

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**October 17, 2018**  
**Irrigon Branch of the Oregon Trail Library District, Community Room**  
**Irrigon, Oregon**

**Present**

Chair Don Russell  
Commissioner Jim Doherty  
Commissioner Melissa Lindsay  
Darrell Green, Administrator  
Richard Tovey, County Counsel  
Roberta Lutcher, Executive Assistant

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:** 9:02 a.m.

**City and Citizen Comments:** No comments

**Open Agenda:** Discuss November meeting schedule of the Board of Commissioners (BOC)

**Consent Calendar**

Commissioner Lindsay requested verification that a clothing purchase by the Sheriff's Office was per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Commissioner Doherty also had questions about firefighting uniforms purchased, but Public Works Director Matt Scrivner was able to respond they were for Parks personnel who fight fires. Various discussions.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the following items in the Consent Calendar:*

1. *Accounts Payable dated October 18<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$584,748.30; Accounts Payable, Void Batch dated October 4<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$19,042.41; October Retirement Taxes dated October 4<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$19,042.41; Fair Premiums dated October 11<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$4,494.30; Five Payroll Payables, Immediates & Electronic: \$182,450.64 dated October 2<sup>nd</sup>; \$156,888.83 dated October 10<sup>th</sup>; HRA VEBA \$3,000, dated October 10<sup>th</sup>; Statewide Transit Tax \$1,560.93 dated October 11<sup>th</sup>; Employee Severance \$6,741.51 dated October 11<sup>th</sup>; Manual Check Run dated October 15<sup>th</sup> in the amount of \$2,039.19*

*Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Business Items**

Resolution No. R-2018-24 - Regarding the Transfer of the Gilliam-Bisbee Building

Darrell Green, Administrator  
Richard Tovey, County Counsel

Mr. Green summarized the history of the building and decisions in recent years by the Board that led to today's requested action. He also explained Kim Cutsforth, Executive Director of the Howard & Beth Bryant Foundation, established the Heppner Community Foundation to facilitate the remodel and management of the building.

Mr. Tovey detailed the Oregon Revised Statute that gives express authority to a county to give property to a non-profit organization for social services, such as training and education. He said Ms. Cutsforth's original proposal was to remodel the building as an event center, however, those plans have been amended to encompass a variety of public purpose uses.

Commissioner Lindsay said she has been asked to join the Heppner Community Foundation Board, but was not present when this matter was discussed. She said she has no financial gain by serving on its board. She later asked if the other Commissioners approved of her participating in the vote on the Resolution, to which Chair Russell replied she should vote.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-24 – In the Matter of Relinquishing Title of Property Not Needed for Public Use (Gilliam-Bisbee Property); and to donate the Gilliam-Bisbee Building to the Heppner Community Foundation; and to open an escrow account in the amount of \$235,000 to be used toward meeting code requirements for the building; and authorize the Administrator to manage both the deed and escrow account. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Introduction of Riverside High School Career Day Students

District Attorney Justin Nelson introduced the students who were “job-shadowing” for the morning. Others at the meeting, such as Ron McKinnis and Judge Ann Spicer, did the same.

#### Review Draft Resolution No. R-2018-22 – Adopting the Transit Development Strategy

Carla McLane, Planning Director

Anita Pranger, Coordinator, The Loop – Morrow County Transportation

As background, on October 10<sup>th</sup> a joint meeting of the Morrow County and Umatilla County Boards of Commissioners was held for the presentation of the draft Morrow County/Umatilla County Transit Development Strategy by the consultant. Changes to the document were requested and Ms. McLane returned to review those changes. Ms. McLane received approval to proceed with the final Resolution for next week's agenda.

#### Boardman Area Road Transfers

Ms. McLane

Matt Scrivner, Public Works Director

Ron McKinnis, Port of Morrow Engineer, Agent for the City of Boardman

The request from the Port of Morrow and the City of Boardman involves the Transfer of Authority for various County roads within each jurisdiction. Ms. McLane said she and the other presenters were back to provide a status update to the Board following the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Work Session on this topic. She asked the Board for direction as to whether the County is transferring authority and/or ownership, and Mr. Scrivner asked the Board if they should move forward with the requests. After discussion, Commissioners Lindsay and Doherty decided to first view the sites. Chair Russell said he was familiar with the roads and stated Ms. McLane, Mr. Scrivner and Mr. McKinnis should determine the proper mechanism and continue forward.

**Break:** 10:59-11:12 a.m.

Written Report from the City of Irrigon Regarding Grants to Cities Funds

City Manager, Aaron Palmquist's written report contained the following:

"At the present time, the City carried forward \$14,488 from funds provided last fiscal year and with the funds provided this fiscal year, available funds for infrastructure use are \$104,041." His letter went on to thank the Board for its "strong and continued support" and indicated another update concerning any expended and/or carried forward funds will be provided at the end of the fiscal year.

Adopt the Loop – Morrow County Transportation Title VI Program Policy

Ms. Pranger

Ms. Pranger explained the policy update is required in order to receive certain grants. It allows for an established complaint process, such as pertaining to Civil Rights. Brief discussion.

*Commissioner Lindsay moved to adopt the revisions to The Loop Morrow County Transportation Title VI Program Policy. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Plan Template

Ms. Pranger

In order for The Loop to receive STIF funds, this plan template of anticipated projects has to be submitted to the State, said Ms. Pranger. The STIF Advisory Committee met multiple times to develop the project list and public open houses were held for input, she added.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to adopt The Loop Morrow County Transportation plan of projects and advise Coordinator Anita Pranger to submit the plan template to the Oregon Department of Transportation, Rail and Public Transportation so the County can receive STIF funds from the State. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Lindsay asked for clarification that this plan and not the Transit Development Strategy is the document that drives funding. Ms. Pranger said it's this template that tells the State where the Loop will spend the funds, and the Transit Strategy is a guidance document from which to pull projects. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

Applicant Draw for Morrow/Grant County OHV Park Special Youth Elk Hunt, Spike Only

Mr. Scrivner

Mr. Scrivner said six openings are available and four applications were received. The application envelopes were opened and read:

1. Kassadie Griffin, Irrigon
2. Preslie Bowles, Irrigon
3. Zabrena Masterson, Heppner
4. Logan Namitz, John Day

*Commissioner Doherty moved to accept the four applications submitted to participate in the Special Youth Elk Hunt. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.*

## **Department Reports**

### The Loop Quarterly Report

Ms. Pranger

Ms. Pranger reviewed the report of activity for her office from July-September. Chair Russell commented the ridership number decreased when compared to the previous year. Ms. Pranger agreed, saying fixed routes and more drivers and vehicles are needed for the program to grow. Those resources are not available right now, she said.

### Juvenile Department Quarterly Report

Tom Meier, Juvenile Director

Mr. Meier reviewed the activity and statistics for his Department from July-September, including:

- There were 51 Referrals associated with 22 juveniles. Of those, 27 were for one juvenile running away multiple times.
- Three separate school shooting threats occurred in September and October. Two of the three juveniles were detained at the Juvenile Complex at NORCOR (Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility).
- Juvenile Department Office Support Specialist, LeAnn Wright, completed the Juvenile Justice Information System's four-day training on Business Reports.
- Juvenile Department Juvenile Probation Counselor, Sherry Wright, obtained the Basic Certification for Juvenile Probation Counselor after completing the Fundamental Skills training from the Oregon Juvenile Department Directors' Association.

### Emergency Management Quarterly Report

In the absence of Undersheriff/Emergency Manager John Bowles, Sheriff Ken Matlack reviewed the report.

### Justice Court Quarterly Report

The "Distribution of Fines and Assessments" reports for July-September were reviewed in Judge Ann Spicer's absence.

## **Correspondence**

- Planning Department Notice to Adjoining Landowners and Interested Parties regarding a public hearing on Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> in Heppner (to adopt the Lexington Airport Master Plan as part of the Transportation System Plan).
- Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) memorandum to Special Advisory Groups on the request for Agency Report on Compliance and Recommended Site Certificate Conditions for the Proposed Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line (B2H).
- ODOE notice of public information meetings on the Application for Site Certificate for the B2H Transmission Line.

- Energy Facility Siting Council Meeting Notice and Agenda for meetings October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at Boardman City Hall.
- News release from the U.S. Small Business Administration about Economic Injury Disaster Loans available to Washington small businesses and neighboring Oregon counties, including Morrow County.

### **BOC Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

The Commissioners decided the following:

1. No meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup> as it's the fifth Wednesday of the month.
2. November 14<sup>th</sup> will be a call-in meeting from the Association of Oregon Counties Annual Conference in Eugene, primarily to approve Accounts Payable.
3. Thanksgiving week – that meeting will be moved from Wednesday to Tuesday (November 20<sup>th</sup>). The Boardman location will remain the same.

The following changes are under consideration for December and January:

1. No meeting Christmas week.
2. Move the Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Heppner location will remain the same.

### **Commissioner Reports**

- Commissioner Lindsay discussed a meeting she attended where a decision was made to move forward with a letter to the Governor to stabilize the Butter Creek Aquifer and Stage Gulch. She then talked about the stakeholders who should be at the table for the next stage of meetings.
- Chair Russell said he was contacted by Kathleen Cathey, Senator Ron Wyden's Field Representative, about the recent fire on the Bombing Range. This was followed by a call from the Commander at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island who said they are looking into reimbursement for the Boardman Rural Fire Protection District for expenses incurred on this fire. Various discussions.
- Chair Russell discussed his trip to Washington, D.C. at the invitation of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. This office serves as a liaison between the White House and state and local elected officials. He said the day started with a tour of the White House, followed by lunch. The speakers in the afternoon included Vice President Mike Pence, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke and White House Counselor to the President, Kellyanne Conway. He said local officials were given the opportunity to ask questions of federal agency personnel in order to help them cut through the bureaucratic red tape.

### **Signing of documents**

**Adjournment:** 1:00 p.m.