless the Command Team had different suggestions.

Grants and Resiliency Dollars – Update

Chair Lindsay and chamber of commerce representatives (Torrie Griggs, Boardman Chamber and Lori Roach, Heppner Chamber) discussed the difficulty in finding business owners eligible to receive new funding. They explained that any business owners who received Payroll Protection Program (PPP) funds or Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) were now ineligible to receive new funding. They were somewhat optimistic about revised language in a Business Oregon agreement that makes those business owners eligible, but they have to subtract the PPP or EIDL amounts from what they could potentially receive. Discussion continued on work being done by assistance centers and food banks in the area.

2020 Census Update

Chair Lindsay did not have any new information to report this week.

Break: 10:24-10:32 a.m.

Irrigon Building Update – Guaranteed Maximum Price

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green said the building budget was currently \$160,000 over. The Progressive Design-Build Team determined two options for the Guaranteed Maximum Price to be presented to the Board, 1.) Bring the budget in \$160,000 over and ask for the Board to approve or determine what to cut, or, 2.) Present the \$6.8 million budget for Board approval and/or discussion as to what items from a specific list the Board wanted to add in. After discussion, Mr. Green planned to present the GMP next week at \$6.8 million with the value-engineering log of projects to consider adding in to the overall budget.

OLCC License Application – Port of Morrow

OLCC Temporary Sales License, For Profit – Port of Morrow

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green said the two requests came in late yesterday from the Port of Morrow, which purchased the former Willow Run Golf Course. The first application was for the liquor license as the new owner, Port of Morrow/Marker 40 Golf Club; and the second was for a temporary license for a golf tournament this weekend.

Chair Lindsay said she wanted the long-term application to be vetted through the Sheriff's Office, per the normal process, but she had no issue with temporary license.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the OLCC Temporary Sales License – For Profit, from Marker 40 Golf Course (Port of Morrow) for this weekend's West Winds Tournament. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Chair Lindsay asked for the Sheriff's Office to expedite its sign-off on the secondary piece of this approval to ensure the conditions have been met, to remain in keeping with past practice for temporary liquor license applications. Undersheriff John Bowles said that could be accomplished. Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

The Board reviewed the Road Department Report submitted by Eric Imes, Assistant Road Master.

Correspondence

- Portland General Electric (PGE) News Releases: Business Update; PGE Employee Email; August Business Update Employee Frequently Asked Questions. News releases were "provided in connection with energy trading activity in certain wholesale electricity markets that has resulted in realized and unrealized losses of \$127 million as of August 24, 2020."
- News Release from the Association of Oregon (AOC) – Statement on Governor's Call to Counties, dated August 21, 2020.
- AOC County Needs Assessment Questionnaire, COVID-19, August 21, 2020-December 30, 2020.

Business Items, continued

CREA

Commissioner Russell said CREA's Director, Brian Skeeahan, will retire this fall so the organization was looking for a replacement. Commissioner Russell said he spoke with Gilliam County Judge Elizabeth Farrar, whose County pays a significant amount of CREA's budget as a result of past wind energy projects CREA helped negotiate. Judge Farrar posed the idea that perhaps it was time for CREA to be phased out. After a brief discussion with the Board, Commissioner Russell requested this formally be brought forward as an agenda item in the near future.

Commissioner Report

The Commissioners provided reports of activity in the past week.

Statement Prior to Executive Session

Chair Lindsay said the Board would reconvene no sooner than 12:00 p.m. If later than that, notification would be sent to those waiting, she added.

11:33 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

11:42 a.m. Closed Executive Session

11:42 a.m. Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) – To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent

12:03 p.m. Closed Executive Session

Regular Session

Chair Lindsay said no decisions would result from either Executive Session.

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 12:15 p.m.