

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2022
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person:

Chair/Commissioner Jim Doherty
Commissioner Don Russell
Roberta Lutchter, Executive Staff
Justin Nelson, County Counsel
Did not do roll call

Present Via Zoom: Commissioner Melissa Lindsay

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance: 9:00 AM.

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: Nothing

Consent Calendar:

Commissioner Doherty pulled item G. Permit Application OTF to Build in the County ROW

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the remaining items in the Consent Calendar withdrawing item G to business wherever it fits. Commissioner Lindsay second. Unanimous approval.

Approved; Accounts payable and Payroll payable, Minutes April 13, 20, 27, 2022, USDA APHIS Wildlife Services Agreement #22-7341-5126-RA, Oregon Water Resources Dept IGA for Assistant Water master Services, Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission-License Renewals, Approve Finance Directors as Authority over Bank of Eastern Oregon Visa cards.

Business Items:

Item G, Consent Calendar; Permit Application OTF to Build in the County Right-of-way
Removed by Chair Doherty to allow Commissioner Russell potential to recuse. Commissioner Russell stated he would remove himself from the vote as he has financial interest in the applicant.

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve and to allow Public Works Director to sign Permit #OTF, Commissioner Lindsay seconded. 2 Aye, with Commissioner Russell recusing himself.

Temporary Assignment of County Administrator Duties

Justin Nelson, County Counsel and Lindsay Grogan, Human Resources

There is a short term and a long term consideration here. Chair Doherty noted we had discussed a Chief of Staff or the same thing we had recently, or individual Commissioners taking to

individual departments. With only 20 meetings of this board left it brings additional considerations. Justin pointed out that there is a lot to consider here but that a short term solution is needed and how to spread out the work load. Commissioner Lindsay offered that she had reached out to Crook County and Umatilla County as they operate without an Administrator and offered details including Commissioners acting as liaisons to the Dept Heads. County Counsel added in these counties they have a Facilities Manager handling projects and contracts and have a very active County Counsel working closely with HR. Coos County was mentioned as having had similar structures as ours of the last 6-7 years but went back to the model of Dept liaisons without Administrator, they had found it allowed for more autonomy. Umatilla, Tillamook and Klamath Counties structure was discussed. It was agreed that we needed to do something soon. Commissioner Russell suggested he liked the idea of splitting up the duties and being liaisons to the Departments. Commissioner Lindsay agreed with the opportunity presented, possibly under a 90 day window to try it and didn't feel it was fair to put it all on the Chair position and the sooner the better was needed.

Review of the Departments and assignments were reviewed and established. It was acknowledged that Elected Officials are different but would still be supported within the structure, discussion to reach the following:

Finance - D. Russell
Juvenile – M. Lindsay
Justice – M. Lindsay
Emergency Services - M. Lindsay
Sheriff – M. Lindsay
Veterans – M. Lindsay
Community Counseling Solutions – M. Lindsay
Clerk - D. Russell
Tax Assessor - D. Russell
Public Works - PW Director would be liaison with D. Russell for time cards and schedule
 Airport, Parks, Maintenance, Weed, Transfer Stations – D. Russell
 Road - M. Lindsay
Public Health – J. Doherty
Human Resources – J. Doherty
Administration – J. Doherty
Treasurer – J. Doherty
Planning – J. Doherty
Loop – J. Doherty
Community Development Director – D. Russell
Fair/Rodeo – M. Lindsay
Circuit Court – M. Lindsay
IT Services - D. Russell
Surveyor – M. Lindsay
DA – J. Doherty

Chair would be a catchall for outside entities with the Admin Secretary assistance.

Commissioner Lindsay advised this would include time cards, time off and scheduling. She could assist the Commissioners getting into the program, if needed.

Chair Doherty offered to bring back some structure with Lindsay Grogan, HR to bring in more information as we ease into this or to look again in 90 days or sooner. Bobbi Childers with the Clerk's office clarified questions or concern would go directly to her liaison and Commissioner Russell agreed.

Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Report- Kimberly Lindsay,
with Shawn Carvalho EASA Coordinator

Kimberly supplied a document regarding funding from the State for Aid and Assist at the State Hospital and discussed the funding and the program. Shawn Carvalho, Umatilla County Clinical Supervisor/Clinician went over the EASA (Early Assessment and Support Alliance Program), a statewide program to identify youth with early symptoms of psychosis as early as possible and provide support and treatment. She shared details of symptoms and treatments. She currently operates in Umatilla County and discussed Morrow County need into the future. Kimberly went over the activities of CCS since the last report including; Lakeview Heights, Measure 110 treatment for individuals with addictions, funding for transitional housing, State funds to purchase Aspen Springs for acute care services run by CCS, recruitment and hiring of staff which are struggles seen around the State, sign on bonuses being offered by CCS. Kimberly shared her appreciation for working in Morrow County appreciated the 3 Morrow County Commissioners to work with.

BREAK – 5 Minutes

Appoint Budget Officer

Commissioner Russell moved to appoint the Finance Director as Budget Officer, Second by Commissioner Doherty Unanimous Approval

Oregon Trail Rodeo Land Use Application (Tamra Mabbott)

Rodeo submitted two land use applications with development being on County property at the Fair Grounds to build a concrete slab dance floor. Land use applications require the property owner's signature. Discussion. Terry Gentry from the Rodeo explained that they had the funding for the improvement including a WCVED matching grant.

Commissioner Russell made a motion that Chair Doherty sign the Planning application forms and that fees would be waived. Commissioner Lindsay seconded. Waiving of fees was discussed, Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Lindsay offered as the Rodeo liaison to assist if needed.

Emergency Operations Center Update

Paul Gray, on Zoom, discussed water sampling and recent results. He shared that since the end of last week he understood that in Boardman there were 100 samples 35 above limits of 10 mg/l

(Federal limit), 11 below and 54 awaiting results, Irrigon tests at the end of last week included 18 samples only 2 reported back, 16 waiting results, and 45 new samples this week taken. The rapid tests Paul has been doing were running around 60% above the Federal limit. These tests are sent for full formal testing. The EOC team went through over 400 cases of bottled water yesterday in Irrigon area, Boardman area is being supplied by bulk containers now.

Commissioner Russell asked for status of the filters going into homes. Commissioner Doherty informed that the team hoped by next week filters could begin to go out. He reviewed the logistics of funds, plumber's involvement and obtaining acceptable filters along with coordinating with all parties. Commissioner Russell thought the install was not complicated and home owners may be able to pick up and install their own. Discussion.

Department Reports

Sheriffs - Written only

District Attorney Report – In person

Fair Office – Ann Jones – In person

Correspondence

Thank you card from IMESD for the unanticipated Amazon funds

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Russell shared he had a CREA meeting this week carpooling and he will look into Solar projects and possible tax abatements that others are doing and share back.

Commissioner Lindsay asked that Commissioner Russell takes the lead actively continuing as liaison to finalizing warranties etc. for the Irrigon building completion.

Chair Doherty is talking with Tamra on the RFP/Q around grant writing and bringing a work shop next week to discuss how this might look. Additionally, a work session will come forward within a couple of weeks to discuss with Finance Director Kevin Ince's help the ARPA funds.

Adjourned 10:58 a.m.