

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2022**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present In-Person:**

Chair Jim Doherty, Commissioner Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Darrell J. Green, Roberta Lucher

**Present Via Zoom:**

Erin Anderson, SaBrina Bailey-Cave, Kirsti Cason, Bobbi Childers, Ronda Fox, Katie Imes, Tamra Mabbott, Aaron Moss, Justin Nelson, Sandi Pointer, Linda Skendzel, Heidi Turrell; Non-Staff: Patrick Collins, Mike McCarter, Karen Pettigrew

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

**City & Citizen Comments:** No comments

**Open Agenda:** No items

**Consent Calendar:**

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the following items in the Consent Calendar:*

- 1. Accounts Payable & Payroll Payables*
- 2. Oregon Department of Agriculture, Wolf Compensation and Financial Assistance 2022 Grant Agreement #ODA-4332-GR*
- 3. Amendment 4 to Oregon Health Authority Intergovernmental Agreement #169524 for the Financing of Public Health Services, and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*

*Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Public Hearing:** Supplemental Budget Resolution No. R-2022-8 – Amazon Discretionary Appropriations

Darrell Green, Administrator

The Public Hearing was opened and Mr. Green provided the Staff Report. He said the supplemental budget action will:

1. Provide for an increase in capital outlay in the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Fund for the Umatilla Army Depot land conveyance in the amount of \$1 million.
2. Provide for an increase in materials & services in the Resiliency Fund for the receipt of the Amazon discretionary grant in the amount of \$10,545,618.
3. Increase interfund transfer to CIP Fund for the Umatilla Army Depot capital purchase of land in the amount of \$1 million.

Chair Doherty called for comments or questions from the public. As there was no response, he closed the Public Hearing. He went on to say he spoke to Treasurer Jaylene Papineau and she relayed she was fairly comfortable with how things were headed regarding the distribution of the Amazon funds to the two school districts. She still wanted to meet with County Counsel to make sure documentation existed. Various discussions.

Commissioner Russell said he was not in favor of setting aside the \$1 million for the conveyance of land to the Army. The previous Columbia Development Authority (CDA) Board, in its application to the federal government, agreed the Port of Morrow would put up the \$1 million in

exchange for the 640 acres. It's not an appropriate way to spend County dollars, he said, and he wouldn't be in favor of this for that part.

Chair Doherty said he appreciated that but it's tied to the other parts. He asked Commissioner Russell if he was comfortable with the balance of it.

Commissioner Russell replied, yes, he was fine with the distribution of the Amazon funds. He restated his opposition to spending County dollars and going back on an agreement made when former Commissioner Leann Rea was a member of the CDA.

Chair Doherty replied he would like to see that vote, frankly.

After a discussion to verify the correct funds distribution list had been provided, Commissioner Lindsay said at a prior BOC meeting, she was concerned about the funds going to entities outside Morrow County, such as Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) and InterMountain Education Service District (IMESD). However, since that time, she had the opportunity to discuss it with representatives of both organizations and was assured the funds would be used for the benefit of Morrow County citizens.

*Chair Doherty moved to approve Supplemental Budget Resolution R-2022-8 increasing the total adopted budget to \$78,278,048. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Lindsay said to be clear, the increase in the CIP Fund was for the Army Depot capital purchase of land. It's to go to the CDA Board that makes the decision about that land. Chair Doherty then said it was on tomorrow's CDA meeting agenda but he did not know what the outcome would be. Vote: Aye: Chair Doherty, Commissioner Lindsay. Nay: Commissioner Russell. Motion carried.*

## **Business Items**

### Out-of-State Travel Policy Review

After discussion, no changes to existing policy were made.

### Building Project Updates

Darrell Green, Administrator

- The Morrow County Government Center Building should be completed by the end of the month; paving will take place next week. Window blinds will be added in some areas and panic bars are going in. The light pollution issue it still being worked on and the audio-visual equipment installation should start in June or July but some equipment was still delayed.
- Commissioner Lindsay reported on the status of the grant application for Courthouse improvements, saying the County was number one on the list, most likely.

## **Department Reports**

- The written Justice Court Quarterly Report was reviewed in Judge Glen Diehl's absence.
- The Veterans Services Quarterly Report was reviewed by Linda Skendzel.
- The Planning Department Monthly Report was provided by Tamra Mabbott, Director, and Stephen Wrecsics, GIS Planning Tech.

- The written Treasurer’s Monthly Report was reviewed in Jaylene Papineau’s absence.

**Correspondence**

- Letter from Mike McCarter, President, Move Oregon’s Border.
- 2022 Legislative Summary compiled by the Association of Oregon Counties.

**Commissioner Report**

Reports were provided by the Commissioners.

**Comments Prior to Executive Session**

Chair Doherty said there was a question – there is an Executive Session scheduled and he reviewed his notes from last week and there were some close-out things to happen with partners on the other end and to-date, he didn’t believe any of those things have happened. He said it was up to the Board and asked if they should go in with the partners/professionals “quote-unquote” on why they didn’t follow through.

Commissioner Russell suggested going in to Executive Session for a quick update and Chair Doherty agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m. and Chair Doherty read the following Executive Session citation: 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.

**Break:** 10:41-10:50 a.m.

**Documents were signed following the Executive Session.**