

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Administrative Meeting of January 24, 2013
9:00 a.m., Room 121, County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

** ** ** **

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Larry Givens, Chairman; Bill Elfering, Vice
Chairman; Dennis Doherty, Commissioner

COUNTY COUNSEL: Doug Olsen

MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT: Connie Caplinger, Umatilla County Executive
Assistant; Tom Fellows, Umatilla County Public Works Director; Bob Patterson, City of Pendleton
Public Works Director; Robb Corbett, City of Pendleton Manager; Jack Esp, Candidate for Umatilla
County Commissioner Position 1; Chris Rizer, East Oregonian City Reporter

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. Chairman Givens reminded all present that the meeting is a public forum.

BUSINESS ON AGENDA

Approval of Minutes: None.

Additions to Agenda: None.

Consent Agenda: None.

Agenda Items:

1. **Discussion with City of Pendleton re: HB2001 Road Funding - Continued from 1/16/13:** Doug Olsen reported that the topic was on the agenda to continue the discussion begun on January 16, 2013 when the city requested the county's support in appropriating its grant funds to alter the road development plan for the Airport Road area. The proposed agreement had been revised to reflect that the county had no objection to the proposal, but wanted the city to take jurisdiction on both Stage Gulch Roads.

Robb Corbett reported that he spoke with city council and the city was willing to do whatever was necessary to effect the funding transition. He also commented that he found minutes in the draft agreement that referred to the original motion stating that the city had the authorization to use the funds as it saw fit. He would prefer that the county affirm that decision in its motion.

Commissioner Elfering asked who would be responsible for maintenance of the condition of those roads. Robb Corbett asked for clarification as to whether the question concerned the road outside the city limits or not. Doug Olsen answered that a joint management agreement was prepared in that the city would take over the maintenance once they met its standards.

Robb Corbett asked if that applied to the road only inside the city limits. Doug Olsen and Bob Patterson explained that the roads through the urban growth boundary (UGB) could be taken over, also. Tom Fellows commented that trades on maintenance responsibilities were often made on roads that did not reach the city standards. Bob Patterson confirmed the trade arrangement, using Haley and Goad Roads as examples.

Commissioner Doherty pointed out that sometimes memory is inaccurate related to agreements and suggested that the dates should be aligned in a written agreement to match the dates in the proposed grant funds agreement. Commissioner Doherty asked Robb Corbett if the city was on board with the proposed transfer of the road jurisdiction. Robb Corbett replied that the city was on board, that the decision was not controversial and suggested that the county's motion should acknowledge the city's action. **Commissioner Doherty moved approval of the Memorandum of Agreement as amended as of January 24, 2013. Commissioner Elfering seconded. Commissioner Doherty commented that he appreciated the staff work to revise the agreement. The motion carried 3-0.**

2. **Discussion with CTUIR regarding access to Indian Lake – Continued from 1/22/13:**

Tom Fellows reported that Jim Beard and the Forest Service personnel could not make it to the meeting for the topic. Connie Caplinger commented that all three had indicated that they would not be able to attend the Thursday meeting.

Tom Fellows stated that after he reviewed the grant application and following through on the commissioners' direction to ensure that their questions were answered, there were some corrections made to the application, although the Tribes still requested that the county split the match with them.

A review of the road determined that there was two miles of it that were affected and that made a split on the match a good deal. The county would need to make its match an in kind match and the application was revised to reflect that.

He commented that East Birch Creek Road was not his first choice for a project, but the county and Tribes would simply make the best of what were designated funds.

Commissioner Elfering asked if a funding delay was expected. Tom Fellows stated that once the funds were released, they were required to be used in a specific period of time.

Commissioner Givens asked if the Forest Service was supportive of the application. Tom Fellows reported that he spoke with Holly _____ at the Forest Service and she indicated that the manager for the Wallowa-Whitman Forest has signed off and that the signature from the Umatilla manager was a matter of logistics, but that he agreed in principle with the application.

Commissioner Elfering asked if there were consideration given to workload accommodation for the county's match. Tom Fellows answered that would be dependent upon unforeseen circumstances.

Commissioner Givens commented that the Tribes were asking that a county road be improved for their benefit and that the work would affect county roads that would be used.

Commissioner Doherty asked if the item was time sensitive. Tom Fellows explained that the federal agencies drove the timeline on the project from the submission of the letter of intent through the completion. Commission Doherty asked if the county delayed a decision for a month was there time for that. Tom Fellows reported that the application would be dead on arrival.

Commissioner Doherty commented that the \$78,000 in kind match from the county created little benefit to the county and more to the Tribes. Tom Fellows pointed out that if the department was not working on one road, it would be working on another.

Commissioner Doherty commented that he preferred to defer a decision, but there was no time to do so. He asked Tom Fellows if supported the application or not. Tom Fellows stated that the project would be a good deal as the county would be receiving a lot of impact from the improvement. Although it was not on the top of his list for improvements, there were approximately 15 residences along the road that would also benefit from the improvement.

Commissioner Doherty moved that the Board agree to match in _____ federal lands grant as proposed. Commissioner Elfering seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

Other Discussion: None.

Public Input:

Jack Esp asked about the odds of the grant application making it through the federal pipeline. Tom Fellows replied that he had no idea, but that it depended upon how many applications were received and the criteria applied to the applications.

Scheduling of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held February 6, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Headley
Executive Secretary
Umatilla County
Board of Commissioners