

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes  
December 30, 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, Roberta Lutchter, Richard Tovey; Non-Staff: Andrea Nelson

**Present Via Zoom**

Staff: Lindsay Grogan, Gayle Gutierrez, Linda Skendzel, Heidi Turrell; Non-Staff: Torrie Griggs, Erika Lasater, Lori Roach, Sandy Toms

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call:** 9:00 a.m.

**City & Citizen Comments:** None

**Open Agenda:** No items

**Consent Calendar:** No items

**Business Items**

CARES Funds Update and Progress Report

Chair Lindsay explained a motion was made on December 23<sup>rd</sup> to allocate the CARES Funds and move forward. Subsequent to that, additional information and questions came in, which led her to call a public meeting to discuss and respond.

Commissioner Russell said it would be proper to rescind last week's motion.

*Commissioner Russell moved to rescind the motion made last week on the distribution of the CARES Funds. Commissioner Doherty said he would recuse himself. Chair Lindsay seconded and asked if there should be clarification on the recusal, to which County Counsel Richard Tovey replied it would be a good idea. Chair Lindsay declared she was a member of the board of one of the applicants but she didn't receive any financial gain from it, as a matter of fact, it would be the reverse of that. She said once the applicants were named, it could be discussed further. Commissioner Doherty said his son applied, as did he. He stated he had a direct conflict. Chair Lindsay noted Commissioner Doherty abstained last week, as well. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay and Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

Chair Lindsay talked about the efforts made to verify holding an Executive Session was appropriate for reviewing the grant applications, which contained personal information.

Mr. Tovey said in looking through the list of potential beneficiaries of the grant, there was potential conflict in his office. He said it wasn't to him directly but as far as decision making, he felt uncomfortable providing a legal basis for any kind of changes or any information regarding distribution, only in the sense of keeping from the appearance of being biased. He said he would recuse himself.

Commissioner Russell said Mr. Tovey's role would be for clarification of rules or laws and not for allocation of the grant funds, which would be up to the Commissioners.

Finance Director, Kate Knop, reviewed her memo to the Board regarding the requirements within DAS Grant Agreement #2529 – Coronavirus Relief Fund.

Chair Lindsay read the Executive Session citation and said the Board would reconvene in public session in one hour.

**9:11 a.m. – Executive Session:** Pursuant to ORS 192.660(f) – To consider the information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection

**10:22 a.m. Regular Session**

Chair Lindsay said an email was just received extending the deadline for disbursement of the CARES Funds. Brief discussion.

*Commissioner Russell moved to eliminate applicant #24, based on the spreadsheet, because the business was not primarily an Oregon company. Chair Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay, Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

*Commissioner Russell moved to eliminate applicant #39 because the income reduction requirement was not met. Chair Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay, Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

*Commissioner Russell moved to reclassify applicant #23 to a more appropriate category. Chair Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay, Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

*Commissioner Russell moved to reclassify applicant #16 to a more appropriate category. Chair Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay, Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

*Commissioner Russell moved to reclassify applicant #41 to a more appropriate category. Chair Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay, Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

Chair Lindsay said a brief recess would be taken to allow Ms. Knop to recalculate the spreadsheet.

**Break:** 10:30-11:15 a.m.

**Regular Session:** 11:17 a.m.

Chair Lindsay said 10 minutes were needed in Executive Session to review the revised spreadsheet. Mr. Tovey added it was to look at the financial information provided by applicants.

**11:19 a.m. – Executive Session:** Pursuant to ORS 192.660(f) – To consider the information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection

**11:30 a.m. Regular Session**

*Commissioner Russell moved to disburse the CARES Funds of \$601,788 in the following categories:*

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. <i>Category 11: Agriculture</i>                          | <i>\$9,896</i>   |
| 2. <i>Category 31: Manufacturing (Food &amp; Goods)</i>     | <i>\$24,389</i>  |
| 3. <i>Category 44: Retail Trade</i>                         | <i>\$77,763</i>  |
| 4. <i>Category 45: Retail Trade</i>                         | <i>\$34,285</i>  |
| 5. <i>Category 53: Real Estate</i>                          | <i>\$9,896</i>   |
| 6. <i>Category 54: Professional Services</i>                | <i>\$53,374</i>  |
| 7. <i>Category 56: Residential Services</i>                 | <i>\$9,896</i>   |
| 8. <i>Category 62: Health Care &amp; Social Assistance</i>  | <i>\$9,896</i>   |
| 9. <i>Category 71: Arts, Entertainment &amp; Recreation</i> | <i>\$43,478</i>  |
| 10. <i>Category 72: Accommodation &amp; Food Service</i>    | <i>\$188,573</i> |
| 11. <i>Category 81: Other Service</i>                       | <i>\$140,331</i> |

*Chair Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair Lindsay, Commissioner Russell. Motion carried. (Recused: Commissioner Doherty.)*

Brief discussion. Ms. Knop said, as public records, the vendor names and award amounts would appear in the Accounts Payable next week and would be posted to the Accounts Payable page on the website (Morrow County schedule of expenditures \$500 or more).

**Adjourned:** 11:36 a.m.