

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**July 15, 2020**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present In-Person**

Chair Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Commissioner Jim Doherty, Administrator Darrell J. Green, The Loop Coordinator Katie Imes, Juvenile Director Christy Kenny, Finance Director Kate Knop, Executive Assistant Roberta Lutchter, County Counsel Justin Nelson, David Sykes

**Present Via Electronic Means**

Stephanie Case; Bobbi Childers; Lindsay Grogan; Mike Gorman; Gayle Gutierrez; Public Works staff; Linda Skendzel; Gregg Zody; Heppner Chamber; Torrie Griggs; Erika Lasater; Lisa Mittelsdorf; Aaron Palmquist; Karen Pettigrew; Rick Stokoe

**Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance:** 9:01 a.m., followed by roll call. Chair Lindsay noted while not everyone in the room was wearing a mask, everyone was social-distanced. She said the County's understanding was masks could be removed during the meeting but needed to be in place when moving about the room or other parts of the building.

**City & Citizen Comments:** No comments

**Open Agenda:** Commissioner Russell requested a discussion about the status of minutes and recording the Zoom meetings, and Commissioner Doherty requested a discussion on the Interchange Area Management Plan. They were added to Business Items.

**Consent Calendar**

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the following items in the Consent Calendar (removing the item on the Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory Committee Nominees):*

- 1. Accounts Payable, July 16<sup>th</sup>, \$273,766.62 & \$10,720.89 (Visa)*
- 2. Minutes: May 28<sup>th</sup> Joint meeting with the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners (as prepared by Umatilla County), April 22<sup>nd</sup>, April 29<sup>th</sup>*

*Commissioner Doherty seconded. Unanimous approval.*

**Business Items**

Minutes & Zoom Meetings Discussion

Commissioner Russell pointed out the lag time on completion of minutes and asked about recording the Zoom meetings and posting them on the County website; the other Commissioners voiced support of that idea.

Administrator Darrell Green outlined the process necessary to have video recordings available on the website and indicated even though this was brought up in the past, there were still questions not yet resolved. Discussion ensued. Mr. Green said he would continue his research and report back to the Board.

Morrow County Government Command Center Update

- Mr. Green said the Command Team discussed staffing and decided to enlist the help of community partners to assist with such things as distribution of Personal Protective

Equipment (PPE), and assistance with messaging on how to slow the spread, etc. He also said strides were made in staffing for the Public Health Department.

- Chair Lindsay said there had been a push on social media for more statistics, particularly the number of people recovered. This was one of the reasons the Team discussed the idea of bringing someone in to gather all the relevant statistics into one document but decided it needed further vetting. She said the Public Health Department was already experiencing difficulties with the State's database called ORPHEUS (Oregon Public Health Epidemiologists' User System) and now the State is rolling out two new platforms. These factors have slowed down staff's ability to input contact tracing information, she said. Chair Lindsay went on to discuss budget impacts and said the County might have to pull back funds from departments such as Criminal Justice Commission funds, lottery dollars, as well as look at the Grants to Cities program. These topics will come to a BOC meeting in the near future, she said.

#### Tillamook County Creamery Association/Business Oregon Grant Application Update

Chair Lindsay discussed the efforts she and Gregg Zody, Community Development Director, undertook to get the application ready in a short timeframe (joint application with Tillamook County to the Tillamook County Creamery Association). Chair Lindsay said it could still be withdrawn, if the other Commissioners objected. She said as the County's match for the grant, she proposed using \$50,000 of the funds approved during Budget Committee meetings for economic resiliency, and combine it with \$100,000 from Tillamook County, meaning the potential total amount award could be \$300,000.

Commissioner Doherty then suggested the County put in \$100,000 as the match, to which Commissioner Russell agreed. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed if the application was successful and the terms were not what was expected, the County would not move forward.

#### Irrigon Building Update

Darrell Green, Administrator

- Work continued on the site plan and furniture vendor selection.
- Permit applications to the City of Irrigon were nearly ready for submission.
- Subcontractor selection will be known tomorrow.

#### BOC Meeting Schedule

The following dates are fifth Wednesdays of the month so BOC Meeting are not currently scheduled: July 29<sup>th</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup> and December 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### 5310 Discretionary Grant Agreement #34261 – Two-Way Cameras for Special Transportation Vehicles

Katie Imes, Coordinator, The Loop

Ms. Imes said The Loop was awarded the grant for the cameras and the funds will be available in October, according to the agreement presented today.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the Rail and Public Transit Division, Oregon Department of Transportation Agreement No. 34261; effective July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022; \$27,000, with the \$13,500 match coming from Fund #216 (Statewide Transportation*

*Improvement Fund, Plan Project One, Mobile Data Transmitters Project).* Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

### Made to Thrive Program Update

Christy Kenny, Juvenile Department Director

Ms. Kenny said the County was awarded a Juvenile Crime Prevention grant from the State in the amount of \$60,000, with the majority then going to the Made to Thrive Program. This program is based in Umatilla County but continues to serve more kids in Morrow County. She explained that while the record showed a total of 10 kids served in two quarters, it wasn't reflective of the true number of people served because of the limit to the 10-17 age group. When someone starts working with one youth, it ultimately ends up being the whole family, she said. COVID-19 impacted the program, causing a shift in focus, she said. They are now helping kids and families with such things as obtaining cleaning supplies, sport equipment items, gymnastics lessons, taekwon do lessons and summer camp fees. She said the County hasn't spent a lot of the money from this grant yet and more volunteers were needed. She said the program has done "great work" for the kids they've been able to reach.

### **Department Reports**

The following written reports were reviewed:

- Juvenile Department Quarterly Report, submitted by Ms. Kenny
- The Loop Quarterly Report, submitted by Ms. Imes
- Parole & Probation Semi-Annual Report, submitted by Corrections Lieutenant Dan Robbins
- Emergency Management Quarterly Report, submitted by Undersheriff John Bowles

### Interchange Area Management Plan Discussion

Commissioner Doherty talked about the unresolved issues impeding the progress on amending the IAMP, such as the route for the Umatilla Electric Cooperative 230-kV line and the locations of the loop roads. Various discussions ensued. Port representatives and the Commissioners agreed meetings need to take place to move the processes forward, sooner rather than later.

### **Correspondence**

- Letter from the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council touting a local winner of the 2020 U.S. Dairy Sustainability Award – Threemile Canyon Farms. The award was given to only three dairies nationwide.
- Sixth Judicial District, Amended Presiding Judge Order No. 20-005, COVID-19 Phased Response – Operations, Phase 2: Masks are Required in the Courthouses as of July 1, 2020.
- Oregon Employment Department, Labor Market Information for Morrow and Umatilla Counties.

### **Commissioner Reports**

The Commissioners provided updates on meetings attended, etc.

**Signing of documents followed by Adjournment at 10:45 a.m.**