

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2022
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person

Chair Jim Doherty, Commissioner Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner Don Russell, Darrell Green, Roberta Lutchter, Tamra Mabbott

Present Via Zoom

Robin Canaday, Peggy Doherty, Linda Skendzel, Bobbi Childers, Kirsti Cason, JoAnna Lamb, Karen Pettigrew, Katie Imes, David Sykes, C. Kraegenbrink, Mike Gorman, Aaron Moss, Sandi Pointer, SaBrina Bailey-Cave, Heidi Turrell

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

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar:

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

1. *Accounts Payable & Payroll Payables*
2. *Amendment 2 to Federal Lands Access Program Grant Agreement No. 6905671-940009, Road 847 Surface Improvements Project; and authorize Chair Doherty to sign on behalf of the County*

Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Oregon Renewable Energy Siting Assessment Update: **Rescheduled**

Discussion: Appointment of the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area Committee

After discussion about the representation to the committee. It was decided Commissioner Lindsay would continue as the BOC representative on this committee.

Discussion regarding the many committees work around nitrates and water work, funding, E-board funding potential etc. continued. The lack of formality of the LUBGWAMA committee was discussed.

Permit Application #OSV from Windwave Communications to Build on Right-of-Way

Eric Imes, Public Works Director

Mr. Imes explained he mistakenly signed the permit and was now presenting to the Board for approval since it involved a distance over 200'. He said it's for work on the south side of I-84 on Frontage Road to install a communication line that will serve at least three customers, from the Umatilla County line headed west.

Chair Doherty moved to approve Permit Application #OSV from Windwave Communications to Build on Right-of-Way, as presented. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Vote: Aye: Chair

Doherty and Commissioner Lindsay. Abstained: Commissioner Russell stated he had a conflict due to a financial interest in the company. Motion carried.

Award Request for Proposals for Liquid Asphalt and Sign Contract

Eric Imes

Mr. Imes recommended Blue Line Transportation Co. Inc., noting the contract was basically the same as last year except the dates and name of the Chair had been revised.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Purchase of Supplies Contract with Blue Line Transportation Co. Inc., effective June 6, 2022 through December 30, 2022. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

- The Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Quarterly Report was provided by Jessica Rose, LPSCC coordinator
- The Administrator's Monthly Report was provided by Darrell Green
- The Sheriff's Office Monthly Report was provided by Melissa Camarillo

Correspondence

- City of Boardman Notice to Adjoining Property Owners and Affected Agencies – Boardman Planning Commission Land Use Public Hearing, June 15th
- Informational sheets from the Forest Service on the Ellis Project and Parkers Mill

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Russell said last week he abstained from a vote because he felt he hadn't been given the information necessary to be informed. The County's labor counsel, Bruce Bischoff, originally told him he'd have access to that information and then changed his mind. In addition, the attorney for our insurance provider, CIS, didn't think he needed access to the information he requested. Commissioner Russell said he was going to follow through and see if they can withhold that since the County paid for that report. He reiterated he'd follow through with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission and if he had to go to outside counsel, he would. If the County pays for it, we should have access to it. He said if he had access, he may have come to the same conclusion as everybody else but without that access, he couldn't come to any conclusion other than there were discrepancies between the oral and written reports.

Commissioner Lindsay said Commissioner Russell needed to be careful with what he discussed from Executive Session and what he brought to this table. He said that he hadn't discussed anything privileged. My first call will be to State Ethics, he said.

- Commissioner Lindsay questioned the lack of formal financials coming forward to the CDA board and offered to help the assistant in getting more detailed financials to the CDA board. She offered assistance from the staff of Association of Counties to create financials such as the ones AOC membership requires.
- A discussion took place over concerns that people/landowners were being treated differently regarding a detour in the Boardman area (Laurel Lane/Port of Morrow

interchange). Chair Doherty said if there needs to be a shut down, it needs to be done. However, the challenge was the fellow from Anderson Perry misrepresented things and said there wouldn't be a shut down. Chair Doherty said it was later clarified there would be an option to go around. If the misrepresentations continue, he said we'd have to seriously reconsider things.

Miscellaneous

Clerk Bobbi Childers informed the Board the Move Oregon's Border petitions were filed and they met the criteria to be on the November ballot. She said if approved by the people the Board will have to meet three times a year to discuss how to promote it but those details would be better worked out through County Counsel, Justin Nelson. The filing came from people out of LaPine whom had been collecting signatures for 2 years.

Break: 10:17-10:26 a.m.

10:26 a.m. Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) – To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed

10:42 a.m. Closed Executive Session: No decisions

Signing of Documents

Adjourned: 10:55 a.m.