

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administrative Meeting of September 24, 2013
9:00 a.m., Room 121, County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

** ** ** **

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Larry Givens, Chair; Bill Elfering, Vice Chair;
George Murdock, Commissioner

COUNTY COUNSEL: Doug Olsen

MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT: Phil Wright, East Oregonian Reporter;
Following for Executive Session only: Sam Tucker,
Counsel for Executive Assistant; Molly Tucker-Hasenbank, Co-Counsel for Executive Assistant; Bill
Caplinger, Constituent

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Chair Givens reminded all present that the meeting was a public forum.

BUSINESS ON AGENDA

Additions to agenda:

1. Admin Services Courthouse Access Policy

Consent Agenda: None.

Agenda Items:

1. **Wind Chaser Amended NOI comments:** Doug Olsen reported that comments to the notice of intent filed for the WindChaser Perennial group were proposed. This would be a new co-generation plant.

The proposed comments referred to the county's applicable standards as set by ordinance and the document was prepared by the planning director. The comments also set out the applicable zoning for a natural gas facility and referenced the applicable codes related to the zoning, transportation and transmission lines, incorporating the county's comprehensive plan policies and emphasizing that the facility developers would need to obtain the necessary permits from the county for the project.

Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the comments for the WindChaser amended Notice of Intent. Commissioner Murdock seconded with comment, asking specifically what was to be approved. Doug Olsen responded that the comments to the NOI were the topic of the approval. **The motion carried 3-0.**

2. **Payable to Horse Plaza:** Doug Olsen presented the payable, stating that the item was before the Board due to the amount on the payable, which was \$6,000. There were a number of horses confiscated and Commissioner Elfering asked whether the owner would be liable for the costs. Doug Olsen responded that he could be ordered to pay the costs through the criminal action.

Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the payable of \$6,000 to Horse Plaza. Commissioner Elfering seconded and commented that the cost seemed high. Doug Olsen explained that the cost per horse was lower, but that the cost covered the care and board for 7 horses over more than a three month period and was within the average for the area. **The motion carried 3-0.**

3. **Administrative Services Courthouse Access Policy:** Dan Lonai reported that the development of the policy was begun to improve the security of the courthouse and was the result of an ongoing discussion with the state courts. The primary objective was to ensure the security of the courthouse while providing the required access during elections.

The courthouse had 8 public access points around the periphery of the building. It was proposed that the rear entrances, facing the parking area behind the courthouse on the 5th Street side would become employee only access points. This would require that the old CCF space's door would need to be fitted with a crash bar to allow it and the other doors to be secured to the general public to be opened from the interior in an emergency evacuation. It was also suggested that a member of the public might be permitted entry through the employee only access points if accompanied by an employee so as not to inconvenience family and friends of employees meeting with them.

Commissioner Elfering supported testing the proposal on a trial basis. Commissioner Murdock commented that the standard in general usage for courthouses now reduced the public access to one entrance. Commissioner Givens added that the intended goal was to increase the security in the building.

Commissioner Murdock asked about the parking spaces for the handicapped and during election season. Dan Lonai explained that the door closest to the handicapped spaces in the back lot was a public entrance and was handicapped accessible.

Commissioner Elfering asked where public comment on the changes, when it occurred, should be directed and Dan Lonai replied that Jolene Meadows would be the point of contact. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the Administrative Services Courthouse access policy AS- 8.0. Commissioner Murdock seconded and the motion carried 3-0.**

Recess and Reconvene:

The additional parties to the Executive Session were delayed. Commissioner Givens recessed the meeting at 10:30 to reconvene when they arrived. The additional parties arrived and the meeting was reconvened at 11:12 a.m.

4. **Executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(b) and (h):** Doug Olsen reported that the first order of business was for the board to address whether to move that the media not release information from the executive session.

Commissioner Elfering moved that the media be precluded from releasing information covered in the course of the executive session. Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Elfering moved that the board enter into executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(b) and (h). Commissioner Murdock seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Givens called the executive session to order at 11:13 a.m. citing the applicable Oregon statute; to consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open hearing and to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

The minutes of the executive session are produced separately to maintain confidentiality. Upon completion of discussion, the chair closed the executive session at 12:15 p.m.

Commissioner Elfering moved to continue the Executive Session to October 22, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 114 of the Pendleton Courthouse to review the matter, until then the Executive Assistant would be maintained in an unpaid leave status. Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

Other Discussion: None.

Scheduling of Next Meeting: The next meeting would be held October 2, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Headley
Executive Secretary
Umatilla County
Board of Commissioners