

Morrow County Court
September 16, 2015
Boardman, Oregon
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Commissioner Don Russell
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director
Richard Tovey, County Counsel/Deputy District Attorney

Excused

Roberta Lutchter, Court Executive Assistant

Judge Tallman called the meeting to order.

City and Citizen Comments – Boardman

No comments

Open Agenda

- Commissioner Rea would like to add a vehicle acquisition discussion.
- Ms. Wolff said the Sheriff's Office positions will not be discussed today but will remain as an agenda item in the coming weeks.

Department Reports

Road Report

Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master

- Balm Fork Road and Juniper Lane – chip seal completed (repaired specific areas on Juniper Lane only); first brooming of the loose rock has also been completed. A second brooming will take place prior to paint striping.
- Gilmore Street – waste asphalt removed and project clean-up completed. Shoulder rock was installed on Gilmore, August and Cannon Streets. The guardrail above the new parking lot was installed on September 11th.
- Paint striping has begun but is somewhat delayed because a new person is being trained. The painting of the white fog lines has not started due to mechanical problems. The crew is scheduled to be painting for one week each in Baker and Gilliam Counties before the end of September. Because the crew is running out of time, the completion of in-County paint striping may be delayed until spring.
- Big Butter Creek Lane – shoulder rock is being installed to fix the abrupt edges left from the overlay project.
- Training – three crew members are attending the 22nd Annual Oregon Skills Demo and Safety Conference in Albany.

Other Road/Public Works Items

- Mr. Scrivner reviewed the hot mix and tack costs associated with this summer's paving projects, as requested by the Court:

Balm Fork Road (patching)	\$124,447.52
Big Butter Creek Lane	\$274,481.05
Fairgrounds	\$ 5,535.00
8 th Road (Irrigon)	\$107,155.37
4 th Road (Irrigon)	\$ 11,824.61
Oregon (Irrigon)	\$ 12,623.49
Gilmore St. (Heppner)	\$ 42,308.75
Columbia Lane (Boardman)	\$115,822.28
Balm Fork Road (chip seal)	\$120,093.21
Juniper Lane	\$ 11,140.02
- Mr. Scrivner informed the Court of an upcoming equipment need – two 5,000 gallon tanks and a pump for de-icing materials. Total estimated costs: \$10,000.
- Mr. Scrivner presented invoices from Public Works to the County for two paving projects: Fairgrounds work - \$14,654.35; and Gilmore Street - \$104,277.12. The invoices reflect total costs, including labor. The Commissioners directed Ms. Wolff to process the invoices. Regarding the Gilmore Street invoice, the Court requested Mr. Scrivner calculate the cost for the portion to be paid by the Morrow County Health District, which is the stretch from Willow Street to the Thompson Street intersection.

Weight Restriction - Upper Little Butter Creek Road

Mr. Scrivner explained last year's weight restriction was an eight ton limit and it has expired. He requested a new restriction of 20 tons for the area of the road from Paul Hisler's ranch to the Blake Ranch junction. Commissioner Rea asked if the new 20 ton limit will cause issues. Mr. Scrivner said Public Works Director, Burke O'Brien's view is this will allow for agricultural use, such as hauling hay, while still cutting down on heavy loads. Mr. Scrivner said new signs listing the effective dates will be installed.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve a 20 ton weight restriction on upper Little Butter Creek Road from December 1, 2015 through April 15, 2016. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

Old Business

Lexington Wind Erosion District

The Commissioners reviewed a map of the District produced by the Planning Department's recently hired GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Technician. After discussion, the Commissioners realized the map may not have included information going back to its creation in 1937. The Commissioners agreed they are not opposed to making the requested appointment of Inspectors, but are not sure they have the authority to do so.

Juvenile Program – Whether or Not to Relinquish Juvenile Hearings to the State Circuit Court
Various discussions ensued.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the transfer of Juvenile dependency and delinquency hearings to the State Circuit Court, effective early January 2017; and at the same time, Morrow County will move from the current system of two part time Commissioners and a Judge, to three part time Commissioners. Commissioner Russell seconded. Discussion. Commissioner Rea: aye; Commissioner Russell: aye; Judge Tallman: nay. Motion carried.

Department Report

Veteran's Update

Linda Skendzel, Veterans Service Officer

- Ms. Skendzel said she initiated the federal process for approval to access Department of Veterans' Affairs information online herself, rather than requesting it through the VA.
- Ms. Skendzel said the Morrow County Veterans' Service Office received approval as a Federal Work-Study worksite. She is attempting to get the word out about this part time position.
- Ms. Skendzel requested permission to hire a family member on a part time, temporary basis. After discussion, the Commissioners did not agree to the idea of hiring a family member but instead suggested she determine funding availability to hire someone else.
- Project Community Connect & Veterans Stand Down – Wednesday, October 7th, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Hermiston Conference Center. The event is for all veterans, and people who are homeless or at-risk, in Morrow and Umatilla Counties. Attendees will have the ability to connect with resources and on-the-spot services.

New Business

Courthouse Bell Tower and Clock Photo Books

It was decided the books will be made available for employees to purchase and an article will be submitted to the *Heppner Gazette-Times* notifying community members, as well. There are 49 books available at a cost of \$20 each. Ms. Wolff offered to be the point of contact for purchases and requested checks be made to Morrow County rather than cash.

Contracts

Moon Security

This contract is for fire monitoring and elevator monitoring in the Bartholomew Building. The cost is \$38 per month for fire monitoring and \$28 per month for elevator monitoring. Discussion took place concerning the requested list of people who can respond if emergency signals are triggered. Ms. Wolff noted she received the contract electronically on her iPad moments ago from Scott Rogers, Project Manager, Wenaha Group. A hard copy needs to be signed by tomorrow afternoon, so she asked if she could be authorized to do so. In a related discussion, Judge Tallman said he would like to conduct fire drills for employees, but past requests to the Heppner Fire Chief to do this in the Courthouse were unsuccessful.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the three year Monitoring Agreement with Moon Security Services, Inc. for services to be provided in the Bartholomew Building at the rate of \$38 per month for fire monitoring and \$28 per month for elevator monitoring, total \$66 per month; and authorize Karen Wolff to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

County Counsel Report

Mr. Tovey reported Justin Nelson picked up the hard copy files and digital files from former County Counsel Ryan Swinburnson. Mr. Swinburnson received the check for payment of his invoices at that time, said Mr. Tovey.

Claims

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Payroll Payables, Immediate & Electronic, dated September 2nd; and HRA/VEBA dated September 2nd; and the Accounts Payable, dated September 17th, in the amount of \$484,557.26. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Rea said she attended last week's Special Transportation Fund (STF) Advisory Committee meeting where it was decided to call the STF system in the County "The Loop." The Committee members also decided to ask area students (kindergarten-12th grade) to participate in a logo contest.
- Commissioner Russell said he attended the quarterly meeting of the Irrigon-Boardman Emergency Assistance Center. Activities continue to increase and they are helping a lot of people, he said.
- Judge Tallman said he plans to attend a meeting in Hood River this afternoon where legislators and others will discuss the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA).

Vehicle Purchase Request

Commissioner Rea said she received a quote on a Toyota RAV4 and would like to commit to the price of \$23,277 with Rogers Toyota of Hermiston. The vehicle to be replaced is a 2003 Ford Expedition.

Commissioner Russell moved to authorize Commissioner Rea moving forward with the purchase of a 2015 Toyota RAV4 LE at the quoted price of \$23,277. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

Landscaping Budget for Bartholomew Building

Ms. Wolff said she met yesterday with the parties involved with creating a landscaping plan for the new building. The group includes Project Manager, Scott Rogers, Beth Dickenson, Heppner High School Agriculture Science teacher, and Jari Boettcher with Westwinds Nursery in Hermiston. Ms. Wolff said they need to know a budget amount for the project. It was decided to continue the discussion to next week's Long Range Planning session and in the interim, Ms. Wolff will research a realistic dollar amount.

Comments Prior to Executive Session

Ms. Wolff stated no decisions will be reached today.

11:34 a.m. Executive Session

ORS 192.660(2)(a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.

11:50 a.m. – Closed Executive Session – No decisions

11:53 a.m. – Recessed to attend Irrigon Chamber Open House

2:00 p.m. - Carty Update

Jaisen Mody, General Manager, Generation Projects, PGE, provided an update on the natural gas-fired Carty Generating Station for the Court. The project is on schedule and he said he appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Commissioners.

Adjourned: 2:30 p.m.