

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2017
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present

Chair Melissa Lindsay
Commissioner Don Russell
Commissioner Jim Doherty
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer
Justin Nelson, County Counsel
Kate Knop, Finance Director
Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: 9:03 a.m.

City and Citizen Comments:

Greg Sweek, Heppner

Mr. Sweek spoke on potential Strategic Investment Program (SIP) negotiations the County may undertake and urged the Commissioners to not include funds to the Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA) as part of any contracts. Commissioner Russell explained CREA will receive approximately \$750,000 over the life of one existing 15-year contract, and there are several others in which they've been involved. Commissioner Doherty said if CREA is involved, he would make sure the County gets its "money's worth," but he would prefer to keep it in-house.

Open Agenda Requests: County Counsel Justin Nelson requested postponement of the following agenda item: Use of County Easement Agreement with Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Consent Calendar

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

- 1. Accounts Payable dated June 29th in the amount of \$248,598.84*
- 2. Board of Commissioners Meeting minutes of June 14th*
- 3. Order No. OR-2017-4: In the Matter of Adopting a Fee Schedule for Morrow County Public Works Parks Department*
- 4. Contract for Materials and Supplies with Pioneer Construction, Inc.*

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

9:12 a.m. Public Hearing – Supplemental Budget Action, Resolution No. R-2017-17

Chair Lindsay called for abstentions or conflicts of interest: Commissioner Russell: none; Commissioner Doherty: none; Chair Lindsay: none. The Staff Report was then requested. Kate Knop, Finance Director, explained the Resolution includes increases to appropriations in various funds due to revenue in excess of budget, specifically: Increase General Fund Appropriations by

\$57,534; Ione School Fund by \$3,386; Victim/Witness Fund by \$5,000; Justice Court Bails & Fines by \$207,000; Parks Fund by \$41,074, and Equity Fund by \$50,000. Total amount: \$368,994. Discussion.

After hearing no response to Chair Lindsay's calls for proponents and opponents to speak, the hearing was closed at 9:19 a.m.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve Resolution No. R-2017-17: In the Matter of Appropriations for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2016. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) Discussion Items

Administrative Processing Fee under Consideration by the County

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director, CCS

Rick Worden, Chief Financial Officer, CCS

Ms. Lindsay provided a history of the CCS-County relationship going back to the mid-2000s. She also explained the County has not charged full market rate for the offices in the Gilliam-Bisbee Building. That difference between what is charged and the fair market rate has been listed as in-kind contributions when CCS applies for grants, she said, and can be as much as \$18,000 per year. She noted the County increased the rent this last year from \$8,000 to \$22,000. [Later in the meeting Mr. Sorte explained the rent was increased when CCS took over the full 7,000 square feet of the second floor of the building. The increase was to cover utilities and barely does that, he said, and it does not cover any of the deferred maintenance costs. The County is still providing a subsidized rent amount for CCS, he stated.]

Ms. Lindsay reviewed a list that showed which counties contract mental health services with not-for-profit providers and whether or not those counties charge an administrative fee. Ms. Lindsay offered that she has consistently said there is some amount that could be charged, a hard dollar amount relevant to the work the County does to pass the funds through to CCS, such as the document review by County Counsel, and that would be fair. Discussion.

Commissioner Russell asked Ms. Lindsay several questions about the contract regarding oversight by the County and audit responsibilities. She replied the contract signed by the County contains language that the County has oversight for the programs, but the language is stronger than the practice. She discussed several contributing factors for this, including that the State has a "fair amount of regulatory oversight over programs." She said the State is responsible for their audits and does them as often as they feel necessary. The Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization also audits CCS, she said.

Commissioner Russell wanted to know what would happen if a third party audit was needed. Mr. Sorte said the County is still working on the contract with CCS, but the contract the County signed with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) states the County shall monitor delivery of services and report to OHA any deficiencies. That will require some form of oversight, and if

the County can “piggy-back” on what the State already does, that’s a good thing. But, he continued, we’re still trying to figure out a contract provision to ensure we do that contract requirement. Discussion.

County Counsel Justin Nelson spoke to the section of the OHA contract that says the County “shall” monitor. The State is ultimately requiring the County to monitor the programs, he offered, it doesn’t say the programs “should” be monitored, it’s specific, it says the County “shall” monitor.

After additional discussions, the Commissioners expressed their respect for Ms. Lindsay and the work done by CCS, and decided not to pursue an administrative fee or separate costs for an independent audit. The Board and Ms. Lindsay also decided to a one-week extension of the existing contract until a new contract is presented at next week’s Board meeting.

Commissioner Doherty moved to direct staff to create a contract extension suitable to CCS and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County; and to direct County Counsel to draft a new contract with CCS for next week’s Board meeting. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

State Behavioral Health Work Group Recommendations

Ms. Lindsay reviewed the document titled, “Oregon Behavioral Health Collaborative Recommendations for 21st Century System of Care.” She explained the legislature directed OHA to put together this blueprint for changes because they felt there were inefficiencies in the system. The governor appointed 50 stakeholders to meet and create this document, she added. Discussion.

Appointment Request to the Fair Board

Ann Jones, Fair Secretary

Ms. Jones said there will still be one vacancy on the Fair Board after today’s appointment.

Commissioner Russell moved to appoint Casey Zellars to the Morrow County Fair Board for the term ending December 31, 2020. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Break: 10:45 a.m. **Resumed:** 10:55 a.m.

Department Reports

Road Department Monthly Report

Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master, reviewed his report.

Business Items

Review Public Works 2017 Asphalt Projects Bids

Burke O’Brien, Public Works Director

Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master

Sandi Pointer, Public Works Management Assistant

Mr. Scrivner reviewed the two bids received for the County's Pavement Overlay Projects (Granite Construction Company and Pioneer Construction, Inc.).

On the recommendation of Public Works, Commissioner Doherty moved to accept the bid from Pioneer Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,116,099.65 for the 2017 Pavement Overlay Projects. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Public Works Office Service Hours Discussion

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer

Burke O'Brien, Public Works Director

Mr. Sorte said the request from Public Works is to move all staff to a common schedule of four 10-hour work days, Monday-Thursday. The Lexington office and shop would be closed on Fridays, he added, and input from the Board was requested, he said.

Mr. O'Brien said the change would allow a better utilization of available staff time, and the service won't change regarding the public since several staff members will continue to be available by phone seven days a week.

Commissioner Doherty requested the new schedule be reevaluated in six months to see if it is successful or not.

Commissioner Doherty moved to follow the staff recommendation and allow the remaining staff to move to four 10-hour work days, Monday-Thursday; with the requirement a report be provided in six months as to its effectiveness, sooner if warranted. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

Sheriff's Office Monthly Report

Melissa Ross, Administrative Lieutenant provided the report of activity for June 2017.

Business Items

Resolution No. R-2017-18: Adoption of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution No. R-2017-18: In the Matter of Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations, Imposing and Categorizing the Taxes; and Be It Resolved that the Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 in the sum of \$36,144,984 now on file at the Morrow County Courthouse. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Resolution R-2017-19: A Correction to Resolutions R-2017-14 & R-2017-15

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution No. R-2017-19: In the Matter of Transferring Appropriations from General Fund to the Heppner Admin. Building Fund & Echo Winds Fee Fund, Pursuant to ORS 294.463(3). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Resolution R-2017-20: Budget Transfer Request

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop said the transfers involve three different funds (General Fund – District Attorney; Parks Fund – ATV; Airport Fund) and the amounts do not meet the requirement for a supplemental budget action. She detailed each transfer for the Board.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution R-2017-20: In the Matter of Transferring Appropriations with the Morrow County General Fund, Pursuant to ORS 294.463(1). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

First Reading of Adopting Ordinance ORD-2017-3: Updates to Article 2 of Morrow County Zoning Ordinance

Stephanie Loving, Planner I (via telephone)

Ms. Loving provided the first reading by title:

“An Ordinance Amending the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance Article 2 Establishment of Zones”

First Reading of Adopting Ordinance ORD-2017-4: Farm and Forest Use Model Code Update

Carla McLane, Planning Director (via telephone)

Ms. McLane provided the first reading by title:

“An Ordinance Amending the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map. More Specifically Amending the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance Article 1 Introductory Provisions; Article 3 Use Zones Section 3.010 Exclusive Farm Use and Section 3.020 Forest Use; Article 6 Conditional Uses; and Article 7 Dimensional Adjustments, Variances, Special or Temporary Permits and Non-Conforming Uses. Also removing from Article 3 the Section Concerned with Small Farm and Amending the Zoning Map Replacing Small Farm with Exclusive Farm Use.”

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Doherty reported he was unable to attend several meetings due to the recent death of his mother-in-law.
- Commissioner Russell said he attended a meeting with representatives of the Port of Morrow and West Extension Irrigation District regarding a ground water problem in the Boardman area. Miff Devin with the Port of Morrow brought maps to the meeting showing the slopes of the underlying basalt, which made it clear as to why the water is pooling in the area near Amazon’s new buildings. The group is looking at options for a solution and a way to find a beneficial use for the water. Commissioner Russell also met with Mary Corp, Oregon State University Regional Administrator, to learn about the taxing district they’d like to form in Morrow and Umatilla Counties.

- Chair Lindsay said she attended a CAPECO (Community Action Program of East Central Oregon) meeting in Pendleton where she is learning more about this multi-county organization and how it benefits Morrow County. Chair Lindsay also attended the OSU/Morrow County Extension Crop Tour and said she was impressed with the cooperative studies that take place and learned a new white wheat variety to be released next year that will be named “Irv” after Irv Rauch who provided large test plots for many years.

Adjourned: 11:57 a.m.