

Morrow County Court
June 29, 2016
Heppner, Oregon
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Commissioner Don Russell
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer
Justin Nelson, County Counsel/D.A.
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director
Roberta Lutcher, Court Executive Assistant

Audience

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector
Jim Doherty, Commissioner-Elect
Kate Knop, Finance Department Director
Melissa Lindsay, Judge-Elect

Call to Order: 9:03 a.m., followed by pledge of allegiance

City and Citizen Comments: No comments

Open Agenda:

- Ms. Wolff asked that a written request for discretionary funds that was submitted moments before the start of the meeting be added to the agenda.
- Mr. Sorte introduced Kate Knop, who is the new Finance Director as of Tuesday, June 28th.

Department Reports

Human Resources – Workers’ Compensation Premium Payment Options

Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director

Ms. Wolff said based on last week’s recommendation by the Court, followed by that of former Finance Director, Rick Worden, she too concurs with the lump sum option. She explained the Court’s preference offers a 3.5% discount.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Workers’ Compensation Insurance Premium Payment to SAIF Corporation of \$87,388, which must be received by SAIF by July 10, 2016; and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

Reclassification Request – Veterans Service Officer (VSO)

Ms. Wolff said documented emails show the request met the timeframe to be included in the 2015 Reclassification process, as outlined in the Personnel Manual. She discussed her methodology in reaching the recommendation to reclassify from Pay Range 4 of the General Employee Wage Scale to Pay Range 6. She noted the VSO is currently at Step D, which must correspond with the new Pay Range assignment.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Reclassification Request for the Veterans Services Officer to Pay Range 6 (Step D) of the General Employee Wage Scale, effective July 1, 2016. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Public Hearing – Supplemental Budget #2, Resolution Number R-2016-12

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Rick Worden, former Finance Director

Judge Tallman opened the Public Hearing at 9:15 a.m. and asked Mr. Worden to provide a Staff Summary. Mr. Worden reviewed each budget item adjustment which brought about the need for a Supplemental Budget action. Judge Tallman called for, and received, no response from proponents or opponents. The Public Hearing was closed at 9:42 a.m.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve “In the Matter of Adopting the Supplemental Budget and Making the Corresponding Appropriations,” Resolution Number R-2016-12. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Transferring Appropriations within the General Fund, Resolution Number R-2016-13

Mr. Worden reviewed the budget transfers being made to more accurately reflect actual budget figures, and thereby also accomplishing them within the current budget year.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve “In the matter of Transferring Appropriations within the Morrow County General Fund, Pursuant to ORS 294.463(1),” Resolution Number R-2016-13. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business

Sheriff’s Department and City of Irrigon Law Enforcement Services Agreement

Sheriff Ken Matlack

Sheriff Matlack reviewed the agreement, which has the City of Irrigon paying \$76,000 per fiscal year. A lengthy discussion followed on the vehicle purchase process in this agreement and a similar agreement with the City of Heppner. Ultimately, Commissioner Rea said she was willing to approve the agreement but requested future agreements be more straightforward regarding vehicle arrangements and include more details.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Sheriff’s Services made and entered into the 21st day of June, 2016 between Morrow County, Oregon, The Morrow County Sheriff, and the City of Irrigon, at an amount not to exceed \$76,000; to be effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Ambulance Service Area Plan

Rusty Estes, Emergency Medical Services Coordinator, Morrow County Health District

Mr. Sorte recently provided Mr. Estes with comments on the plan from several County staff members. Mr. Estes reviewed those comments with the Court and said he would return next week with an updated document for signatures.

Blue Mountain Early Learning (BMEL) Hub Advisory Board Appointment

Mr. Sorte said a correspondence from Sheree Smith, Public Health Department Director, requested Citlali Mendoza be appointed to the BMEL Hub Advisory Board.

Upon the recommendation of Public Health Director, Sheree Smith, Commissioner Rea moved to appoint Citlali Mendoza to the Blue Mountain Early Learning Hub Advisory Board. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Order Abolishing the Office of County Judge and Establishing a Board of County Commissioners, Effective January 9, 2017, Order Number OR-2016-6

Justin Nelson, County Counsel

Mr. Nelson discussed the County Court vote of September 16, 2015, and summarized the in-depth research by the Office of County Counsel, all of which culminated in this Order. A few modifications were suggested and Commissioner Rea asked that language be added to clarify Juvenile Dependency cases were formally transferred to the Morrow County Circuit Court. She then asked Mr. Nelson about the Judge-Elect retaining the title of Judge. He said the intent of the September motion was to create three County Commissioner positions equal in duties and obligations. He went on to say the six-year term for the Judge-Elect is a requirement from the Oregon Secretary of State's Office. After additional discussion about the confusion this has caused on behalf of the public, Mr. Nelson said he would revise the Order and return in the coming weeks.

County Counsel Contract Extension

Mr. Sorte

Mr. Nelson

Mr. Sorte explained the one-year contract with Mr. Nelson and Richard Tovey expires June 30, 2016. He then relayed the options available to the Court. Mr. Nelson presented a request to allow him and Mr. Tovey additional time to determine actual hours worked over a given period to see if compensation is in line with hours worked. Various discussions.

Commissioner Rea moved to extend two separate, four month County Counsel Contracts, one to Justin Nelson, District Attorney, and one to Richard Tovey, Deputy District Attorney, at the current rate of compensation (total for both with benefits: \$5,566 per month) in order to stay below the \$10,000 threshold required by Statute. (Discussion took place on interpretation of the \$10,000 threshold.) Commissioner Rea amended the motion to state "three month County Counsel Contracts" in place of "four month County Counsel Contracts." Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services – Work and Financial Plan, Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Commissioner Rea moved to approve Cooperative Service Agreement No. 16-73-41-5126 with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,

Wildlife Services Work Plan; which sets forth the objectives, activities and budget for the wildlife services program in Morrow County from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017; agreement amount \$53,611.75; and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Sanitary Disposal, Inc., Order Number OR-2016-5
Commissioner Rea moved to approve “In the Matter of Rate Increase for Solid Waste Collection by Sanitary Disposal, Inc.,” Order No. OR-2016-5. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Discretionary Fund Request – Portable Lighting System to be used by Schools and for Other Community Events in the County

The letter from Richard Drake states the Heppner Music Department is seeking funds to purchase a portable lighting system for a variety of school events. It would also be made available for other community events, but the priority will be given to the schools, according to the letter. The initial goal is \$7,500.

Commissioner Rea moved to award \$1,000 from the Court Discretionary Fund for the purchase of a portable lighting system by the Heppner Public Schools Music Director for the Heppner Music Department. Discussion. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Commissioner Rea moved to award \$1,000 from the Court Discretionary Fund for the purchase of a portable lighting system by the Heppner Public Schools for the Heppner Music Department with the stipulation the County will hold the check until September 30, 2016 while the fundraisers obtain the balance of funding from other sources. In the event sufficient funds are not raised, the funds will be returned to the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

County Counsel Report

Mr. Nelson had no additional items to report.

Administrative Officer Report

Mr. Sorte asked the Court to consider an abbreviated meeting schedule during the summer months. He said two of the four monthly meetings could be regular meetings and two could be for paying Accounts Payable and to deal with any other time-sensitive issues that may arise. He said he will schedule a full discussion for next week.

Claims

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Payroll Payables, Immediates & Electronic, dated June 15th and June 22nd; and the Accounts Payable, dated June 30th in the amount of \$110,986.46, which includes the add-on of the \$1,000 Discretionary Fund Request Award. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the minutes of the June 20th Special Meeting with Navy Personnel, as presented. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the minutes of June 22nd, as presented. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Correspondence Reviewed

- Thank you note to the Court from Heppner Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Sheryll Bates, for their Discretionary Fund award of \$2,500 to the Chamber.

Commissioner Reports

- Due to meeting time constraints, Commissioners Rea and Russell opted to delay their reports.
- Judge Tallman discussed the Community Care Organization goal requirement to receive incentive dollars. He said the amount will be raised to approximately \$5 million and he had concerns about the consequences if the County does not meet the goal.

Executive Session: Postponed

Work Session in Advance of County Court Public Hearing, July 6th, Heppner Zoning Ordinance Update – Article 7 Dimensional Adjustments, Variances, Special or Temporary Use Permits and Non-Conforming Uses

Carla McLane, Planning Director

Ms. McLane briefly reviewed the new and changed language to Article 7. She said many of the changes are considered “housekeeping” items as the update is an attempt to consolidate similar items and similar approval processes. She said she recommends adoption next week.

Adjourned: 12:21 p.m.