

**Morrow County Court**  
**January 20, 2016**  
**Boardman, Oregon**  
**Port of Morrow Riverfront Center**

**Present**

Judge Terry Tallman  
Commissioner Leann Rea  
Commissioner Don Russell  
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer  
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director  
Rich Tovey, County Counsel/Deputy District Attorney  
Roberta Lutcher, Court Executive Assistant

**Audience**

Karen Pettigrew, City of Boardman, Manager  
Melissa Lindsay, Lexington

Judge Tallman called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**City and Citizen Comments – Boardman**

- Commissioner Rea requested a discussion on policy regarding Purchasing Pre-Authorization Requests.
- Judge Tallman asked the Commissioners to consider a resolution similar to the one signed by the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners in support of Harney County.
- Ms. Pettigrew asked the Court to support Harney County on another matter – that of opposing the proposed increase to the minimum wage. She said she is from that area and Harney County has many workers who are Idaho residents. She said the minimum wage issue is very important to both Harney and Malheur Counties.

**Department Report**

Road Report

Burke O'Brien, Public Works Director

Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master

Mr. Scrivner provided the Road Report:

- Bombing Range Road - a Vactor truck (tank truck with a heavy duty vacuum) was used to help locate a gas line on the west side of the road, and fiber line on the east side. The fiber line needs to be buried deeper before shoulder work can continue on that side. When work is completed, the crew will work on the west side between the intersection of Cascade Specialties and Finley Butte Road. As protection from vehicle traffic, concrete manhole products will be installed over the shut-off valves in the shoulder area for Cascade Specialties.
- Ione-Gooseberry Road – concrete footings were poured on the bridge project and the crew is now working on forming abutments and wing walls.
- Big Butter Creek Lane – shoulder work was done for a day when fog forced the crew off Bombing Range Road.

- Winter operations – trucks were out sanding on a few mornings, when needed.
- Little Butter Creek Road – a logging contractor (with an Overweight Permit) began hauling logs on this road, which was inspected prior to resuming activity. The road will be monitored and the contractor was asked to cease hauling logs if damage to the road becomes visible. The Overweight Permit expires on February 1<sup>st</sup>, so the contractor will need to reapply at that time.
- Kunze Road – contractor who applied a fertilizer/organic material on a field also got the material on the road. The contractor scraped and washed the road and it is in much better condition now.
- A feed truck that was probably hauling silage on Ione-Gooseberry Road went off the road and dumped material on the shoulder, where it remains. There was some asphalt and shoulder damage and the Sheriff's Office was asked to open an investigation.

#### Road Department Request for One-Time Maintenance in the West Glen Extension

Mr. O'Brien explained this area has no covenants or organization and the approach roads to Kunze Lane are in bad shape (Parkside Road, Mountain View Drive, Skyview Drive, Summit Lane). He said equipment is already working nearby on Bombing Range Road so it would not be difficult to blade and/or apply rock where necessary. He requested permission to do so. Discussion. The Court asked Mr. O'Brien to draft a letter to the residents explaining the situation (that the County is not required to do this) and submit it to County Counsel for review.

#### Permits

*On the recommendation of Public Works, Commissioner Rea moved to approve Application #OJU from Umatilla Electric Cooperative for an overhead power line crossing on County Road #727, California Lane. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

*On the recommendation of Public Works, Commissioner Rea moved to approve Application #OJV from Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative for an overhead crossing on County Road #546, Fairview Lane (Cecil area). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### **New Business**

##### Property Tax Refund

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Application for Refund to Columbia River Processing, No. 16-2, Tax Year 2014-15, Account #11293, in the amount of \$7,483.05. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Mr. Gorman reported the trimester reminder notices for tax payments will be mailed this afternoon. He added the County has \$1,538,841.33 left to collect, which means approximately 95% of taxes have already been paid.

#### **Old Business**

##### Finley Buttes Fee Adjustment Request

Sandi Putman, Public Works Management Assistant

Kevin Green, Waste Management, Finley Buttes Landfill Company

At the January 13<sup>th</sup> County Court meeting, Finley Buttes Landfill requested several fee changes, including a change to the minimum charge per load (at the landfill) from \$5 to \$34. After discussion, the Court requested it be set at \$16. Mr. Green's revised request now includes the \$16 amount. Commissioner Russell then asked if Dean Large, Sales Manager, had considered his request to discuss the Road Maintenance portion of the contract. Mr. Green conveyed Mr. Large's desire to meet with Commissioner Russell to discuss the matter.

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Schedule of Prices for Disposal Services within Morrow County, dated January 18, 2016, with the effective date of February 1, 2016, and the rates specified. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **New Business**

#### Oregon Liquor Control Commission Application (OLCC) – Love's Travel Stops

Mr. Sorte suggested the application be forwarded to the Sheriff's Department for review and input prior to County Court consideration.

#### Pioneer Annex Deed to Morrow County Health District

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the following documents between Morrow County and the Morrow County Health District, and authorize Judge Tallman sign on behalf of the County -*

- 1. Quitclaim Deed regarding the property described as: Lot 2, Block 1, Valley View Estates as platted and recorded in Book 2, Page 41, in the records of Morrow County, Oregon, and*
- 2. Owner's Sale Agreement and Earnest Money Receipt*

*Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### **Contracts**

The Commissioners decided it was no longer necessary to review amendments to contracts (Public Health and Mental Health), but they will continue to review original contracts. They handed over the review of amendments to the Administrative Officer.

*Commissioner Rea moved to allow the Administrative Officer to sign amendments for the Health Department and Mental Health (i.e. Oregon Health Authority) providing the Administrator is comfortable with the minimal action in the amendment. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Multnomah Education Service District Agreement (MESD) – Medicaid Administrative Claiming

*Commissioner Rea moved to approve MESD Contract No. C02348 R-1 with the term of the agreement from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Ione School Based Health Center Addendum to Services Agreement

*Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Addendum to the School Based Health Center Agreement and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Minutes**

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the minutes of January 6<sup>th</sup>, as presented. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.*

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the minutes of January 13<sup>th</sup>, as presented. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Claims**

- The Commissioners asked Mr. Sorte to provide a memo clarifying the threshold at which an expenditure needs a written Purchasing Pre-Authorization Request.
- Commissioner Rea was curious as to the purpose of smoke odor eliminator purchased by the Sheriff's Department for \$11.24. Ms. Wolff said it might be used to remove odors from clothing.

*Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Accounts Payable, dated January 21<sup>st</sup>, in the amount of \$64,471.08. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Administrative Officer Report**

### Shelving for Bartholomew Building Storage Rooms

Mr. Sorte said the quotes for shelving in the three storage rooms range from \$6,600 for metal shelving to \$7,000 for built-in shelving. Commissioner Rea said she preferred the metal/wheeled units rather than built-in shelves.

*Commissioner Rea moved to approve the purchase of the metal shelving units for the storage rooms in the Bartholomew Building in an amount not to exceed \$7,000. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Social Media and Alternative Communications

Mr. Sorte said there have been recent incidents where meetings were delayed or rescheduled due to inclement weather. He said he would like to establish a base level of communication through social media to disseminate information like this. Facebook and other social media platforms can be updated easily from the office or other locations, he added. As staff time allows, he said, the amount of information distributed about other County activities could increase. Discussion. Mr. Sorte recommended that in the beginning, the activity should be centralized in the County Court offices, but could grow with proper training and policies in place. The Commissioners agreed with Mr. Sorte's recommendation.

## **Old Business**

### Joint Comment Letter with Umatilla County regarding Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line

George Murdock, Umatilla County Commissioner  
Bob Wahlder, Umatilla County Senior Planner  
Carla McLane, Morrow County Planning Director

The joint letter to the Bureau of Land Management National Project Manager basically states both counties are opposed to the Environmentally Preferred Route (aligns with I-84) being

designated as the Agency Preferred Alternative. It goes on to say, Planning Department staff from both counties drove each County's preferred route and viewed Google Earth images, and would like to suggest additional refinement along the county line (Gurdane Road in Umatilla County and Big Butter Creek Lane in Morrow County).

The Commissioners discussed the unique nature of the letter and said it will likely have more impact with Governor Kate Brown's Office. Commissioner Rea said it is her understanding Governor Brown will support the actions of Umatilla and Morrow Counties. Various discussions ensued.

### **Commissioner Reports**

- Commissioner Rea said she participated via telephone in The Oregon Consortium and Oregon Workforce Alliance meeting to discuss the close-out of the organization and the transition to seven new boards. She said the process is going well.
- Commissioner Rea attended the Neighborhood Center of South Morrow County Board meeting and learned the Center has been working with individuals through a job training program. Two individuals have graduated from the program and are now in the workforce, she said.
- Commissioner Russell said the Oregon Counties Legislative Institute Leadership Class he planned to attend was cancelled.

### **Comments Prior to Executive Session**

Ms. Wolff stated there will be no decisions outside Executive Session.

### **11:40 a.m. Executive Session**

*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.*

*ORS 192.660(2)(d) To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.*

*ORS 192.660(2)(b) To consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open hearing.*

### **12:18 p.m. Closed Executive Session – No decisions**

**Adjourned: 12:19 p.m.**