

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2017
Irrigon Branch of the Oregon Trail Library District, Community Room
Irrigon, Oregon

Present

Chair Melissa Lindsay
Commissioner Don Russell
Commissioner Jim Doherty
Kim Cutsforth, Interim Administrative Officer
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director
Richard Tovey, County Counsel
Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: 9:04 a.m.

City and Citizen Comments

Aaron Palmquist, Irrigon City Manager

Mr. Palmquist informed the Board that Irrigon Mayor Sam Heath recently resigned due to relocating to Texas. Mayor Pro Tem Daren Strong has stepped in until a vote will be taken in January. Mr. Palmquist also discussed how Irrigon spent part of the \$45,028 it received from the County as part of the Grants to Cities program this year. He said \$31,000 was spent to pave an area between the schools that was in great need of repair. By partnering with Morrow County Public Works and its contractor, Pioneer Asphalt, Inc., the City saved around \$15,000-20,000 on the paving job. Commissioner Russell said when the Board decided on the grants, the hope was the Cities would leverage it in some way, and it appears the City of Irrigon did that.

Open Agenda

- Remove from the Consent Calendar – 4e Highly Rural Veterans Transportation Grant (scheduled for next week).
- Add a Public Works request to transfer \$210,000 within its budget to Capital Outlay for future purchases.
- Add as part of the Planning Update – consideration of a Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) Small Jurisdiction Grant.
- Chair Lindsay requested discussions on: 1.) Plans for Friday’s meeting with the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners; and 2.) The addition of Business Meetings to the schedule of the Morrow County Board of Commissioners.

Consent Calendar

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

1. *Accounts Payable dated October 12th in the amount of \$323,206.28; Payroll Payables, Monthlies, dated October 2nd; October 2017 Retirement Taxes dated October 3rd.*
2. *Letter in Support of Public Health Modernization Implementation Request for Proposals.*

3. *Casey Eye Institute Outreach Screening Partner Agency Agreement; and Facility Usage Agreement for St. Patrick's Parish Hall.*
4. *Columbia River Community Health Services Business Associate Agreement; and authorize the Public Health Director to sign on behalf of the County.*

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Youth Suicide Response Protocol

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director, Community Counseling Solutions

Ms. Lindsay explained Senate Bill 561 requires Local Mental Health Authorities to develop a policy that identifies the processes for youth suicide responses by counties. Ms. Lindsay reviewed the draft protocol and recommended its approval.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Morrow County Senate Bill 561 Communication and Response Protocol as presented. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Irrigon-Boardman Emergency Assistance Center Update

JoAn Smith, Coordinator

Shirley David, Bookkeeper

John Wenholz, President

The update covered the following points of interest:

- The main purpose of the IBEAC is to provide food for income-eligible recipients in the Irrigon and Boardman areas. The recipients encompass families, single individuals, retirees and veterans, for example.
- The Center can also help people pay utility bills, rent, and other miscellaneous expenses.
- The Center receives funding from Morrow County, local donations, Umatilla Electric Cooperative, United Way, and grants.
- Board of Director Meetings are held quarterly and the Commissioners were invited to attend.
- The Center is open on Tuesdays and relies on its seven volunteers, in addition to the paid part-time Coordinator.
- Once a month on a Thursday, CAPECO brings food to the Center through the Community Produce program and distributes it to anyone, no income restrictions.

Consider Adding Business Meetings to the BOC Schedule

The Board agreed to hold its first Business Meeting prior to the regular BOC Meeting on October 18th in Boardman, start time 7:30 a.m. The purpose of the public Business Meetings is to allow for a less formal exchange of information with no specific agenda topics listed. There will be two main differences between the meetings – decisions will be made at the regular BOC Meetings, not at the Business Meetings; and public comment will continue to be taken at the regular BOC Meeting, but not at the Business Meetings. It was also agreed this will be done on a trial basis, and if implemented, might be held twice monthly with locations rotating between Heppner and Boardman.

First Readings of Adopting Ordinances

Carla McLane, Planning Director

Ms. McLane provided the First Readings by title of the following Ordinances:

Ordinance No. ORD-2017-5

“An Ordinance to Opt Out of Marijuana Activities, Specifically Medical Licenses Identified in Enrolled Senate Bill 1057 (2017) and as Allowed in Enrolled House Bill 2198 (2017)”

Ordinance No. ORD-2017-6

“An Ordinance Amending the Morrow County Zoning Ordinance Moving Article 4 Supplementary Provisions Section 4.170 Site Development Review to Article 3 Use Zones Section 3.130 Speedway Limited Use Overlay Zone”

Ordinance No. ORD-2017-7

“An Ordinance Amending the Morrow County Comprehensive Plan, Comprehensive Plan Map and Zoning Ordinance Map, thereby Expanding the Ione Urban Growth Boundary and Zoning the Subject Properties Rural Light Industrial and doing so in Cooperation with the City of Ione”

Ms. McLane said the plan is to return for the Second Readings on October 25th with possible adoption at that same time.

Proposed 2018 Holiday Schedule

Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the 2018 Holiday Schedule as presented.

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Road Department Budget Transfer Request

Burke O'Brien, Public Works Director

Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master

Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Scrivner presented a proposal to purchase trailers to haul asphalt mix to the paver utilizing the County's belly dump trucks. Doing so, they reported, will mean an estimated 50% increase in productivity during the paving season. However, a \$210,000 budget transfer from Material & Services to Capital Outlay will be necessary, as will an official Resolution.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the transfer of \$210,000 from Material & Services (202-220-5-20-2504) to Capital Outlay (202-220-5-40-4402). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Plans for the Joint Meeting with the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners

Chair Lindsay said this first meeting is an “ice-breaker” of sorts and Umatilla County Commissioner George Murdoch has inquired if Morrow County Department Heads will be present. Commissioner Doherty said given the agenda topics, it would be appropriate to have representation from the departments associated with those agenda items. He said the next

meeting will be held in Umatilla County and he envisioned meeting with their Department Heads at that time.

Break: 10:35 a.m.

Resumed: 10:45 a.m.

Department Reports

Planning Department Monthly Report

Carla McLane, Planning Director

- Ms. McLane requested permission to move forward with accepting a DLCD grant that, for various reasons, was not included in the Planning Department's budget. Brief discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to accept the Department of Land Conservation and Development Small Jurisdiction Grant in the amount of \$4,000 and authorize the Planning Director to sign the acceptance and any close-out documents associated with the grant. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

- Ms. McLane requested approval to make written comment to the Oregon Department of Energy regarding the Nolin Hills Wind Power Project Notice of Intent. The project will be located in Umatilla County but Morrow County is in the influence area. Commissioner Russell mentioned Morrow County required in its most recent Strategic Investment Program agreement that wind towers have aircraft detection lighting systems installed, and perhaps Umatilla County might want to consider the same since this project is within the viewshed of Morrow County residents. Ms. McLane said she will include in the letter that Morrow County would like to see this become a standard requirement for all projects.
- Ms. McLane discussed the timeline for the Parks Master Plan and upcoming meetings. Commissioner Doherty said the food vendor at the OHV Park has been very successful by all accounts, and asked if anything will need to be updated to reflect the growth of the Park as it strives to meet the needs of its visitors. Ms. McLane agreed certain aspects of the Park have grown beyond what is delineated under Park Law, and her intent is now to have our land-use allow what's happening there. In addition, she said the County should identify what else might be of benefit to the users of the Park and travelers on Highway 207, for instance overnight accommodations, gas stations, convenience stores and restaurants.
- Ms. McLane requested approval to move forward with a Buildable Lands Inventory to identify current stock of residential and employment lands throughout the County. A Request for Proposals is being drafted to support this activity, as well as, a Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding for the County and its five communities. She said \$30,000 was identified within the Building Permit Fund during the Budget Hearings for this and related activities. The Board agreed by consensus with this moving forward. A discussion then took place on a process to create smaller parcels of land on which people can build homes. These parcels, of about two to five acres, are extremely desirable and

practically non-existent, especially in south Morrow County. Ms. McLane said there is a process in the existing system, albeit difficult and sometimes costly. The Commissioners expressed a preference to join eight other Counties that are seeking to obtain more discretion with land-use to create these types of parcels.

- Ms. McLane provided an update on the status of the Code Enforcement Ordinance Update. Commissioner Russell requested a Chronic Nuisance Ordinance be incorporated; Chair Lindsay agreed.

Justice Court Quarterly Report

Judge Ann Spice

Judge Spicer reviewed summaries of fines from citations from January-September 2017. The summaries also included how fines are distributed between the Cities, County and State. Various discussions on what might become of Justice of the Peace positions in the future, which could impact the County since Judge Spicer said she anticipates retiring in about two years.

Correspondence Reviewed

- Email from Melissa Ross, Sheriff's Office, Administrative Lieutenant/Public Information Officer, announcing a grand jury found no criminal wrongdoing in the September 22nd shooting of an armed man by Deputy Aaron Haak.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Doherty discussed a meeting with members of the Governor's Sustainability Board. Also present were Ms. McLane; Lisa Mittelsdorf, Economic Development Director for the Port of Morrow; and Barry Beyeler, Community Development Director for the City of Boardman. Discussion topics included sustainability in Morrow County relative to energy generation, the environment, and transportation. The Sustainability Board members said they will take the information to the appropriate departments at the State level so they'll know what to work on in these areas. It was a worthwhile effort, provided they do what they say, he added.

Comments Prior to Executive Session

Kim Cutsforth, Interim Administrative Officer, said a decision could take place following the Executive Session.

12:15 p.m. Executive Sessions

Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) – To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) – To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

12:52 p.m. Closed Executive Sessions

12:53 p.m. Return to Regular Session

Commissioner Russell moved to approve Chair Lindsay signing a counter-offer on a property purchase, if it is received, and that the Chair be allowed some leeway in making a reasonable counter-offer as long as it is consistent with the prior discussion. Ms. Cutsforth suggested the addition of allowing the owner to keep the existing well near the boundary. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Doherty said in light of the fact the property is owned by former Judge Terry Tallman and his family, it is important that people understand this is the fourth property considered in the general area, and at this point, it appears to be the best option for the County. Chair Lindsay noted the County's terms remained consistent in this and the negotiations on the other properties. Unanimous approval.

Adjourned: 12:54 p.m.