

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of February 20, 2019
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

Commissioners Present: Chair Bill Elfering, Vice-Chair George Murdock and
Commissioner John Shafer

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Staci Kunz, EO Business Source, Transit Consultant; Susan Bower, EO Business Source, Consultant; Tanya Vo, Hermiston; Scott Purswell, Hermiston; Dave Melville, Hermiston; Dale Primmer, Umatilla County Community Justice Program Manager; Floyd Hooford, Hermiston; Steve Watkins, Hermiston; Marilyn Gardner & Roe Gardner, Hermiston; Tom Fellows, County Public Works Director; Paul Chalmers, County Assessment & Taxation Director; Michael Ward, Umatilla Basin Watershed Council Executive Director; Joseph Fiumara, UCo Health Director; Robert Pahl, County Chief Finance Officer; Mark Tanner, Umatilla County Maintenance Manager; Jennifer Blake, County Human Resources Director; Jerry Brandt and Debbie Brandt, Hermiston; Matt Kenny, County Public Works Surveyor; Craig Evans, Hermiston; Linda Carter, Pendleton Finance Director

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair Elfering welcomed all.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Shafer.

Chair Elfering noted an unusual request by State Courts -- they are six jurors short for a trial today and volunteers will be requested, if available. Otherwise, the court can appoint.

Awards/Correspondence/Recognition Chair Elfering recognized Dispatcher Tabetha Koeller for handling an incident on 12/23. Union County transferred person to Umatilla County after an accident (bad artery injury) at Langdon Lake. She handled medical care over the phone and saved the man's life (a tourniquet was applied). Salute to Deputy Koeller for her cool head under pressure. Secondly, officer Reitz took a call when dogs killed ducks in a man's pen. Officer Reitz tracked down the dog owners and they were held accountable. Thank you all for your hard work.

No additions to agenda and no minutes.

Public comments – none.

1. **McKinney Avenue – Public Hearing.** Petition was received from property owners to request the Board of Commissioners to declare McKinney Avenue a public road. Chair Elfering called the public hearing to order at 9:07 a.m. Staff report was given by Matt Kenny, Public Works Surveyor. He gave a brief historic report and highlighted two exhibits (maps), and right of way at the end of his report. He and County offices have worked on this for two years. There is no consensus of documents to back up that the entire street is a public road (referred to first exhibit – color coded). As a part of multiple partitions, though, a major portion of the road has been dedicated as a public road Traffic counts were also done (referred to second exhibit) that demonstrate the use of the road by through traffic.

Dwight Johnson, Court Security, came back and asked for volunteers for jury duty today.

Chair Elfering asked for those in favor of the petition to come forward:

Steve Watkins, 290 E McKinney, Hermiston. He will be spokesman for many people in attendance. Thanks to Matt Kenny for his presentation, which covered most of the pertinent information. There 700 cars daily on McKinney. 1st Street is a major arterial; 4th Street at UGB can get on at Punkin Center avoiding Highway 395, but one must use McKinney to get to 1st Street. He explained traffic pattern and why so much traffic is on McKinney. It is not the City's street at this time. They would prefer to be in county jurisdiction and have the county maintain it. Records are sketchy about paving (when it was done). Owners feel it is best use to be county road, but the city also has some responsibility.

Commissioner Murdock noted he has traveled the road and it is clearly a through-road. Mr. Watkins also noted the intersection includes a big snarl of traffic caused by the high school – cars and pedestrians.

Craig Evans, 289 E McKinney. The road is not safe now as there are big and numerous potholes. Traffic is “jockeying” to go around them, knocking fences down and not paying attention to people and property.

Commissioner Shafer asked who of those present Mr. Watkins was speaking on behalf of. Nearly all raised their hands.

There were none in opposition nor any public agencies. Therefore, no rebuttal. Chair Elfering closed the hearing at 9:30 a.m.

Commissioner Murdock commented most know how bad the road is. Umatilla County has the most roads in the state to maintain; however, government is to help resolve problems that individuals have not caused to happen. The County, he feels, must step in. Commissioner Shafer reiterated it was good hearing from a group spokesman. The Commissioners do know there is an issue and he knows there is plan to put 2nd overlay to take care of potholes. Public Works plans to do this when the weather is appropriate. Knowing where citizens are coming from, the County wants to make things better for citizens there. Chair Elfering commented temporary patches won't last long and appreciates citizens being patient. And, Commissioner Murdock noted it will take a while for weather permitting. Commissioner Shafer added that he is the liaison to Public Works. Commissioner Murdock noted the cost of roadwork would primarily be the County's responsibility and the City of Hermiston may contribute some. **Commissioner Shafer moved to declare McKinney Road a public road and adopt Order No. RD2019-07. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

2. Umatilla Basin Watershed Council Presentation. Michael Ward, Executive Director for Umatilla Basin Watershed Council, presented the annual update. 2018 was a big year, but the Athena bridge was not completed as hoped due to federal and state permits delays. Roughly \$1 million was brought in leveraged by \$10,000 county contribution. Roughly 24-30 jobs created. The main goal is to protect and enhance natural resources. This year, the bridge will be put in, starting September 1. This will open up 14 miles of steelhead habitat, which had been blocked for 80-90 years! In addition, it will make a better entrance to Athena. They are looking at other public works projects – continuing work with county public works. A big area is served and there is continued need to maximize resources. He talked about reasons to wait to 9/1 for instream work (low stream flow, fish runs). Lots of sediment buildup and flooding issues in that area. He thanked the Board for continued support.
3. STF Grants. Staci Kunz, EO Business Source, Transit Consultant, presented. The special advisory committee met and approved projects for Special Transportation Funds. Criteria questions were asked for inventory of services. One project is multi-county transit services – contracting with Grant County

for bringing people to Pendleton for services providing good connectivity. A grant was received and match of 10% (\$3,300) is to be made from STF funds. There is also separate “5310” funding. Today’s action is only for STF. \$384,998 was awarded (less than 2017-18). **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the grants as presented . Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

4. Copier Purchase. Joe Fiumara, UCo Health Director, presented. The copier at Hermiston office is 10 years old, and they haven’t been able to get parts for it for 2 years -- it must be replaced. He proposes the one in Pendleton main office is 7 years old and well maintained should go to the Hermiston location. The new copier would be placed at the Pendleton office. Two quotes were received, and he recommends going with Pacific Office Automation for \$6,277. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the purchase of the new copier. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
5. Vehicle Purchase. Mr. Olsen presented. This is a request to allow for the issuance of a request for proposals for a soil probe truck by the OSU Extension Service. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
6. Roof Payable. Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director, presented. He also noted Mark Tanner, Maintenance Supervisor, is present for additional questions. The department is seeking authorization to pay for a portion of the billing for replacement of the courthouse roof. The roofer is here today and inspection was made. Old drains were replaced from original build in 1954 – leaking problems, hopefully, are fixed now. This payable is to cover half the cost (amount today of \$85,850). Mr. Lonai and Mr. Tanner want to have actual rain to test the repair. He explained the process and ways to test for proper seal. In response to Commissioner Shafer’s question, Mr. Tanner advised he is good with the action outlined. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the payable to Titan Roofing. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Property Contract. Mr. Olsen presented. The request is to authorize sale of property on contract with down payment. The Board previously reviewed and approved the sale. This is just to authorize a short term contract rather than a cash sale. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
8. Creation of Positions for FY2019-20. Mr. Olsen presented the requests for additional positions in the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019:
 - A) DA’s office requests a new legal secretary position. This has to do address new law requiring recording grand jury – it will necessitate a full-time position beginning 7/1/19 (when law is implemented). **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve new position. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
 - B) Maintenance part-time position. This request is to increase a part time position to full time. Mr. Lonai noted a big increase in work – a lot brought about by the jail and also a lot of work done with the DD office remodel. Extra help is required. They have moved people around, but extra is needed to be maintain facilities properly. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the full time position. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
 - C) 1 FTE patrol deputy. [No one to present]. The Sheriff’s Office is requesting a new patrol deputy position. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the new position. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
 - D) Dale Primmer, Director Community Justice, presented. There are two requests before the Board (1) Reclass of Probation Counselor Aid to Counselor position, which will better distribute duties throughout the office. This person works with work crew and other things and needs to be spread out. In addition, the person handles intakes and case planning. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the reclassification. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.** (2) Juvenile Division is seeking

to create another probation counselor position. The position will work with ESD and juveniles in threat assessments. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the new position. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

9. CBA Ratification. Jennifer Blake, HR Director, presented. This is the contract between the County and AFSCME DDA unit bargaining unit. After negotiations, there is a tentative agreement that is before the Board for ratification. The agreement will cover the period through 6/30/21. She feels it is a good contract. **Commissioner Murdock moved to ratify the contract. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.** For the record, Commissioner Murdock expressed a thank you to the bargaining team – consisting of Jennifer Blake, Doug Olsen and Robert Pahl – for their hard work.
10. Eurus CBP Board Appointment. Mr. Olsen presented. The Eurus Community Benefit Plan Board position for the county position is vacant. The proposal is to appoint Commissioner Shafer. **Commissioner Murdock moved to adopt Order No. BCC2019-011. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
12. NEACT Appointment. Mr. Olsen presented. The County representative to the Northeast Area Commission on Transportation need to be updated. The proposal is to appoint Commissioner Shafer and with Tom Fellows as the alternate. **Commissioner Murdock moved to adopt Order No. BCC2019-012. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

Executive Session - none.

Commissioners' Reports - none.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary Umatilla County Board of Commissioners