

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Board Meeting of April 17, 2014  
10:00 a.m., Room 130, County Courthouse  
Pendleton, Oregon

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

**COUNTY COUNSEL:** Doug Olsen

**MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT:** Bob Heffner, Umatilla County Budget Director; Tom Fellows, Umatilla County Public Works Director; Tamra Mabbott, Umatilla County Land Use Planning Director; Hulette Johnson, Community & Economic Development Director; Susan McHenry, V-P of Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc.; Richard Jennings, Senior Planner; and Phil Wright, East Oregonian reporter.

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Elfering reminded all present that the meeting was a public forum. Those in the room stood, saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BUSINESS ON AGENDA**

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the April 8, 2014 Board of Commissioners meeting were presented for approval.

**Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2014 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Givens seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

**Additions to agenda:** Commissioner Murdock added formal adoption of Umatilla County 2020 Plan – New Dimensions in Health & Human Services. This will be Agenda item 8.

**Public Input:** None

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Renewal of Solid Waste Franchises:** Commissioner Elfering requested County Counsel Doug Olsen provide information. Mr. Olsen reported the renewals are before the Board for annual approval of four existing disposal franchises and three existing collection franchises. The Solid Waste Committee has received and reviewed the applications from the current solid waste franchises for renewal of the franchise for an additional year. The recommendation is to extend the franchises for an additional year for four of the collection franchises and for the three disposal franchises. There were no questions or comments.
  - a. **In the matter of Order No. BCC 2014-024 granting Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Desert Wind Inc., Commissioner Givens moved for approval. Commissioner Elfering seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**
  - b. **In the matter of Order No. BCC 2014-025 granting Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Humbert Refuse and Recycling, Inc., Commissioner Murdock moved for approval. Commissioner Givens seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**
  - c. **In the matter of Order No. BCC 2014-026 granting Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc., Commissioner Givens moved to approve. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**
  - d. **In the matter of Order No. BCC 2014-027 granting Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Quality Compost LLC, Commissioner Murdock moved to approve; Commissioner Givens seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**
  - e. **In the matter of Order No. BCC 2014-028 granting Solid Waste Collection Franchise to Humbert Refuse and Recycling, Inc., Commissioner Givens moved to approve; Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**
  - f. **In the matter of Order No. BCC2014-029 granting Solid Waste Collection Franchise to Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc., Commissioner Murdock moved to approve; Commissioner Givens seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**
  - g. **In the matter of Order No. BCC2014-030 granting Solid Waste Collection to Sanitary Disposal, Inc., Commissioner Murdock moved to approve. Commissioner Givens seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

2. **Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption.**

**Staff report:**

Tamra Mabbott, Umatilla County Land Use Planning Director, turned over the presentation to lead staff, Richard Jennings, Senior Planner. Mr. Jennings went over the plan history – formulated in 2006 and adopted in 2009. The process is that every five years the plan should be updated. Meetings should be held every six months with the steering committee to go over any changes/action items completed, etc.

In October of 2011, the University of Oregon asked Umatilla County to submit an application. There was an intergovernmental agreement with U of O and the Board of Commissioners signed order to appoint a steering committee. Meetings were held in February, May and July of 2012. By last summer, the plan was put together with information included and incorporated with Steering Committee input. In June 2013, the plan was submitted to Emergency Management then submitted to FEMA. The plan was completed in February of 2014. FEMA completed a pre-adoption review of the Plan and advised it contained the required criteria, noting FEMA Region 10's commitment to approve the plan upon receiving documentation of its adoption by the County. Mitigation project grants are not eligible until the Plan is formally adopted and approved by FEMA. The Plan is a guidance document – natural hazards are listed and mitigation steps are suggested. For example; flood. There is mitigation for diversion of flood waters to safeguard cities, property, etc. Seven to eight types of natural hazards are covered.

During the process, there was good participation of local groups/entities/individuals – hospital, corps of engineers, etc. to provide valuable input. A steering committee should be in place since the Mitigation Plan is to be reviewed every five years. We are currently on track for required completion within five years.

Richard Jennings: This plan is for the unincorporated area of the County. Cities within the County can review their plans for property within their boundaries at their staff level and at their expense.

Tamra Mabbott: Regarding emergency response, this plan doesn't prescribe the response; the advisory group included emergency responders i.e. Jack Remillard is on the steering committee and provided good input for plan. Another action item included is landslides – which have been prevalent this year.

**Questions or comments?**

Commissioner Givens congratulated Land Use Planning for doing a good job and expressed his gratitude to Richard Jennings for the hard work and coming back to finish the plan.

Commissioner Elfering: Beyond the fact this will qualify Umatilla County for disaster assistance, what is purpose of Plan? Answer: The Plan is to provide guidance in advance for action/mitigation of natural hazards.

**In the matter of adoption of the Revised Umatilla County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, Commissioner Givens moved to approve BCC Order No. 2014-031. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Givens and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

3. **Harris Park – used pickup purchase.**

**Staff Report:**

Hulette Johnson reported a used pick up is needed to replace the old pickup that is no longer useable. The Harris Park Manager requested quotes locally and found 3-4 vehicles. They want a 2-wheel drive vehicle. The recommendation is to authorize purchase of a used 2001 Mazda pickup from Premier Motors in Milton-Freewater for the cost of \$6,900.

**Commissioner Givens moved to approve the purchase. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Elfering, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Givens each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

4. **Purchase of used Roller.**

**Staff Report:**

Tom Fellows provided report. The Public Works Department is requesting authority to purchase a used single-drum roller. It's a good unit – low hours (2,290) and good tires. This machine would be an upgrade to the fleet, eventually we will dispose of the current machine, which has become quite expensive to repair. Request for Proposals went out and one machine met the minimum requirements. This proposal is from Canyon View West Excavating, Inc. in Benton City, WA for a Cat model CS-533E for \$50,000. We have inspected this machine and recommend approval for purchase.

**Commissioner Givens moved to authorize approval of purchase of CAT CS-533E roller from Canyon View West Excavating for the amount of \$50,000. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Murdock, Commissioner Givens and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

5. **Northeast Oregon Water Association.** We have received a request for membership dues and contribution payable from J. R. Cook to disburse \$40,000 of \$60,000 budgeted to NOWA. Commissioner Givens asked Doug Olsen to provide a bit of background since J.R.

was not present regarding the Water Commission and NOWA. Doug Olsen noted the Water Basin Commission was formed to review water issues. J.R. Cook formed NOWA to address water issues in the basin. The commission will be phased out and the new association will now coordinate water policies for the area. Commissioner Elfering noted local irrigation districts will handle water issues in looking to acquire water and for a system to distribute it. The weekend edition of the EO had an article that talked about water issues; developing additional land. Commissioner Givens added this was culmination of a state-funded group (signed by then Gov Kulongowski), which gave the Umatilla Basin water project \$3 million to put in infrastructure and start the project water aquifer recharge.

**Commissioner Givens moved to approve to disburse \$40,000 to NOWA. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Murdock, Commissioner Givens and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

6. **Marijuana Dispensary Study Committee.** Commissioner Elfering advised the appointments are listed in BCC Order No. 2014-023, Establishing and Making Appointments to the Umatilla County Marijuana Dispensary Study Committee, appointing Commissioner George Murdock; Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director; Carolyn Mason, Human Services Director; Undersheriff James Littlefield; District Attorney Dan Primus; and Doug Olsen, County Counsel.

Commissioner Murdock noted he would like to amend the order to consider additional members. Commissioner Elfering felt the appointed committee would be best to make determination of who would be part of the committee roster. Doug Olsen advised that further orders could accomplish additional committee members. Commissioner Elfering advised the committee could make recommendations regarding Marijuana dispensaries. What we need are technical answers to what, if anything, can be done. The issue is whether we could draw ordinances that could be defensible and would work.

**Commissioner Givens moved for approval of Order No. BCC2014-023.** Discussion was held regarding wording that as a committee sees a need, they could request additional technical advice. Doug Olsen noted the committee could direct staff to be able to add additional members and to come back to the Board of Commissioners for approval. With that being the intent, **Commissioner Murdock seconded. Commissioner Murdock, Commissioner Givens and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

7. **Approve New Health and Human Services Policy and Grants Coordinator Position.** Commissioner Murdock reported. We will be in the process of significantly expanding programs in the next several months. Many additions and programs are to be taken over within Health & Human Services. With a significant amount of rules/policies, grants and etc., an individual should be recruited to handle all that. This position would also take the

lead in participation for coordinated care organizations for both the Health Department and Human Services Department and would be funded jointly by the departments. The estimated annual cost for the position is \$78,251. The proposal is to have the position start as soon as possible.

**Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the new position of Health and Human Services Policy and Grants Coordinator. Commissioner Givens seconded.** Discussion: Commissioner Givens asked will this better enable mental health and drug & alcohol to work together -- better than in past? Commissioner Murdock answered yes, and referred to the 2020 Plan (to be discussed later in the agenda). A leadership team would meet regularly. This is supported by those two directors and it is overwhelming at this time. It will be good to work together. Commissioner Givens asked is it fair to say this is happening all over the state? Commissioner Murdock answered yes – but Umatilla County is moving quickly forward with changes in affordable health care. This permits us to get ahead of the curve and address issues. GOBI nearly tripled its contribution to handle changes. Within CCO and CAC there are millions of dollars to handle these programs; funds are set aside. There were no other comments/questions. **Commissioner Murdock, Commissioner Givens and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The motion carried 3-0.**

8. **Umatilla County 2020 Plan – New Dimensions in Health and Human Services.** Commissioner Murdock reported he is sub-committee chair at AOC regarding this issue. He attends monthly meetings. The County is seeking to clearly define what we will look like. He met with Wrap Around at ESD prior to the BCC meeting today. There are two significant things to point out: the DD program is coming back to county as of Aug. 2014 and State Mental Health is looking to bring the contract back to Umatilla County – that means we will be a contractor. This will be a great partnership. It is felt that services are more efficient handled by Umatilla County rather than handled by the State. This is a jointly developed plan. The document is a good example and useful.

Commissioner Elfering commended Commissioner Murdock for his efforts in preparing the 2020 Plan. Commissioner Givens noted that in looking at the County Health Dept. and County Human Services, we need to remember the needs of citizens for good health. The costs of absenteeism and poor health relate to jobs and economics. Discussion included chronic absenteeism in elementary school children. From an education standpoint, it is important to be healthy to learn. This is a statewide problem. Commissioner Murdock noted there is no better entity to address health needs of families; also environmental health aspects at restaurants for food and water, and for good health.

**Commissioner Murdock moved to adopt the Umatilla County 2020 Plan – New Dimensions in Health and Human Services. Commissioner Givens seconded. Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Murdock, and Commissioner Elfering each voted aye. The Motion carried 3-0.**

9. **Public Input.**

Susan McHenry is chair of solid waste committee, which is involved in natural hazard mitigation. Jack Remillard spoke to Susan McHenry regarding handling debris removal from a disaster. Solid Waste Committee will meet with Remillard, Corps of Engineer representative, cities, first responders and others to put together a plan including contact information, places, etc. to handle debris removal. There may be a document/white paper to perhaps include in the mitigation plan. Susan McHenry discussed capacity for handling solid waste. On May 7 a meeting will be held at media center for this first meeting.

Susan McHenry is also Chair of Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. Tomorrow there is a meeting at noon with Central Eastern Oregon county representatives regarding HB 3194 Justice Reinvestment Act to reduce prison commits. Of 11 eastern Oregon counties, two have increased in commits -- Umatilla County and Wasco or Sherman County.

Susan McHenry noted a sub-committee is also to meet regarding mental health patients being incarcerated. There is a new crisis center. There is a possibility of combining mental health court with drug court. First meeting is Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3:30 at Community Corrections. Judges, mental health and corrections people will be included.

Commissioner Givens thanked Susan McHenry for serving on these committees, and to keep the Board informed. Susan McHenry said things are just being implemented. Commissioner Elfering agreed with thanks to Susan for her service. Commissioner Murdock talked about co-occurring disorders and the need to look at facilities, expenses of things occurring over and over.

No other public comments.

#### 10. **Commissioners Reports:**

Commissioner Murdock reported that, unfortunately, Sarah Williams has submitted her resignation as Director of Public Health. Sarah Williams has been offered a job in Walla Walla in pediatrics in school based health. She really wants to get on the front line where her training is. She has been extremely popular as Public Health Director. Hers will be big shoes to fill.

1. June 10 – invitation to present at 11:45 to 12:30 at Leadership Pendleton . Commissioner Elfering noted a conflict since there is an AOC meeting in Hood River, June 8 - 10. We may need someone to attend that meeting to provide our county input. June 10 is the last day of AOC conference, closing at noon. Discussion included how to work out perhaps a presentation could be made by a staff member? (i.e. Doug Olsen or Tamra Mabbott?) We will need to look for substitute person or day for a presentation to Leadership Pendleton on 06/10/14.

2. Commissioner Elfering noted an Email received from Alan Gardner from Utah re: American Lands Council. He asked if there was any background? Commissioner Givens noted this organization is seeking to have states take back federal lands. Counties are looking at options of maybe taking over BLM lands to perhaps come under County ownership.

Commissioner Givens reported good news regarding the deadline has been extended for public comments on Blue Mountain Forest Service Plan for an additional 60 days. Commissioner Murdock thanked Commissioner Givens for his hard work – please continue with this process. Commissioner Givens noted the Forest Service has approved and should be sending out the Secure Rural Schools. We receive about \$80,000 for SRS. We receive \$992,000 for PILT. When combined, it will move up to about \$ 1 million mark.

Forest Plan Update: Commissioner Givens will meet with Tamra Mabbott in Planning for comments to be made within deadline. The first meeting was held April 16 at Hood River of the EFSC for rulemaking. Representatives included counties, industries, attorneys, etc. This rules committee will review and amend section 27 of the Oregon Administrative Rules. Looking at things to change – list of amendments; review of amendments and how they will be done. Issues range from typos in permits, doubling size of the project, handling contested case hearings, and all in between. This will be an ongoing process. The next meeting will be held May 14 in Hood River. After that, the following meeting will be held in June (location undecided at this time). Public hearings will be scheduled in November or December.

Commissioner Murdock had no additions.

Commissioner Elfering has attended meetings requiring traveling the last few days. He attended a water policy committee at the Association of Counties in Salem regarding site-based water planning. There seems to be more effort at county and city level – rather than state level. Oregon solutions was discussed on Monday. This covers a huge geographic area – looking to change that. After AOC, Commissioner Elfering went to Welches for the Oregon Summit regarding the marijuana situation in Oregon. There were representatives from all over the nation – i.e. Denver, CO; State of WA; State of MT – which has passed stringent requirements. Undersheriff Littlefield and Dan Primus also attended. Excellent materials were available for reference (these materials are available in our Public Health Department).

Commissioner Elfering advised that the City of Hermiston Council has passed the handling of misdemeanors to come to Umatilla County for prosecution. That process is moving forward.

Regarding the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, Commissioner Elfering noted the City of Pendleton is still to provide counter-proposal. There is nothing new on this issue at this time.

Commissioner Murdock advised he will attend a cultural program, 1:30 at BMCC Hermiston.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt  
Executive Secretary  
Umatilla County  
Board of Commissioners