

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2018
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon**

Present

Chair Don Russell

Commissioner Jim Doherty

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay

Darrell Green, Administrator

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Justin Nelson, County Counsel

Karmen Carlson, Human Resources Director

Roberta Lutchter, Executive Assistant

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: 9:00 a.m.

City and Citizen Comments: No comments

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar

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

- 1. Accounts Payable dated October 25th in the amount of \$592,482.89; Voided APs dated October 25th in the amount of \$783.80; Void Checks dated October 25th in the amount of \$586.68*

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Update from the City of Heppner regarding Grants to Cities Funds

Eddie Ball, Manager

Ms. Ball thanked the Board for the \$75,935 granted to the City. She said the City now holds a total of \$114,586 from the County and will likely use it on sewer main replacement prior to street reconstruction in 2020 or street resurfacing. After a brief discussion, Ms. Ball said she and the Council members appreciated the commitment shown by the County to the communities. She concluded by saying County employees with whom she interacts have always been very helpful.

Department Reports

Clerk's Quarterly Report

Bobbi Childers, Clerk

Ms. Childers discussed the \$27,900 sent to the State since July 1st for the State Housing Fee. She reminded the Board the State increased that fee from \$20 to \$60 per document on June 4, 2018, and said there have been cases where people cannot afford to record their documents. The fee affects all land records, including mortgages and assignments; excluded are State recordings and Assessor liens.

Commissioner Lindsay said it's important the County track how the State allocates these funds.

Ms. Childers agreed saying every county has buy-in to that fund.

9:12 a.m. Public Hearing – Lexington Airport Master Plan

Carla McLane, Planning Director

Sandi Pointer, Public Works Management Assistant

Chair Russell called for abstentions or conflicts of interest: none. He outlined the parameters for offering testimony and called for the Staff Report.

Ms. McLane explained Oregon law requires government entities to adopt a Transportation System Plan, which includes airports. If adopted, the Lexington Airport Master Plan (LAMP) will become part of the local transportation planning regime. She explained Public Works utilizes the Plan to determine projects and funding, especially with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), while the Planning Department views it from a land use perspective.

Ms. McLane then reviewed the Summary and Recommendations within the Plan, Chapter 9, page 8.

Ms. McLane said the Plan, compiled by Century West Engineering Corporation, received FAA sign-off despite errors throughout the document. Neither Planning nor Public Works “scrubbed” the document, she said. Ms. Pointer commented it took the FAA more than a year for its review.

Chair Russell called for proponents to speak – none. He called for opponents to speak – none.

9:40 a.m. Closed Public Hearing

Commissioner Lindsay moved to adopt the Lexington Airport Master Plan, which has already been approved by the Federal Aviation Administration, as part of the Morrow County Transportation System Plan as presented, relying on the Planning Commission findings. Discussion: Commissioner Lindsay said the Board hasn't called the Planning Commission recommendations out in the past, why this time. Perhaps this should be a discussion to look at the bigger picture, she added. Ms. McLane said that's correct, it is within the Planning Commission recommendation...they accomplished that. Commission Doherty seconded and said to duly note the recommendations of the Planning Commission go along with this vote and motion. [“RECOMMENDATION: The Planning Department recommends that the Planning Commission recommend to the Morrow County Board of Commissioners adoption of the amended Airport Master Plan as part of the Morrow County Transportation System Plan. The Planning Commission further recommends that future Comprehensive Plan and Transportation System Plan reviews and updates consider the Airport Master Plan recommendations, found in Chapter 9, concerning Goal 12 Transportation.”] Unanimous approval.

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

Ms. McLane

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-22: A Resolution Adopting the Morrow County/Umatilla County Transit Development Strategy in Support of Transit

Development Opportunities in Morrow County and to be Used to Support Funding Requests for the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

County Application for Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) Funds

Darrell Green, Administrator

Linda Skendzel, Veterans Services Officer (via telephone)

At issue are unspent carry-over funds in this department, which include additional funds from the Veterans' Administration received near the close of our fiscal year (federal fiscal years runs October 1st-September 30th). Mr. Green said ODVA requested a plan as to how these funds will be spent, adding he and Kate Knop, Finance Director, are working with Ms. Skendzel to avoid this same situation going forward. After concerns were expressed about the reduced County contribution reflected in the application to accommodate the current situation, the following motion was made:

Commissioner Lindsay moved to authorize the Chair to work with Administration to sign and submit the application to ODVA for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 contingent upon viewing something in writing from the State that approves the reduced budget amount from the County.

Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion. Commissioner Lindsay withdrew the motion; Commissioner Doherty withdrew his second of the motion.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the County application for ODVA funds and allow the Chair to sign as long as there is acceptable documentation, meaning the process is agreeable to ODVA, and that there will be no adverse effects from the State by the County reducing the General Fund amount. If so, the application will not be signed. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Resolution No. R-2018-21 – Columbia River Enterprise Zone Boundary Expansion

Chair Russell explained the Enterprise Zone received an application from Vadata to build a new facility on property recently annexed by the City of Boardman. The proposed boundary expansion would encompass that newly annexed property, he said.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-21: A Resolution in Support of a Boundary Expansion of the Columbia River Enterprise Zone. Enterprise Zone Manager Greg Sweek requested the legal description be referenced in the motion.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve Resolution No. R-2018-21: A Resolution in Support of a Boundary Expansion of the Columbia River Enterprise Zone, as described in Exhibit 2, Legal Description: Parcel 1 of Partition Plat 2013-6, City of Boardman, County of Morrow, State of Oregon. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Discussion took place on the history of the Enterprise Zone. Unanimous approval.

Break: 10:44 a.m. - 10:51 a.m.

Department Reports

Road Department Monthly Report

Eric Imes, Assistant Road Master

Mr. Imes reviewed the Road Report and presented another report showing the breakdown of asphalt and freight costs for completed projects and projected totals for the fiscal year.

Human Resources Quarterly Report

Karmen Carlson, HR Director

Ms. Carlson reviewed her report and discussed the potential purchase of NEOGOV HR software to more widely circulate job announcements. The cost would be \$1,500.00, she said. Chair Russell said he did not want to micromanage her budget and she should allocate it in a way that best serves the County.

Surveyor's Quarterly Report

The written report submitted by Stephen Haddock was reviewed.

Public Health Department Quarterly Report

Sheree Smith, Public Health Director

Ms. Smith reviewed her report, which included:

- Immunization efforts by staff, particularly Flu Clinics
- CARE Team referrals at the school
- Family Planning – the contracted provider is leaving the Morrow County Health District
- Duties of the Emergency Preparedness/Medical Reserve Corp/Healthcare Preparedness and Communicable Disease staff member. Ms. Smith said the University of Idaho researcher who does Blue Green Algae water testing at the Willow Creek Reservoir offered to do a community presentation on human and animal safety, if there is interest.

Correspondence

- Newsletter from Oregon State University Extension Forester, John Panches (stationed at the Union County Extension Office)

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Doherty said he attended the meeting of the Advisory Board for Community Counseling Solutions, and from there travelled to Silverton to represent the North East Area Commission on Transportation at an Oregon Department of Transportation meeting. He also discussed a decision by the Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee to return funds to the State so they can be channeled to Wallowa County since they have experienced multiple wolf depredations. He asked County Counsel Justin Nelson to look into the process for returning the funds.
- Commissioner Lindsay said the Military Economic Advisory Committee (MEAC) is putting together goals and actions. She explained the new lease being negotiated for the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) project has an end date, whereas our Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) line is perpetual. She said they are working with Mader Rust

Farms and Larry Lindsay to obtain abrogation leases. Commissioner Lindsay commented the Navy is negotiating perpetual ownership of the airspace over Morrow County farmland, so why not negotiate the existing perpetual easement leases on the Bombing Range where they already exist, as well. She said the UEC representative, as well as others at the meeting did not know the lease terms were changing. The Navy representative later informed MEAC the leases will be for 50 years. Commissioner Lindsay said her concern is what might happen to Morrow County at the end of a 50-year lease. Could it mean future lines would extend deeper into our agricultural land, she asked. She concluded by saying she will follow-up with Jeff Maffuccio of Idaho Power.

- Chair Russell said he attended an Association of Oregon Counties Budget Committee meeting, via telephone. He said they are not in as poor fiscal shape as they indicated a few months ago. Chair Russell said the Solid Waste Advisory Committee met and a rate increase may be coming next year since there hasn't been one in five years.

Signing of Documents

Adjourned: 12:09 p.m.