

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2021
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair Don Russell, Commissioner Jim Doherty, Commissioner Melissa Lindsay, Darrell J. Green, John A. Bowles, Roberta Lutchter, Justin Nelson; Non-Staff: Kimberly Lindsay

Present Via Zoom

Staff: Bobbi Childers, Ronda Fox, Lindsay Grogan, Mike Gorman, Katie Imes, Crystal Jaeger, Ann Jones, Christy Kenny, Kate Knop, Tamra Mabbott, Matt Scrivner, Linda Skendzel, Heidi Turrell, Stephen Wrecsics; Non-Staff: Sheryll Bates, Torrie Griggs, David Lawlor, Debbie Pedro, Karen Pettigrew, David Sykes, Jonathan Tallman

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call: 9:02 a.m.

City & Citizen Comments: Boardman resident, Jonathan Tallman, brought up a letter his family received regarding their business, The Farmer's Cup, located at 450 Laurel Lane. Mr. Tallman said he feared the access road to the coffee shop would be shut down, despite having been issued permits from the City of Boardman, which was now saying access will be closed per Morrow County. He said he tried to get some answers at last night's Boardman City Council meeting, but they were unresponsive. Mr. Tallman asked the County to meet with him and all other interested parties, including Amazon, Umatilla Electric Cooperative, the Port of Morrow, landowners, and the City of Boardman. Commissioner Doherty asked the Planning Director to look at the Interchange Area Management Plan (IAMP) and review the "triggers" for the loop roads. County Counsel Justin Nelson agreed Mr. Tallman could contact him and that he would work with the Planning Director and Public Works Director on the matter.

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar

Commissioner Lindsay asked to move the permit applications to Business Items.

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

- 1. Accounts Payable and Payroll Payables*
- 2. Minutes: February 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th Business & Regular Meetings, March 3rd*
- 3. Application for Tax Refund, Threemile Canyon Farms, LLC, \$27,718.18*

Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Applications to Build in the County Right-of-Way, Windwave Communications

Commissioner Lindsay said the locations were not depicted clearly in the application packets so she asked Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director, for a better illustration. Mr. Scrivner shared the interactive map provided by Windwave's Blake Lawrence at the February 10th BOC Meeting.

Chair Russell recused himself, stating he had a financial interest in Windwave Communications.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve Permit Application #ORN for Necessity to Build on Right-of-Way, Bombing Range Road 1.9 miles from the intersection with Highway 730, for a

Communication Line. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Vote: Aye: Commissioner Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay. Recused: Chair Russell. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve Permit Application #ORO for Necessity to Build on Right-of-Way, Paterson Ferry Road at the intersection with Highway 730, for a Communication Line. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Vote: Aye: Commissioner Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay. Recused: Chair Russell. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve Permit Application #ORP for Necessity to Build on Right-of-Way, Olson Road S.E. at the intersection with Kunze Road S.E. for a Communication Line. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Vote: Aye: Commissioner Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay. Recused: Chair Russell. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve Permit Application #ORQ for Necessity to Build on Right-of-Way, Kunze Lane at the intersection with Olson Road S.E., for a Communication Line. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Vote: Aye: Commissioner Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay. Recused: Chair Russell. Motion carried.

Legislative Updates – None

Business Items, continued

Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Report

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director

Ms. Lindsay provided an update on several legislative items that will impact services in Morrow County, as well as an update on the Governor's 988 Task Force, on which she is a member. Ms. Lindsay also discussed the possibility of expanding school-based counseling services to Sherman County and responding to the Request for Proposals issued by Umatilla County for Mental Health and Addiction Programs. Commissioner Lindsay expressed concern that Morrow County could become secondary to a larger county and CCS might spread itself "too thin." She said while CCS was capable of providing the services, she "selfishly" wanted Morrow County to remain the picture of what can happen with mental health, especially since it's where CCS started.

Road Use Agreement, Wheatridge Solar Project

Justin Nelson, County Counsel

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

David Lawlor, NextEra Energy

Mr. Nelson said this agreement mirrored the Road Use Agreement with NextEra for its wind project but with fewer roads impacted. Mr. Scrivner said the agreement covered Bombing Range Road, Strawberry Lane and Barak Martin Road.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the Road Use and Maintenance Agreement with Wheatridge Solar Energy Center, LLC, effective April 7, 2021. Prior to County's commencement of work on Solar Operator's requested road improvements, County and Solar Operator shall agree upon the costs of such requested road improvements. Solar Operator will pay such agreed-upon costs, plus an additional fee of 10% above said cost for County

administration of said road improvements. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Award Bid & Contract, Thin Lift Overlay Project and Kilkenny Corner Reconstruction Project
Matt Scrivner, Public Works

Mr. Scrivner said three bids were received for the two projects. He recommended awarding the bid and contract to American Rock Products and authorizing the Public Works Director to sign on behalf of the County.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to award and give the Public Works Director authority to sign the contract on behalf of the County with American Rock Products. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Lindsay asked if the higher amount was due to additional work. Mr. Scrivner replied, yes, it made more sense to have the contractor do the Little Butter Creek project because the County had so much chip seal to do to finish the entire project. Commissioner Doherty asked Mr. Nelson if it was appropriate to have the Public Works Director sign this. Mr. Nelson said he didn't recall if the Public Works Director had been authorized to sign in the past. Mr. Scrivner said he was authorized to sign on the Amazon project. He said a notice of award had to be signed on Friday, and there were other documents he'd sign to keep the project moving. Commissioner Doherty asked why this item was rushed through and why its need wasn't anticipated, given the multi-year plans for road improvements by Public Works. Mr. Scrivner explained the Little Butter Creek project was part of the five-year plan but the work at Baseline Lane and Kilkenny Corners was not. Unanimous approval.

Award Bid, Video Surveillance System for The Loop Vehicle Fleet

Katie Imes, Coordinator, The Loop

Ms. Imes explained four quotes were received and the review panel recommended awarding the bid to Safety Vision. She listed the reasons why it was chosen over the others, despite it being the mid-level bid of the three that met the qualifications.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Safety Vision as the supplier of a video surveillance system for The Loop fleet, in the amount of \$26,688 (50% Federal share and 50% local share). Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Appointment Request to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee

Katie Imes, Coordinator, The Loop

Ms. Imes said there were two vacancies on the STIF Committee and she received one application for appointment from Scott Green. Mr. Green is a Boardman resident and employed at the Boardman Pool and Recreation Center.

Commissioner Doherty moved to appointment Scott Green to the STIF Advisory Committee representing Local Government and Major Destinations of Users of Public Transit; term to be April 7, 2021 through April 7, 2024. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Break: 10:28-10:40 a.m.

2021 Employee Handbook & Policies

Lindsay Grogan, Human Resources Manager

Ms. Grogan reviewed the updates as a result of the March 24th BOC Meeting. Additional revisions were requested. The topic was scheduled again for April 21st.

First Reading, Ordinance No. ORD-2021-2 Adopt New Goal 10 Housing Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Ms. Mabbott provided the First Reading by title: “An Ordinance Amending the Morrow County Comprehensive Plan to Adopt a New Chapter, Goal 10 Housing.”

The Second Reading and potential Adoption will take place April 21st.

First Reading, Ordinance No. ORD-2021-3 Adopt New Rural Residential 10-Acre Zone

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Ms. Mabbott provided the First Reading by title: “An Ordinance Amending the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance to Adopt a New Rural Residential 10-Acre Zone.”

The Second Reading and potential Adoption will take place April 21st.

Blue Mountain Community College April 21st Meeting Topics

Commissioner Doherty said the BMCC representatives would like to discuss some of the challenges faced by the college. He said if the Commissioners understand those challenges, they will be in a better position to help BMCC, which has become an important part of the region. Commissioner Doherty offered to put together a list of questions for the meeting.

Emergency Operations Center Update

- Undersheriff Bowles provided current positive case and vaccination statistics and talked about the vaccination events held in conjunction with the Oregon Health Authority and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. He said two-day events will be held in each end of the County. A great deal of work went into getting the FEMA trailer on-site in Morrow County, he said. Morrow County’s pilot project will make it easier for other cities and counties across the State to do similar events with OHA and FEMA, he added. Undersheriff Bowles said he did not foresee the need for vaccination events to continue because the Public Health Department, clinics and pharmacies in the County will be able to handle things going forward. He said the decrease in demand for the vaccines was also being experienced in large counties.

Building Project Updates

- Administrator Darrell Green said preliminary plans are being put together on the coordination of the move from the old building to the new building.
- Chair Russell said a decision on the name of the building needed to be made relatively soon. He asked the Commissioners to review the packet of name ideas submitted by members of the public.

Department Reports

- Mr. Green reviewed the Administrator's Monthly Report.
- Undersheriff Bowles reviewed the Sheriff's Office Monthly Report. He noted Sheriff Ken Matlack would be on medical leave for the next four-to-six weeks.
- Fair Secretary Ann Jones reviewed the Fair Office's Quarterly Report.
- District Attorney Justin Nelson provided a verbal quarterly report.

Correspondence

- Morrow County 4-H April newsletter.

Commissioner Reports

Reports of activity were provided by the Commissioners.

Comments Prior to Executive Session

Chair Russell said there would be no decisions following the Executive Session.

12:11 p.m. Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(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

12:35 p.m. Closed Executive Session

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 12:45 p.m.