

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
**October 7, 2020**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present In-Person**

Chair Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Commissioner Jim Doherty, Darrell J. Green, Diane Kilkenny, Roberta Lutchter, Tamra Mabbott

**Present Via Zoom**

Staff: Ronda Fox, Lindsay Grogan, Gayle Gutierrez, Katie Imes, Ann Jones, Kate Knop, Ian Murray, LeAnn Wright, Gregg Zody; Non-Staff: Sheryll Bates, Erika Lasater, Kimberly Lindsay, Lori Roach, David Sykes

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance & Roll Call:** 9:01 a.m.

**Recognition of Retired Public Health Director Sheree Smith**

Chair Lindsay welcomed Ms. Smith and her contingent of family, friends and former colleagues. Chair Lindsay highlighted some of Ms. Smith's career milestones and Commissioners Russell and Doherty conveyed their thanks for her service to the County and its citizens, especially during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Other attendees also spoke about Ms. Smith's dedication and many accomplishments during her time with Morrow County Public Health.

**Break:** 9:17-9:30 a.m.

**Open Agenda:** Chair Lindsay requested to add the Fifteenth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority Intergovernmental Agreement #159824 for the Financing of Public Health Services.

**Consent Calendar**

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

- 1. Accounts Payable and Payroll Payables*
- 2. Minutes: September 2<sup>nd</sup> & September 9<sup>th</sup>*
- 3. Eighth Amendment to OHA IGA #159175 for the Financing of Mental Health, Addiction Treatment, Recovery & Prevention, and Problem Gambling Services; and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County.*
- 4. Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, 2020-21 Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas, Grant Agreement – Morrow County; not-to-exceed amount \$40,500; term of agreement to be September 15, 2020 through September 14, 2021; and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County*
- 5. Professional Services Agreement with Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oregon, Network Subcontractor TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corp., effective when signed by all parties, and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County*
- 6. Jail Use Agreement with Umatilla County; effective July 1, 2020 and shall renew on a fiscal year basis, July 1 to June 30, until terminated by either party; rate per prisoner will increase \$1 per bed each July 1 to June 30 period after the initial year of this contract; Morrow County will pay Umatilla County \$61 per calendar day for each prisoner incarcerated in the jail*

7. *Coronavirus Relief Fund Cultural Support Program Grant Agreement, Contract Number C2020574 with the State of Oregon through its Oregon Business Development Department; not-to-exceed amount \$33,164. Funds to be used to offset the costs of the Fair being cancelled due to COVID-19.*

### **Business Items**

#### Mutual Aid Agreement with Umatilla County for Public Health Services & Business Associate Addendum – Data Sharing Agreement

Diane Kilkenny, Interim Public Health Director

Ms. Kilkenny explained the agreement allows either County to reach out to the other for assistance. For example, she said, in the event Morrow County experienced a spike in COVID-19 cases, we could ask for Umatilla County's assistance with contact tracing and communicable disease investigations.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with Umatilla County, which includes the Business Associate Addendum – Data Sharing Agreement; effective when executed by both parties; and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.*

#### Fifteenth Amendment to OHA IGA #159824 for the Financing of Public Health Services

Diane Kilkenny

Ms. Kilkenny reviewed the amendment, including amounts allowed to be reimbursed by the State for COVID response. She said she wanted the County to be reimbursed the amounts before the State runs out of money, which was why this was being expedited.

*Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Fifteenth Amendment to OHA IGA #159824 and authorize Chair Lindsay to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Doherty requested County Counsel review the amendment today. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

#### Morrow County Government Command Center Update

- Administrator Darrell Green said based on the positive case count doubling in one week, he emailed all staff to remind them to maintain social distancing, wear masks, wash hands, etc. He said COVID-19 can attack anyone at anytime but he hoped to keep it from getting into the County government again.
- Chair Lindsay said the Government Command Team will meet every other week as there is less to do on the government side of things. However, the Emergency Operations Center Team will meet every week with Undersheriff John Bowles as the lead.
- Ms. Kilkenny said cases spiked from 11 to 22 but things were looking better. More testing will be taking place in the County through the Oregon Health Authority. She said everyone needed to work hard to keep kids in school for a variety of reasons, including the need for kids to socialize and for access to nutrition programs.

#### Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Report

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director

Ms. Lindsay discussed:

- Letter from the Office of Developmental Disabilities Services regarding the remediation documentation submitted by CCS following the Quality Assurance onsite review conducted July 27-31, 2020. The “documentation submitted demonstrated remediation of required actions listed in the Correction (sic) Action Plan...”
- Surgical mask donation to CCS.
- Oregon Business magazine’s “100 Best Nonprofits to Work for in Oregon 2020.” CCS ranked 40<sup>th</sup> among the 54 participating large nonprofits.
- Zero Suicide Update – CCs completed its organizational self-study. CCS will develop its own training program instead of purchasing one.
- Kids Diversion Program Update – this is the psychiatric residential treatment facility Ms. Lindsay said she’s been working on for the last few years. She said they continue to look at sites in Morrow County and to work with the State to earmark funds.

#### Public Hearing Cancellation Discussion – Appeal of Morrow County Planning Commission Decision LUD-N-26-20

Justin Nelson, County Counsel

Mr. Nelson explained that in light of the fact the applicant, Umatilla Electric Cooperative, filed an appeal with the Circuit Court, Morrow County cancelled its public hearing scheduled for next week. Per statute, it was cancelled, not because the County wanted to do so, he said, adding the County cannot take action at this time. Mr. Nelson went on to say he would work with Planning staff to send a notice of the cancellation to everyone who received the original public hearing notice. The new notice will include the writ of mandamus and the statute explaining why the County can’t take action until the Circuit Court resolves its control on it, said Mr. Nelson.

#### Planning Director Designation

Lindsay Grogan, Human Resources Manager

Per ORS 215.042(1), the governing body of each county shall designate an individual to serve as Planning Director, which Ms. Grogan requested take place.

*Commissioner Russell moved to designate Tamra Mabbott as the individual to serve as the planning director to meet the statutory requirements of ORS 215.042. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Doherty said Interim Planning Director, Stephanie Case, did stellar work over the last 11 months and the County had assembled a “fantastic team” in the Planning Department. Chair Lindsay said the Board appreciated Ms. Case stepping up to the position. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

#### Irrigon Building Update

Darrell Green, Administrator

- Zoning permits were submitted this week.
- A written agreement was signed with the Moose Lodge to use their area for temporary parking for employees during construction.
- Still working on a laydown yard for equipment.
- Finalizing subcontractors for the building.
- Beginning work to determine the furniture layout for all rooms.
- Asked the Commissioners to set a date for the ceremonial groundbreaking.

### Disbursement of Funds to Non-Profits

Kate Knop, Finance Director

Ms. Knop provided an update on the distribution of funds to non-profits, with some having received a portion (Neighborhood Center of South Morrow County and the Irrigon/Boardman Emergency Assistance Center) and others receiving nothing yet, (Grants to Cities Program, OSU Extension, Morrow County Tourism, Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group, Museum, Airport, Rodeo) pending a decision from the Board.

Chair Lindsay requested they start the discussion with WCVEDG, OSU, Tourism, Airport, Rodeo and the Museum. Later, she said she wanted to stay with what was budgeted and pull the funds from the Rodeo since it was not held this year.

*Commissioner Doherty moved to move forward with the aforementioned, setting aside the Rodeo. Commissioner Russell seconded. Discussion. Ms. Knop said she was asking the Board for advice on paying whole amounts. She said she received invoices for full amounts from WCVEDG and Morrow County Tourism. With today's motion, she asked if she was to proceed and distribute their dollars. Chair Lindsay asked Ms. Knop to clarify if the County had the dollars and that others could wait for their distributions over time. Ms. Knop replied, correct, and went on to talk about a carryover in lottery dollars, adding if the Rodeo was removed, the County would be close to whole on other appropriations. Commissioner Russell said they would follow Ms. Knop's lead. Ms. Knop said the County was able to distribute dollars now but we're keeping this budget whole. As invoices were received, with the exception of transfers to other funds, she would be able to distribute those funds based on the motion. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

### Grants to Cities

Ms. Knop asked the Board how it wanted to move forward with the distribution of the \$379,000. As the ensuing discussion became contentious, Chair Lindsay tabled the discussion, which was seconded by Commissioner Doherty. Motion carried.

### Northeast Oregon Water Association (NOWA) Dues Invoice

Brief discussion on the history of past payments to NOWA.

*Commissioner Russell moved to pay the invoice from NOWA in the amount of \$6,000. Commissioner Doherty seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Doherty said NOWA needed to focus on its main mission – water, and not necessarily elk damage in the low country. He said he would be less apt to have Morrow County funds go toward elk management on ranches from Gurdane to Echo. While someone does need to take that issue on, he said he wasn't sure it should be NOWA. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

### Review Agenda for October 12<sup>th</sup> City-County-Port Meeting

The agenda was reviewed and approved to be published.

### **Department Reports – Written**

The following written reports were reviewed:

- Administrator's Monthly Report, submitted by Mr. Green

- Sheriff's Office Monthly Report, submitted by Administrative Lieutenant Melissa Ross
- Treasurer's Monthly Report, submitted by Gayle Gutierrez
- Fair Office Quarterly Report, submitted by Ann Jones

### **Correspondence**

- The original Planning Department notice to adjoining landowners and interested parties about the Public Hearing scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup> that was subsequently cancelled (Appeal of Land Use Decision LUD-N-26-20).
- Oregon Employment Department notice about payroll growth in Morrow County in 2019.
- September 28<sup>th</sup> Public Statement from UEC about ending its relationship with PNGC.
- Notice from Business Oregon's Art Fish, Business Incentives Coordinator, on the subject of a "Positive Determination for Enterprise Zone Re-designation" for Columbia River Enterprise Zone III, effective January 1, 2021 and terminating on June 30, 2025.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Brief reports were provided by each Commissioner.

### **Signing of documents**

**Adjourned:** 11:30 a.m.