

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Special Meeting Minutes**  
**February 2, 2023**  
**Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room**  
**Heppner, Oregon**

**Present In-Person**

Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Roberta Lutcher, Lindsay Grogan

**Present Via Zoom**

Call-In User

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

**City & Citizen Comments:** None

**Open Agenda:** No items

Chair Sykes read the Executive Session citation and announced the Board would resume the meeting at 1:30 p.m. with a potential action item and to take up one Business Item listed on the agenda.

**Executive Session:** Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) – To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent

**Closed Executive Session**

**1:30:** Resumed Regular Meeting

**Present In-Person**

Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Roberta Lutcher, Lindsay Grogan

**Present Via Zoom**

Call-In User, John Bailey, Tamra Mabbott

**Decision Item**

Interim Administrator Position

*Commissioner Wenholz moved to allow Human Resources to extend a conditional offer of employment as Interim County Administrator to Roberta Vanderwall at Step H on the pay scale for a temporary employee. Further, HR is authorized to offer short-term housing for up to four weeks for the temporary employee, or until such time as the temporary employee finds rental housing herself. Employment offer is contingent upon a successful pre-employment screening by HR. Chair Sykes seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

**Business Item**

Comment Letter, True Organic Products' Grant Application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Ms. Mabbott said she drafted the letter following the discussion at yesterday's BOC Meeting. She said the substance of the letter was the Board supported the \$5 million request for federal funding but it didn't include support for the zoning requirements. The letter made it clear that zoning permits would be required at that site, she said. Ms. Mabbott said she received a call

from True Organics' attorney, John Bailey, who conveyed his thanks to the County and approval of the verbiage of the letter.

*Commissioner Wenholz moved to approve and sign the letter in support of True Organic Products, Inc.'s grant application to the U.S.D.A. Chair Sykes seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.*

**Signing of Documents**

**Adjourned:** 1:33 p.m.