

Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2018
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center
Boardman, Oregon

Present

Chair Don Russell

Commissioner Jim Doherty

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay

Darrell Green, Administrator

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Richard Tovey, County Counsel

Karmen Carlson, Human Resources Director

Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant

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

City and Citizen Comments: Morrow County Veterans Services Officer Linda Skendzel discussed a Suicide Awareness event planned by her office for Saturday, September 22nd in Heppner.

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar

As the Commissioners had several questions about items within this week's Accounts Payable (APs), Finance Director Kate Knop took the opportunity to introduce Bailey Haguewood as the new Accounting Clerk, and Deanne Irving as the new Staff Accountant. Ms. Knop explained Mr. Haguewood will process APs and claims, and other projects as assigned, while Ms. Irving will support work surrounding policy updates and special projects.

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

1. *Accounts Payable dated September 20th in the amount of \$271,390.69*
2. *Minutes: September 5th*
3. *Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund Advisory Committee Appointments:*
 - a. *Edie Ball, term to be October 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022*
 - b. *H. Seth Whitmer, term to be October 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022*
4. *Morrow County Fairgrounds/Football Field Lease Agreement with Morrow County School District, term to be September 12, 2018 through July 31, 2023*

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Recognition of Sheriff's Office Employees

The Commissioners acknowledged three Morrow County Sheriff's Office personnel whose efforts were instrumental in saving the life of a woman on September 10, 2018. Letters from the Board were presented to Marine Deputy Mike Cahill, Communications Lieutenant Kristen Bowles and Senior Communications Deputy Marcy Walton.

Surveyor Fee

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green explained the Fee Schedule update in August included a new fee request from the Surveyor for Affidavit of Correction review. At that time, it was removed from the Fee Schedule until the Board's questions about this fee could be answered. Mr. Green proceeded to outline the questions with the responses he obtained. Discussion.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to not add the Affidavit of Correction fee to the Morrow County Fee Schedule, and to analyze it at a future time when the Commissioners look at the whole scenario. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Collective Bargaining Agreements – General Employees & Road Employees

Darrell Green, Administrator

Mr. Green discussed the changes in the new three-year agreement for General Employees. Discussion.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Morrow County and the Morrow County Employees Local 2479, Sub-Local 002, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Council 75, effective on the date of signing, or July 1, 2018, whichever date is later, and shall remain in full force and effect through June 30, 2021. Commissioner Lindsay seconded and noted there is a separate Letter of Agreement to reopen the contract to discuss retirement benefits. Unanimous approval.

Mr. Green then reviewed the changes in the new three-year agreement for Road Department Employees. Discussion.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Morrow County and the Morrow County Road Department, Local 2479, AFSCME, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), effective on the date of signing, or July 1, 2018, whichever date is later, and shall remain in full force and effect through June 30, 2021. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Doherty participated via phone conference in the Eastern Oregon Counties Association (EOCA) meeting earlier this morning, which was also attended by Representative Greg Walden. Commissioner Doherty said Rep. Walden is assisting EOCA to “shore up” its issues with the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision.
- Commissioner Doherty also discussed Cap and Trade and the idea to come together with the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) to craft something all sides can live with. He said this most likely will be done through AOC's Cap and Trade Subcommittee, which is co-chaired by Commissioner Russell. Discussion.
- Upcoming meeting schedules were discussed by the Board.

Break: 10:28 a.m. **Resumed:** 10:35 a.m.

10:35 a.m. Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(f) – To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection

11:27 a.m. Closed Executive Session

Resolution No. R-2018-19 – In the Matter of the Morrow County Retirement Plan. A Resolution Amending Resolution No. R-15-2013

Resolution No. R-15-2013 delegated authority to the following persons:

1. To the County's Finance Director, the authority to determine whether to grant or deny claims for benefits from the Retirement Plan and the authority to prescribe forms to use to claim benefits from the Retirement Plan.
2. To the County's Personnel Director, the authority to review, hear, and respond to requests for review of decisions by the County's Finance Director denying claims for benefits from the Retirement Plan.

Resolution No. R-2018-19 amends R-15-2013 as follows:

1. The Board of Commissioners revokes the delegations contained in Resolution R-15-2013.
2. The Board of Commissioners has authority to (1) determine whether to grant or deny claims for benefits from the Retirement Plan, (2) prescribe forms to use to claim benefits from the Retirement Plan, and (3) review, hear, and respond to requests for review of decisions by the County denying claims for benefits from the Retirement Plan. The County Finance Director has concurrent authority to prescribe forms to use to claim benefits from the Retirement Plan.
3. The Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies and adopts the forms to claim benefits that were in use immediately before the adoption of this resolution.
4. This resolution takes effect immediately on passage.

Chair Russell explained when the 2013 Resolution was enacted, it did not anticipate a situation where the burden of a determination would be entirely on the Finance Director. Today's Resolution allows the opportunity to correct that, he said.

Commissioner Lindsay moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-19 – In the Matter of the Morrow County Retirement Plan. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Commissioner Lindsay stated a traditional retirement remains the responsibility of staff handling the Retirement Plan, this is for instances that rise above that. Unanimous approval.

Morrow County Retirement Plan – Specific Employee Retirement Determination

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop said a request for early retirement was received from a member of the Plan. She asked the Board for its review and approval of that request, the documents for which were provided in Executive Session.

Commissioner Doherty moved to accept the early retirement determination for Frank Jones. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion. Unanimous approval.

Signing of documents

Adjourned: 11:39 a.m.