

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
August 31, 2022
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair Jim Doherty, Commissioner Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, John Bowles, Brian Snider, Bobbi Childers, Ken Browne, Lisa Pratt, Wayne Seitz, Paul Gray, Michael Haugen, Eric Imes, Jaylene Papineau, David Sykes.

Present Via Zoom

Kirsti Cason, SaBrina Bailey-Cave, Yvonne Morter, Karen Pettigrew, Marty's Phone, Greg Sweek, Del Turner, Emily Roberts, Ericka Laster, Jeff, John Kilkenny, John M, Kevin Ince, Linda Skendzel, Lisa M, Mark Keith, Rick Stokoe, Sandi Pointer, Torrie Griggs, 15419227143, Marie Shimer, Sam Irons, Joe

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – 9:00am

City & Citizen Comments: Clerk Bobbi Childers present to report on multiple email requests on Record of Freedom of Information Requests. They appear to be a spam as the emails are almost identical. By releasing the information from our small area, it could be easily figured out who did and did not vote and how individuals voted. Bobbi feels confident that the process to count and certify the election will stand. Bobbi and her staff will continue to work with Oregon Secretary of State, Elections Division and local County Council, on this matter.

Wayne Seitz present and reports that the lights on the wind turbans have been on since Sunday. He asked if there was a deadline to when the company had to have this problem of the lights being on continuously? If the system does not work, how long do they have to get it fixed? Chair Doherty stated that there is a team that is working on this, and it does need to get fixed. Commissioner Russell stated that he and Mike have been in conversation with them and the goal is to get the lights working properly. Software was not working properly about a month ago. Commission Lindsay stated it is time to take some action, we keep making the same promise to Mr. Seitz.

Open Agenda: None

Consent Calendar:

Commissioner Russell asked that we pull the minutes of June 8, 2022 for further discussion. Roberta wrote the minutes and then they were re-written, not sure why. Commissioner Lindsay completed/rewrote several weeks of minutes to help get us caught up. The re-write of these better reflected what we did that day.

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

- a. Minutes: April 29, 2022 Special Meeting; May 11, 2022; May 18, 2022; May 25, 2022; June 1, 2022; June 1, 2022 Special Session; June 8, 2022; June 8, 2022 Work Session; June 15, 2022; June 22, 2022; June 29, 2022; July 6, 2022; August 10, 2022; August 17, 2022; August 17, 2022 Special Meeting; August 22, 2022;*

August 24, 2022; with the exception of the Meeting Minutes of June 8th for further comparison.

*b. Pre-Purchase Authorization for a new EZ Liner Paint Truck (Public Works)
Chair Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Business Items

Chair Doherty has looked into what other counties with Ambulance Services and appears that each county has their own way of providing coverage. Chair Doherty has received a resume from a gal with the state, she comes highly recommended and respected. She will act as a mediator to work on finding a resolution.

Commissioner Lindsay and Russell both support the idea of having an outside, independent moderator.

*Commissioner Russell moved to move forward with a sole source contract for mediation.
Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Commissioner Reports

Commissioners Lindsay gave update on her work with LUBGWMA; they have recently hired a scientist Salini Sasidharan Ph.D with extensive background. The LUBGWMA Committee will hold a meeting this Friday to clarify who the voting members are, Salini has been placed into the interim Chair position. Commissioner Lindsay wanted confirmation that a County Commissioner was the first vote and in their absence the Planning Director could be the voting member.

Doherty and Commissioner Russell confirmed that Commissioner Lindsay is the voting member for Morrow County.

Commissioner Russell reported that along with County Council and County Assessor they have been in conversation with Avengrid Solar Project, to enter into a deferred tax agreement.

Avengrid have provided a copy of contract they have used with other counties, to use as a rough draft. They want to move quickly. This Solar Project will be going in on the Bombing Range.

Signing of Documents

Adjourned: 9:32am