

Morrow County Court
October 5, 2016
Heppner, Oregon
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Commissioner Don Russell
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director
Justin Nelson, County Counsel/District Attorney
Roberta Lutcher, Court Executive Assistant
Melissa Lindsay, Judge-Elect

Audience

David Sykes, Heppner Gazette-Times

Call to Order: 9:01 a.m., followed by pledge of allegiance.

City and Citizen Comments: No comments.

Open Agenda Requests: Deed - County sale of Parkside Drive property; Board of Property Tax Appeals appointments; Columbia Development Authority board appointment; request to purchase electronic time clock interface from the Finance Department.

Contracts

Sign Affinity Network Acknowledgement Letter for Public Health Department and Review Blue Mountain Healthy Families Performance Based Subcontract
Sheree Smith, Public Health Department Director

Blue Mountain Healthy Families:

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the contract between Umatilla-Morrow Head Start, Inc. (UMCHS) and Morrow County Public Health (MCPH) to provide services specified in the Statement of Work, and UMCHS agrees to pay MCPH the agreed amount after completion of the Statement of Work, no later than December 31, 2017, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Affinity Network:

Ms. Smith clarified the Affinity Network Acknowledgement Letter is not a name change, as was mentioned last week during County Court, but adds them as a provider through Moda Health.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve an attestation letter acknowledging Affinity Network will be added as a participating network for Provider under its current agreement with Moda Health at existing rates thereunder, effective January 1, 2017, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) Update

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director

Ms. Lindsay began by announcing CCS received the 2016 Rural Health Hero of the Year award last week from the Oregon Office of Rural Health. She said the Office of Rural Health produced a video on CCS and it's available to view at ohsu.edu, then search "Oregon Rural Health Hero of the Year Award."

Ms. Lindsay said she wanted to update the Court on recent meetings at the State level that may impact the delivery of mental health services in the County. She said a workgroup, headed by Oregon Health Authority Director Lynne Saxton, was convened to look at revamping the mental health system. The group put forth four options for consideration. Option one brings all mental health services under the direction of the Coordinated Care Organizations (CCO), eliminating Community Mental Health Programs (CMHP) and Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHA). Option two has all routine services under the CCOs but legal responsibilities, crisis services and civil commitments remain with CMHP. Option three – services are contracted to CCOs and CMHP remains responsible for population based services. Option four leaves everything as-is. However, she said, the workgroup did not list anything under the "Opportunity" and "Consideration" headings as they did with the other three options. It's clear the group is not interested in Option four, said Ms. Lindsay.

Ms. Lindsay said as our Local Mental Health Authority, Morrow County needs to be aware of these discussions. She said she feels there is great value in the County remaining as the LMHA but the system needs some changes. To that end, the Association of Oregon Community Mental Health Programs drafted a letter stating the workgroup left out a vital partner by not involving County Commissioners. She said it is required by statute they be involved and she finds it "unconscionable" they were not included. The Association also included an Option five in their draft letter and she said she would forward it to the Court when it is finalized. Discussion. The Court agreed to consider drafting a letter to Ms. Saxton after they review the contents of the Association's letter.

Ms. Lindsay also reviewed the results of the Greater Eastern Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. Contract Monitoring Review conducted in July. She said there were no findings and no areas where CCS failed or fell below a threshold.

New Business

Resolution R-2016-20 – Application for the County Opportunity Grant Program from the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation Department for Development at Cutsforth Park

Burke O'Brien, Public Works Director

Mr. O'Brien said this would be for a vault restroom facility at Cutsforth Park in the southwest corner near the campsites. The project total is \$63,880.66 with a required match of \$16,045.60, which will come from another grant and in-kind services.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve In the Matter of the Application for the County Opportunity Grant Program from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for Development at Cutsforth Park, Resolution No. R-2016-20. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Resolution R-2016-21 – Authorizing Public Works to Apply for an All-Terrain Vehicle Grant from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for Operations and Maintenance at the Morrow-Grant County OHV Park

Mr. O'Brien said this grant is applied for every two years to cover operations and maintenance at the OHV Park. The \$592,400 keeps the Park going, he said.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve In the Matter of Authorizing Morrow County Public Works Department to Apply for an All-Terrain Vehicle Grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for Operations and Maintenance at the Morrow-Grant County OHV Park, Resolution No. R-2016-21. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Eastern Oregon Counties Association (EOCA) Dues

After discussion, the Court determined to pay the invoiced amounts. Commissioner Russell said he believed supporting the efforts of EOCA is money well spent and there's been a return on the investment, especially in terms of Payments in Lieu of Taxes. Regarding the Debt Retirement invoice, Commissioner Rea stated Union County has been carrying the debt from counties that couldn't pay their dues. Morrow County was not able to pay its dues at one point, so she said she couldn't fault those counties because we all experience ups and downs.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the payment of EOCA Invoice #6016 (\$10,800 for EOCA Fiscal Year 2016-17 Dues) and EOCA Invoice #6006 (\$3,250 - EOCA Debt Retirement). Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Consent to Land Use Application Request Adjacent to Bombing Range Road by Toth & Associates

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer

Mr. Sorte said the County owns 1.18 acres adjacent to Bombing Range Road over which Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) would like to build the transmission line that will serve the proposed Wheatridge Wind Energy Facility. In order to submit a Land Use Application, UEC needs the consent of all landowners, he said. UEC, through its consultant Toth & Associates, would then negotiate to obtain an easement, explained Mr. Sorte.

Commissioner Rea said she supports the transmission line but asked why UEC is building a transmission line in Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative's service territory. Mr. Sorte said it continues to be a contentious issue but it's outside today's discussion.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Consent to Land Use Application from Toth & Associates on behalf of Umatilla Electric Cooperative for construction of a proposed transmission line and related facilities that may pass upon the property (1.18 acre parcel located in Section 6, Township 2 North, Range 26 EWM); and direct County Counsel to draft any necessary disclaimer language stating if the applicant obtains land use approval, the applicant is required to obtain an easement from Morrow County; and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Tower Road Improvements

Mr. O'Brien

Mr. O'Brien outlined the improvements to Tower Road in cooperation with companies that had construction projects there (PGE and Love's Travel Stops). There are 1.2 miles of that road that haven't been addressed, so he said he contacted PGE to see if they would help. They agreed but requested a letter from Public Works stating Tower Road is in better condition than when they started their construction project, he said, and then added PGE offered to pay \$109,000 for asphalt. Discussion. Justin Nelson, County Counsel, said he will assist with drafting the letter to ensure the language won't impact any future Strategic Investment Program agreements; the Court agreed.

Department Reports

Road Report

Mr. O'Brien provided the following:

- The County's paving contractor performed overlay work on Kunze Lane for 2,000 feet on the west end and at the intersection with Tower Road. Overlay was also done on Tower Road from the 0.31 mile mark to the 3.18 mile mark.
- Paint striping – completed on Tower Road, Kunze Lane, 3rd Street, Columbia Lane, Paterson Ferry Road, Ione-Gooseberry Road and Rhea Creek Road. Paint striping season will close after striping is completed on the overlay on Kunze Lane.
- Crack sealing – completed on Paterson Ferry Road, Columbia Lane, Montana Lane, Alpine Lane, and will be completed on Willow Creek Road between Black Mountain Lane and Cutsforth Park.
- Road grading – blades have been pulling ditch and reshaping Ditch Creek. Since rain is in the forecast, all four blades should be starting fall road blading this week.

Mr. O'Brien reported Public Works received a notice to proceed on a grant for improvements at Cutsforth Park. It will cover new restroom/shower facilities and a welcome center where the park host can greet arrivals. The next step is to obtain a contractor, he said. Demolition of the old facilities will begin shortly, he said, and portable toilets will be used in the interim. He explained they needed to begin now in order to be operational by next spring or early summer.

Sheriff's Office Update

Sheriff Ken Matlack

Sheriff Matlack discussed the report for September 2016, which included:

- Domestic disturbance near Boardman on September 1st. Male subject arrested and charged with Assault IV, Interfering with 911, Strangulation and Kidnapping.
- Male subject found deceased in Boardman on September 11th. A male subject was indicted for Murder I in this case.
- Motor vehicle accident between Heppner and Lexington on September 12th. The female driver was extricated after the vehicle went into the creek and water levels rose inside the vehicle.
- Assisted Umatilla County Sheriff's Office with a search and rescue of a four year old autistic boy who was located and found to be in good condition.
- Assisted Boardman Fire & Ambulance with an ammonia leak at ConAgra/Lamb Weston.
- Assisted Oregon State Police in delivering an emergency message to a hunter.
- Responded to calls from boaters who lost power in the water and needed to be towed.
- A theft of marijuana plants in Irrigon was reported on September 1st.
- A Heppner High School student was investigated over a rumored "kill" list. He claimed it was an old list and after Community Counseling Solutions personnel evaluated him, they determined he wasn't a risk.

Sheriff Matlack provided an update on an earlier budget concern regarding the contract for mental health services with Community Counseling Solutions. He said after a review of the Parole and Probation budget, it appears there is enough funding to make sure the Sheriff's Office can continue to call upon CCS services in south Morrow County.

Contracts

Phone/Internet Service – Veterans Services Office

Mr. Sorte explained the Veterans Services Office located in Irrigon City Hall has unreliable internet service from CenturyLink. The request is to change to EOT but it requires a two-year service contract which would be approximately \$75 per month. Another potential option that may be pursued is for the County to contract internet and/or phone service with the City of Irrigon, he said.

Commissioner Russell moved to authorize Judge Tallman or the Administrative Officer to investigate internet and telephone provider services and if satisfied, enter into an agreement with the provider for those services at the Veterans Services Office in Irrigon. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

Old Business

Deed - County Sale of Property on Parkside Drive in Boardman

Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director

Ms. Wolff said the property declared as surplus on Parkside Drive sold at the Sheriff's Sale for \$20,500. She said the minimum bid had been established at \$1,000 and the winning bidder has already paid the Treasurer.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve signing the Quitclaim Deed dated October 5, 2016 between Morrow County and Martin M. Guzman and Elva Guzman for the parcel described as Lot 8, Block 2, West Glen, in the County of Morrow, State of Oregon; true consideration for this conveyance is \$20,500. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business

Appointment to the Board of Property Tax Appeals

Mr. Sorte explained Bobbi Childers, Clerk, was unavailable to present the request.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve In the Matter of Appointing Members to the Morrow County Board of Property Tax Appeals, Order No. OR-2016-11, with the appointed members to be Don Russell as a member of the County Governing Body pool; Ed Rollins and John Qualls appointed as members of the non-office-holding pool and the Chairperson pool. Terms will begin October 15, 2016 and end June 30, 2017; also Don Russell to be appointed as Chairperson of the Morrow County Board of Property Tax Appeals until June 30, 2017. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Request to Purchase Electronic Time Clock Interface for Time Keeping Software

Mr. Sorte

Kate Knop, Finance Department Director

Mr. Sorte said the items purchased during the development stage for the NovaTime software did not include the necessary component to interface with our accounting software. Ms. Knop noted the quote dated August 17th is good for 120 days.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the purchase of the Incode License Fee (\$1,650) and the associated annual fee (\$413) from Tyler Technologies, total amount \$2,063. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Columbia Development Authority (CDA) Appointment

Commissioner Rea said she and Commissioner Russell were contacted by members of CDA regarding the rotating chairperson schedule. It's Morrow County's turn to select one of its representatives to serve as chair starting January 2017, she said. Brief discussion.

Commissioner Rea said she would inform CDA at its October 12th meeting that the current Court would like the appointment to be made in January after the new Court members are in office.

County Counsel Report

Justin Nelson, County Counsel

Mr. Nelson reported working on a variety of agreements including several projects, contracts and maps related to the Road Department.

Administrative Officer Report

Mr. Sorte's report included updates on the following projects:

- County website – a staff workgroup was created to review the proposals submitted. The group's recommendation should be presented in the next one to two weeks.
- Ordinance delegating approval authority to Public Works Director, or designee, regarding right-of-way permits – updating the draft ordinance to include an appeal process, as requested by the County Court.
- Facility projects – sod will be laid at the Bartholomew Building on October 5th; Fairgrounds require plumbing improvements; working with staff at the Irrigon Annex to estimate costs for security improvements.
- Performance evaluations – coordinating with Judge Tallman to schedule nine evaluations of appointed Department Heads/Project Positions during October and November.
- Review Finley Buttes Contract – County Court previously inquired if this contract would allow road maintenance funds to be used on Ulman Boulevard in addition to Bombing Range Road. The contract will be reviewed with County Counsel and a report will be prepared for the Court.
- Updated purchasing and surplus policies – looking at the benefits of the County adopting its own rules instead of applying State law, which is an option under ORS 279A.065(6).
- Travel policy review – current travel policy does not specify a maximum amount the County will pay for meals and lodging while travelling. Currently exploring options for expenses accrued by employees when they travel on official business.
- Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget preparations – would like explanatory narratives included with the budget. Since the budget is essentially a plan, the additional documentation would assist the public in understanding it.

Claims

Commissioner Rea questioned several meal reimbursements as possibly being excessive. This brought about a discussion of travel/meal policy which may be continued to a County Court Planning meeting in the future.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Accounts Payable, dated October 6th, in the amount of \$1,372,767.89. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the minutes of September 28th, with correction. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Correspondence Reviewed

- Letter from Governor Kate Brown to the Chairman and Ranking member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (Bill Shuster and Peter DeFazio respectively) regarding the September 21st hearing on “An Examination of FEMA’s Limited Role in Local Land Use Development Decisions.”

- Memo from Roy D. Swafford, Director of Installations, Oregon Military Department, regarding Morrow County's request to be a cooperating agency for the Environmental Assessment being completed for the 7,500 acres of the Umatilla Chemical Depot being transferred to the Oregon National Guard/Oregon Military Department, which was denied.
- Information packet from the Irrigon Chamber of Commerce on upcoming events.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Rea discussed a conversation she had with CDA's Executive Director, Greg Smith, concerning water rights and the challenges faced in getting people in Washington, D.C. to understand the intricacies of the water rights and wells.
- Commissioner Rea provided an update on the most recent Morrow County Citizens Economic Development Task Force meeting. She said Scott Fairley, Regional Solutions, Greater Eastern Oregon Region Coordinator, attended and said he will see if his agency can provide any assistance for the regulatory issues faced by the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area and others from the Department of Environmental Quality.
- Commissioner Russell said he attended the Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District meeting in Boardman and a quorum was present. Morrow County's Weed Coordinator/Inspector, Dave Pranger, provided a report on problems with Skeletonweed.
- Judge Tallman reported he'll be attending a meeting in Portland later this week where the topic will be issues related to smoking, such as policies and some counties developing a tobacco license tax.

Adjourned: 12:15 p.m.