

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Minutes
January 12, 2022
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair Jim Doherty, Commissioner Don Russell, Darrell J. Green, Greg Close, Kate Knop, JoAnna Lamb

Present Via Zoom

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay; Staff: Kirsti Cason, SaBrina Bailey Cave, Paul Gray, Deanne Irving, Roberta Lutchter, Aaron Moss, Ian Murray, Jaylene Papineau, Sandi Pointer, Linda Skendzel, Heidi Turrell; Non-Staff: Donnie G., Torrie Griggs, Erika Lasater, Lisa Mittelsdorf, Karen Pettigrew, Rick Stokoe, David Sykes

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

City & Citizen Comments: Helix, Oregon resident, Craig Reeder, spoke about the \$1.3 million fine recently imposed by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on the Port of Morrow for nitrate violations.

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. Morrow County Professional Services Contract for Architectural and Engineering Services with Pivot Architecture, PC; Morrow County Bus Barn and Transit Facility Project; Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Discretionary Agreement #35074 and ODOT/Morrow County STIF Formula Plan Agreement shall be available for project costs incurred on or before June 30, 2023; and authorize the Administrator to sign on behalf of the County*
- 3. Contract with Community Counseling Solutions, Inc. for the Provision of Mental Health, Addiction Treatment, Recovery & Prevention, and Problem Gambling Services; effective January 1, 2022 and shall expire on December 31, 2022*
- 4. Amendment 3 to Oregon Health & Science University, Research Subaward Agreement #1015198, Maternal & Child Services; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 5. Amendment 1 to Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) #169524 for the Financing of Public Health Services; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 6. Amendment 2 to OHA IGA #169524 for the Financing of Public Health Services; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 7. Appointment of Kieran Hawley to the STIF Advisory Committee and the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee; term to be January 12, 2022 through December 31, 2022*
- 8. Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation Program Grant Application 2022-23; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
- 9. Subdivision Plat for River Ridge Estates, Phase 4, Boardman*

Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Grazing Permits and Agreement with Horseshoe Hereford Ranch, Inc. & Triangle Ranches for Property in Morrow and Grant Counties

Greg Close, Parks General Manager

Mr. Close reviewed the agreement and responded to questions.

Commissioner Russell moved to extend the leases with both Horseshoe Hereford Ranch and Triangle Ranch for the five years requested. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion. Vote: Aye: Commissioner Russell. Nay: Chair Doherty, Commissioner Lindsay. Motion failed.

Discussion continued and additional research and changes were requested. The item will be rescheduled.

Reclassification Requests for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green reviewed the two requests for Reclassification from Morrow County Public Transit, The Loop.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Reclassification Requests, as suggested by Administration: Transportation Coordinator to Transit Manager; and Transportation Dispatcher to Transit Dispatcher. Chair Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Report on “Take Your Shot, Oregon” Grant – Department of Administrative Services #2625

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop reported the \$164,052.50 grant was received and \$142,922.50 of expenditures were reported. The remaining \$21,119 of unspent funds were scheduled to be returned to the State, she said. Commissioner Lindsay requested time to work with Public Health staff to see if the unspent funds could be used, possibly toward personnel expenses in that department. By consensus, the Board opted to move the item forward one week.

Command Team Update

Paul Gray, Emergency Manager

- The statewide number of intensive care unit (ICU) beds used by COVID patients increased but, in this region, there were only three COVID patients in ICU beds.
- The Office of Emergency Management estimated the Omicron variant accounted for 60% of current cases, with the other 40% being Delta.

Break: 9:56-10:04 a.m.

Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Report

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director

Ms. Lindsay provided her quarterly report, covering multiple topics. As the report concluded, she thanked the County for its timely responses to the OHA contracts and amendments, particularly noting Mr. Green’s kindness and responsiveness. Mr. Green thanked Ms. Lindsay and said it was a team effort by the County.

Building Project Updates

- The abatement of the former office building in Irrigon was delayed due to COVID.
- The County's initial intent to ask for Courthouse funding was received and the next step is the formation of a committee.

Department Reports

- The Planning Department Monthly Report was reviewed in Director Tamra Mabbott's absence.
- Jaylene Papineau reviewed the Treasurer's Monthly Report.
- The Veterans Office Quarterly Report was reviewed in Linda Skendzel's absence.
- The Justice Court Quarterly Report was reviewed in Judge Glen Diehl's absence.

Correspondence

- DEQ Press Release: "DEQ fines Port of Morrow \$1.3 million for nitrate violations in area with groundwater contamination"

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports were provided.

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 11:10 a.m.