

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2023
Morrow County Government Center
Irrigon, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner Roy Drago Jr., Roberta Vanderwall, Roberta Lutcher, Justin Nelson, Sandi Pointer

Present Via Zoom

Staff: Deona Siex, Kevin Ince, SaBrina Bailey-Cave, Robin Canaday, Yvonne Morter, Kirsti Cason, Lindsay Grogan; Non-Staff: Andrea Di Salvo, Erika Lasater, Madeline Bowen, Veronica Ferguson, Ryan Hughes, Bill Saporito, Daniel Costie

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

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar: It was decided to consider the Consent Calendar after the budget-related Public Hearings.

Public Hearing: Resolution No. R-2023-13, Fiscal Year 2022-23 Supplemental Budget
Chair Sykes opened the Public Hearing at 9:04 a.m. and called for the Staff Report.

Finance Director, Kevin Ince, said the summary of changes by General Fund Department and Fund was provided in the Agenda Packet. Overall, he said, it was driven by changes in Personnel Services expenditures not included, or anticipated, in the current fiscal year adopted budget. Examples included the addition of positions and the 5% incentive paid to employees and approved by the Board a few months ago.

Mr. Ince also called out an increase of \$685,377 in appropriations in the Wheatridge Wind Fees Fund. He proposed using that surplus to make an additional payment toward the Defined Benefit pension plan, saying it was represented in the Supplemental Budget action.

Chair Sykes called for questions from the Board, staff and the public. Hearing none, the Hearing was closed at 9:09 a.m.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to approve Resolution No. R-2023-13: In the Matter of Adjusting Appropriations for Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2022. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to approve the recommended supplemental payment toward the Morrow County Defined Benefit pension plan. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Public Hearing: Resolution No. R-2023-14, Adopting the FY 2023-24 Budget
Chair Sykes opened the Public Hearing at 9:10 a.m. and called for the Staff Report.

Mr. Ince said the Resolution approves the adoption of the FY 23-24 annual budget for Morrow County. It's as approved and recommended by the Budget Committee following the County's Budget Committee Meetings.

Chair Sykes said it was a unanimous vote by the Budget Committee, correct? Mr. Ince agreed. Chair Sykes called for public comment. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing at 9:11 a.m.

Commissioner Drago moved to approve Resolution No. R-2023-14: In the Matter of Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations, Imposing and Categorizing the Taxes. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Consent Calendar

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

- 1. Minutes: June 7th*
- 2. Morrow County Beneficiary Agreement, American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, with South Morrow County Seniors Matter; term of agreement June 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 or until all grant funds expended; \$33,984 to Beneficiary upon execution of agreement and \$33,984 on June 1, 2024*
- 3. Critical Oregon Airport Relief Program Grant Agreement No. COAR-2023-9S9-00007, Lexington Airport Taxiway D Reconstruction; \$85,000; recipient match \$33,014.90; effective when fully executed through the date two years after the effective date*
- 4. Cooperative Service Agreement with U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services; effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028; County to pay \$63,700 for services defined in the Work & Financial Plan (agreement dates July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024)*
- 5. Department of Revenue Intergovernmental Agreement #DOR-183-23, Tax Map Maintenance; \$30,000; July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024*
- 6. Oregon Health Authority 2023-2025 Intergovernmental Agreement #180024 for the Financing of Public Health Services; \$253,524.18; effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025*
- 7. Amendments 1 & 2 to the Contract with Community Counseling Solutions, Inc. for the Provision of Mental Health Services; Contract extension agreements*

Business Items

Appointment Requests to the North Morrow Vector Control District Board

Greg Barron, Manager

Mr. Barron presented the appointment requests and provided an update to the Board.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to reappoint Pat Tolar and Glenn Maret to four-year terms to the North Morrow Vector Control District Board. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Letter of Support, Sunstone Solar Project

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Brianne Hyder, Senior Director, RenUSA

Chair Sykes said he wanted to make sure by that by signing the letter it wouldn't taint the Board's decision making process in the event any zoning items were to come before the Board.

Ms. Mabbott said she initially had reservations but after working on the wording of the letter with staff from the Energy Facility Siting Council she was now comfortable with it.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to sign the letter in support of the Sunstone Solar Project. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Rural Transit Equity Project Report

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

The group that worked to compile the report presented its findings. The group included Madeline Phillips (Department of Land Conservation & Development), Grace Donovan (Rural Engagement & Vitality Center), and Dr. Daniel Costie (Eastern Oregon University). The PowerPoint presentation included a list of recommendations. A brief question and answer session was held.

Discussion – Head Start Support

Dan Daltoso, Chief Operating Officer, Umatilla-Morrow Head Start, Inc.

Aaron Treadwell, Chief Executive Officer, Umatilla-Morrow Head Start, Inc.

Mr. Daltoso asked the County to be the sponsor on a Community Development Block Grant to apply for \$1.5 million for a new facility in Irrigon. They are currently housed next to A.C. Houghton Elementary School and they and the school district are open to continuing that arrangement. The preference is for a costlier stick-built facility but they are looking at modular, as well, he said.

Chair Sykes said the County wanted to help and then asked what the duties would be. Mr. Daltoso said Head Start would do most of the work – site plan, schematics, work with the school district on placement, compile demographic information on Irrigon and the population they serve, etc. After that, he'd return with the completed application asking for full support from the County. After a brief discussion, the Commissioners agreed by consensus.

Goal 9 Economic Development & Employment Lands Assessment for Willow Creek Valley

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Brian Points, Ryan Hughes, Madeline Bowen & Pedro Jimenez with Points Consulting/Nexus Planning Services

Dawn Hert, Department of Land Conservation & Development

The purpose of the project was to develop a Goal 9 Economic Development and Employment Lands Assessment for the three cities in the Willow Creek Valley, according to Ms. Mabbott's information in the online Agenda Packet.

The representatives from Points Consulting reviewed their presentation. The "Future Land Use Needs" slide outlined three conclusions:

1. The shortage of medium and large industrial sites is one of the greatest challenges to economic competitiveness.

2. Within all commercial and industrial districts across all three cities, there are only two parcels with net buildable land exceeding 20 acres.
3. Ione and Lexington may warrant a slight increase in commercial land supply, while the biggest need is for Heppner, in terms of large-tract industrial lands.

Ms. Mabbott said the next steps are for each city to adopt the Assessment as an amendment to their Comprehensive Plans. There are extensive reports and mapping for each city to adopt and she said she was willing to assist. Discussion.

Break: 10:51-10:57 a.m.

Contract Award – Amazon Bombing Range Road Turn Lane Project

Eric Imes, Public Works Director

Mr. Imes explained in 2022, Amazon Data Services, Inc. entered into a Road Use Agreement regarding the campus development off Bombing Range Road. It included the construction of a right turn lane onto the property. Amazon will reimburse the County for its costs (construction, administration, engineering). The lowest bidder for the project was Bolen Construction LLC, he said.

Commissioner Drago moved to approve the Bombing Range Road Turn Lane Construction Contract with Bolen Construction LLC; \$154,232.20. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Contract Award – Airport Taxiway D Reconstruction Project

Sandi Pointer, Public Works

Ms. Pointer said two bidders responded and after review by Century West Engineering, the recommendation was to award to Silver Creek Contracting, LLC.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to have Chair Sykes sign the Division II Contract with Silver Creek Contracting, LLC; \$898,334.30. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Insurance Renewals

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

Mr. Ince said the final documents detailing the total amounts owed for insurance coverage had not been submitted by CIS (CityCounty Insurance Services) and Wheatland Insurance. Since they are due prior to July 1st, he suggested two options – hold a special meeting when the documents are received, or authorize staff to move forward. Discussion.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to authorize Roberta Vanderwall, Interim Administrator, to move forward with signing the insurance package up to the budgeted amount, subject to no major changes in coverage. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

- The Administrator’s Monthly Report was provided by Ms. Vanderwall
- The Planning Department Monthly Report was provided by Ms. Mabbott

- The written Treasurer’s Monthly Report was reviewed, as submitted by Jaylene Papineau
- The Accounts Payable Monthly Report was provided for informational purposes, as submitted by Mr. Ince.

Legislative Update: None submitted

Correspondence: None submitted

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports of activity were provided.

Chair Sykes read the following Executive Session citations and said there was a potential decision or action item as a result of one or both Executive Sessions:

Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations

Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) – To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent

11:39 a.m. Executive Sessions

12:11 p.m. Closed Executive Session. (Ms. Vanderwall noted prior to returning to Open Session that the second Executive Session would not be held.)

Open Session

Chair Sykes said no further business would be conducted.

Signing of Documents

Adjourned: 12:20 p.m.