

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2020
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Commissioner Jim Doherty, Darrell J. Green, Kate Knop, Ken Matlack, Roberta Lucher, Richard Tovey, Gregg Zody

Present Via Zoom

Staff: Erin Anderson, Lindsay Grogan, Gayle Gutierrez, Katie Imes, Diane Kilkenny, Tamra Mabbott, Sandi Pointer, Heidi Turrell, Sherry Wright; Non-Staff: Kalie Davis, Torrie Griggs, Erika Lasater, Lisa Mittelsdorf, Ryan Neal, Karen Pettigrew, Lori Roach, Greg Sweek, David Sykes, Brandy Warburton

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call: 9:03 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 and Payroll Payables*
2. *Application for Tax Refund to Tyler and Kalie N. Davis, \$4,067.49*
3. *Ninth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority Intergovernmental Agreement #159175 for the Financing of Mental Health, Addiction Treatment, Recovery & Prevention, and Problem Gambling, and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County*

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Business Assistance Grants Update

Gregg Zody, Community Development Director

Mr. Zody provided status updates on grants intended to help businesses experiencing the economic impacts of COVID-19. He reviewed the grants offered by the Tillamook County Creamery Association, Business Oregon, and Morrow County's Resiliency Fund. The Commissioners relayed their initial ideas for some of the Resiliency Grant parameters, but no decisions were made.

Morrow County Emergency Operations Center Update

- Administrator Darrell Green said the EOC Team decided the sanitizing using electrostatic disinfectant spray by the janitorial service will be performed in common areas, restrooms, hallways, and conference rooms, instead of entire buildings.
- Interim Public Health Director Diane Kilkenny said, as of today, the drive-through flu PODS (points of distribution) clinics have taken place in every community in the County. She said they have been a good way to practice for COVID vaccine distribution next year. Ms. Kilkenny said the Oregon Health Authority issued an updated mask guidance/recommendation – individuals should wear face masks and not shields or coverings. She said staff members were closely monitoring statistics to see if they meet

the appropriate benchmarks three weeks in a row in order to reopen schools. She said she has been working closely with school district representatives in that hope.

- Discussion took place about the need to have a letter ready for signature to the Governor requesting school reopening.

Commissioner Russell moved to authorize Melissa Lindsay, as Chair, to sign a letter to the Governor, if need be, with consultation from Diane Kilkenny, Interim Public Health Director, requesting to reopen schools. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee Appointment Requests

Sandi Pointer, Public Works

Ms. Pointer presented the two application requests for appointment and asked the Board to consider the appointments.

Commissioner Russell moved to appoint Joe Lindsay to represent Position 2, Alternate, and John Murray to represent Position 4, to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Both terms to be October 21, 2020 – October 21, 2024. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Russell said he hoped the new appointees could make the meetings as they both mentioned daytime meetings would be difficult and that evenings or weekends would work better. Unanimous approval.

Comment Letter to Boardman Planning Commission for October 21st Public Hearing on the Request to Rezone 7.78 Acres from Tourist Commercial/Commercial Highway Sub District to General Industrial District, Amazon Web Services Zone Change PAPA 02-2020

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Ms. Mabbott presented the letter for consideration and went over some of the concerns addressed within it. Discussion.

Commissioner Doherty moved to sign the letter as presented by Ms. Mabbott. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Irrigon Building Update

Darrell Green, Administrator

- A meeting with stakeholders to discuss furniture was held yesterday. It was to determine the base level for office furniture set ups and conversations will be held later on furniture for other areas.
- Still working on the audio/visual needs in the conference rooms.
- The permitting process is still being worked through.
- The Board and Mr. Green talked about last Friday's ceremonial groundbreaking and thanked all who participated.

Grants to Cities Discussion

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop presented a revised spreadsheet on distribution options, as follow-up to the October 5th BOC meeting.

Commissioner Russell moved to split the money based on historical formula – 37.5% population and 62.5% even split. Commissioner Doherty said before making a new motion, he wanted to move to “unable” the earlier discussion of October 5th. Commissioner Russell seconded to unable the motion. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Russell moved to split the money based on historical formula – 37.5% population and 62.5% even split. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Doherty asked when this will move forward. Ms. Knop said it would probably be processed in the Accounts Payable in the next week or two. Chair Lindsay reiterated the ideas she was attempting to express at the October 5th meeting about the dire financial needs of the smaller communities in the County, and her proposal to distribute based on need and not population. Commissioner Russell apologized to Chair Lindsay for his comments to her at that meeting and said he would do better. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Columbia Development Authority Meeting Discussion

Chair Lindsay explained this was listed on the agenda in the event it’s needed as a Business Item following the Executive Session.

Department Reports

Juvenile Department Quarterly Report

The written report submitted by Juvenile Department Director Christy Kenny was reviewed.

The Loop Quarterly Report

Katie Imes, Coordinator

Ms. Imes’ reviewed her report for the Board.

Emergency Management Quarterly Report

The written report submitted by Undersheriff John Bowles was reviewed.

Correspondence

- Press Release: Explosive Ordnance Disposal Activity at NWSTF Boardman (Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility).
- Oregon Department of Energy Public Notice: Carty Generation Station, Request for Comments on the Complete Request for Amendment 2 and Draft Proposed Order.
- Letter from Assessor/Tax Collector Mike Gorman, to All Taxing Districts regarding the 2020-21 Certification of Taxes.
- Letter from Justin Nelson, County Counsel, to Interested Parties of Planning Department Application No. LUD-N-26-20 on the cancellation of the October 14th BOC Public Hearing.
- Statistics for Morrow County from “Oregon by the Numbers.”
- Email from Bill Rosholt, Executive Director of the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board, affirming the appointment of Sheryll Bates to the At Large position and that Morrow County could still appoint another business person to the EOWB.
- Morrow County 2020 Census Self-Response Rates. Chair Lindsay commented the census was shut down overnight. She thanked Commissioner Doherty for his efforts last summer when he coordinated a pop-up census event.

Commissioner Reports

Reports were provided by the Commissioners.

Break: 10:45-10:54 a.m.

Comments Prior to Executive Session

Chair Lindsay said there was the potential to resume the meeting following the Executive Session. She then read the applicable Executive Session citation.

10:55 a.m. Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.60(2)(h) – To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed

11:27 a.m. Return to Regular Meeting

Business Items, continued

Columbia Development Authority Meeting Discussion

Richard Tovey, County Counsel

Mr. Tovey confirmed no decision was made during the Executive Session. He said his office prepared a letter for the Board to review that asks CDA to rescind the motion made at the October 8th meeting to “memorialize the collective intent to deed the industrial property to the Port of Morrow and the Port of Umatilla after the transfer of the depot is complete.” The letter went on to reference Umatilla County Commissioner Bill Elfering’s letter to the CDA that called out the reasons the vote on the motion was illegal.

Commissioner Russell said his intent at tomorrow’s CDA meeting was to rescind his vote, but he couldn’t speak for the other members of the CDA. He said he would be happy to present the Board’s letter to the CDA. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Doherty moved to sign the letter, as drafted, for tomorrow’s CDA meeting. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 11:45 a.m.