

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2022
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person:

Chair Jim Doherty, Commissioner Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Darrell J. Green, Katie Imes, Roberta Lutchter

Present Via Zoom:

Erin Anderson, SaBrina Bailey Cave, Mike Gorman, Aaron Moss, Justin Nelson, Sandi Pointer, Linda Skendzel, Heidi Turrell; Non-Staff: JoAnna Lamb, David Sykes

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar:

Commissioner Lindsay removed the Oregon Department of Transportation Grant Application for Project Management for Phases II & III, Boardman Bus Storage/Transit Facility to Business Items.

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

1. *Accounts Payable and Payroll Payables*
2. *Minutes: December 8th & 15th*
3. *Oregon Youth Authority Intergovernmental Agreement #14832 for the Expunction of Juvenile Records; effective January 2, 2022 to January 1, 2024; not-to-exceed \$13,193.60; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
4. *Appointment of Kevin Miracle to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC), Position Five – Franchise Collector; term to be February 9, 2022-February 9, 2026*
5. *Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Fiscal Year 2022-24 Grant Application – 5339 Discretionary Funds, Vehicle Replacement; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
6. *ODOT FY 2022-24 Grant Application – 5310 Discretionary Funds, Preventive Maintenance; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*
7. *Petition and Order No. OR-2022-3: In the Matter of Cancellation of Personal Property Taxes, Pedro Cisneros and Imelda Cisneros*

Legislative Updates

- District Attorney, Justin Nelson, submitted a Legislative Update form on Senate Bill 1511 – Retrial of all non-unanimous jury cases. Mr. Nelson recommended opposition to SB 1511.
- Veterans Services Officer, Linda Skendzel, submitted Legislative Update forms on House Bill 4082, HB 4066 and SB 1542 – all for information purposes only, no recommendations yet.

Public Hearing: Order No. OR-2022-2: In the Matter of Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Miller and Sons Disposal Services LLC
Sandi Pointer, Public Works Management Assistant

Chair Doherty opened the Public Hearing at 9:19 a.m. and called for abstentions or conflicts of interest. Commissioner Russell stated he attended the SWAC meeting when Millers brought forward the request so he had some knowledge of it. Chair Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay said they had no conflict of interest. He then called for the Staff Report. During Ms. Pointer's Staff Report, she referenced the letter from Miller and Sons outlining the reasons for their requested two-percent rate increase.

Chair Doherty called for proponents to speak; no response. He called for opponents to speak; no response. He then closed the Public Hearing to deliberate to a decision.

Commissioner Lindsay asked if the SWAC members discussed reanalyzing the routes of the different zone franchisees because they were "ridiculously crossing." Ms. Pointer said it was not discussed but she thought both franchisees were working on that issue. Brief discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to accept the rate increase suggested by Miller and Sons Disposal Services LLC, and Order No. OR-2022-2: In the Matter of Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Miller and Sons Disposal Services LLC. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

ODOT FY 2022-24 Grant Application – 5339 Discretionary Funds, Project Management for Phases II & III, Boardman Bus Storage/Transit Facility

Katie Imes, Coordinator, The Loop – Public Transit

Commissioner Lindsay asked questions about the decision process for determining where the transit facility will be built. Ms. Imes said it was still in the preliminary planning stage with Pivot Architecture and site selection was being explored, which will be followed by design schematics. Both Chair Doherty and Commissioner Russell talked about the difference in processes for large projects using General Fund dollars vs. outside grant funds and how the advisory committees play more of a role, instead of the Board. Various discussions ensued.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the ODOT FY 2022-24 Grant Application, 5339 Discretionary Funds – Project Management for Phases II & III, Boardman Bus Storage/Transit Facility; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County. Chair Doherty seconded. Discussion: Chair Doherty said if Commissioner Lindsay wanted to spend more time and work as the liaison, he would be happy to step aside. Commissioner Lindsay said she didn't have the necessary time to dedicate to it but she wanted it to come forward with his acknowledgement that he was a part of it, or for a work session to determine whether or not the County wants to build this very big transit program. It's a big deal and a big department and she said she hadn't heard the Board make that determination. Chair Doherty said he would work on it. Vote: Aye: Chair Doherty, Commissioner Russell. Nay: Commissioner Lindsay. Motion carried.

Out-of-State Travel Request

Justin Nelson, District Attorney

Commissioner Russell moved to authorize the out-of-state travel for the District Attorney to attend the conference on sexual abuse cases, noting funding will be from Child Abuse

Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) Funds. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Association of Oregon Counties Dues Invoice

Darrell Green, Administrator

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the AOC dues invoice in the amount of \$18,837.92. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Lindsay asked who the County's representative on the Federal Land Management Subcommittee was. Chair Doherty replied he was the rep. Unanimous approval.

Joint Letter with Umatilla County Requesting Funding Extension from Oregon Department of Agriculture for the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area's Nitrate Research with Oregon State University

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the letter and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

- The Planning Department Monthly Report was reviewed by Ms. Mabbott.

Correspondence

- Notice from the Oregon Farm Bureau, Oregon Cattlemen's Association and the Eastern Oregon Counties Association in support of HB 4127: Protecting Oregon Livestock and Oregon Wolves
- Notice for a virtual grant-writing workshop offered in partnership with Rural Development Initiatives, Kelley Nonprofit Consulting and The Ford Family Foundation

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports were provided.

9:59 a.m.: Chair Doherty left to attend another meeting and handed the gavel to Commissioner Lindsay.

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 10:15 a.m.