

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of September 3, 2014
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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Commissioners Present: George Murdock, Vice-Chair, and Larry Givens, Commissioner
Absent: Bill Elfering, Chair

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Duane Thul, Mayor of Weston; Dale Primmer, Community Corrections Assistant Director; Bob Heffner, Budget Director; Undersheriff Jim Littlefield, Sheriff's Office; Gina Miller, County Code Enforcement Officer; Phil Wright, East Oregonian Reporter; Tom Fellows, Public Works Director; Susan McHenry, Chair of Solid Waste Advisory Committee

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Vice-Chair George Murdock reminded all present that the meeting was a public forum. Recorded and minutes will be taken.

Pledge of Allegiance. Those in the room stood, saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence

Any recognition or correspondence? Vice-Chair Murdock noted correspondence primarily comes from young people who exhibited at the Fair – good support from the County. Brook Kralman, first year at the Fair says she enjoyed showing. From Bishop, McKuttridge – thank you for funds (Magnificent Muttoneers). It is good that the kids express appreciation.

Minutes: 08/12 BCC Administrative meeting, 07/17 BCC meeting, and the 06/03/14 BCC meeting (land use hearing). **Commissioner Givens moved to approve minutes of the aforementioned meetings. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0**

Additions to Agenda. Vice-Chair Murdock moved item I up to item A. Mayor Thul from Weston was in attendance and may wish to address the group.

Recognition of Visitors/Public Input: Vice-Chair Murdock noted visitors may address the group at this time. None were noted, other than those on the regular agenda. Welcome to Mayor Thul.

He asked if anyone wished to address the Board; nothing at that time.

Agenda

1. **Agreement for Law Enforcement Services/City of Weston.** Sheriff Terry Rowan spoke about the process. The City of Weston had tried for a while on its own to recruit someone, unsuccessfully. Sheriff Rowan previously submitted a draft agreement to County Counsel and changes were

made. City of Weston's attorney made a few changes. It now appears the agreement is ready to move forward. At a recent City Council meeting he attended, it was a unanimous vote to approve the contract after reviewing it. They signed it at that time. It is appropriate now for the BCC to sign the contract and to satisfy the other part of this agreement, which is to hire an additional FTE deputy for the hours needed. In this process, the Sheriff's Office will provide ongoing updates at Council meetings. Vice-Chair Murdock asked Mayor Thul to speak on behalf of the process. Mayor Thul noted this is appropriate for his small town to contract with the Sheriff for provision of security. He talked about a recent meeting called by a citizen that wanted their own police department. He noted at a recent Council meeting, with large turnout – they wanted the contract to move forward with the Sheriff's Dept. The City of Weston is ready to move forward. He noted letters from citizens thanking Sheriff's deputies for their coverage of Weston. Commissioner Givens added this is a good cooperative experience (supporting Vice-Chair Murdock's comments). **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the agreement/contract between Umatilla County Sheriff's Office and City of Weston for law enforcement services. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0. Commissioner Givens then moved to approve a full-time deputy position to be funded through the contract. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.**

2. No one from Lifeways was in attendance to report.
3. Six Supplemental Budgets. Vice-Chair Murdock opened the public hearing. Bob Heffner presented each order as follows:
 - a. Budget Order 2015-04 is for the CARE program; requires increase of \$4,975 in its Materials & Services appropriations for unexpended funds carried over to current fiscal year.
 - b. Budget Order 2015-05 is for the Mediation Fund requiring increase of \$27,529 in Materials & Services for unexpended funds carried over to current fiscal year.
 - c. Budget Order 2015-06 for Veterans Expanded Services Fund requires increase of \$4,800 in Materials & Services and Veterans Expanded Outreach requires increase of \$9,021 in Materials & Services – support for increases will be provided by larger than anticipated cash carryovers from the previous fiscal year.
 - d. Budget Order 2015-07 is for A&D which revised its business plan for the FY14-15, requiring a \$106,013 increase in A&D Personnel Services and will generate a \$4,120 increase in A&D Contingency; A&D will support the increases with a reduction of \$25,867 in projected cash carryover, \$100,000 reduction in intergovernmental state revenue and \$236,000 increase in Oregon Health Plan revenues.
 - e. Budget Order 2015-08 is for Civil which received approval to acquire a new special printer for concealed handgun licenses for \$12,035; the acquisition will require \$12,035 increase in Capital Outlay which meets capital asset threshold of \$5,000; Civil will transfer \$12,035 from its Material & Services category.
 - f. Budget Order 2015-09, the BCC approved a new CIS specialist position for increased workload; new position will require \$39,860 increase in CIS Personnel Services; support will be provided by \$32,000 reimbursement from Records Archiving Fund for in-house development of new recording system, \$4,882 from State reimbursement for computer equipment purchased, and \$2,978 transfer from CIS Materials & Services.

There were no questions. Vice-Chair Murdock closed the Hearing. **Commissioner Givens moved by separate motions to individually approve Budget Orders 2015-04, 2014-05, 2014-06, 2014-06, 2014-07, 2014-07, 2014-08, and 2015-09; all individual motions were seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. All Carried 2-0.**

4. Video Conferencing Equipment for Community Corrections. Dale Primmer, Assistant Director of Community Corrections presented a staff report. Funds are available via State Grant in Aid funds. The Department of Community Justice (adult community corrections) has recently created meeting space and a conference room. Part of the intent was to allow staff to attend more meetings and trainings via video conferencing. Mr. Primmer talked about relying on the expertise of the IMESD to provide a list of items for needed equipment, installation and labor. IMESD submitted a bid totaling \$15,228.01. It is planned to have Unitech run the lines and obtain necessary easements from the UPRR. With that accomplished, the project is ready to move forward. There were no questions. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the purchase and installation of video conferencing equipment from Intermountain ESD. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.**
5. Public Works Equipment Replacement Tom Fellows noted this is an equipment list provided each year to upgrade equipment. Some equipment can be obtained at State surplus property; last year a great deal of equipment was obtained. This year he anticipates it will be different, but if he has the list and it is approved, Public Works can move forward quickly. Mr. Fellows noted the items are budgeted for. Mr. Olsen noted the action today is only for approval to go out for bid, To award a contract for the purchase will take additional action by the Board. Vice-Chair Murdock expressed appreciation about the way the process is working to be sure things are updated as needed. Commissioner Givens expressed appreciation to Mr. Fellows for keeping on top of the equipment needs and looking to upgrade in a timely manner while things are still running. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve RFPs as equipment and funding become available and to adopt Order No. RD2014-015. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.**
6. Designating Newspaper for Publication of Foreclosure Notice. Doug Olsen presented. As part of the annual tax foreclosure process, the Board designates the newspaper for publication of the notice. It is proposed to designate the East Oregonian. There were no questions. **Commissioner Givens noted this is a county-wide and daily publication and he moved to adopt Order No. TX2014-07. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.**
7. Echo Community Benefit Plan Grants. Doug Olsen presented in Chair Elfering's absence. He gave background and presented the list of items. The Echo Community Benefit Plan Board has recommended the award of 5 grants totaling \$33,650. The Board also recommended the extension of the grant of the Echo Fire District for fire equipment. **Commissioner Givens moved to adopt Order No. BCC2014-061. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.**
8. Appointment of Members to Echo Community Benefit Plan Board. Doug Olsen presented. There are a number of terms expired, or that will expire on the ECBP Board. All members except Lois Piercy have been asked to be reappointed. Connie Caplinger is recommended for appointment to fill the at-large position. **Commissioner Givens moved to adopt Order No.**

BCC2014-062 filling expired terms on the Echo Community Benefit Plan Board. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.

9. Courthouse Flooring Project. Doug Olsen presented. This comes from Administrative Services for permission to go out for proposals on the flooring of the second floor of the county courthouse. The State Courts has funding to pay for the replacement of the 2nd floor carpet with tile. The quotes received were over \$10,000, which requires the county to advertise for Requests for Proposals. Vice-Chair Murdock noted that he and Dan Lonai wrote a grant and received about \$60,000 to \$70,000 as the source of funding for this project. Commissioner Givens also noted that there may be more funds becoming available (upon application) for additional courthouse improvements. Vice-Chair Murdock advised the State indicated it will make more money available; there is an ongoing process of accepting proposals. Umatilla County was one of the first counties to apply for funding. This is a good way to update the current courthouse. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve that Administrative Services issue an RFP to purchase and install tile flooring for the second floor of the county courthouse. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0.**

10. Umatilla Wasteshed's Waste Reduction Goals. Commissioner Givens noted a recent meeting with DEQ the group discussed changes in fees for wastesheds and percentages of recovery. DEQ wanted to increase fees; there was a lot of discussion about a proposal to legislature. The consensus of the entire group – the county, cities in the county, franchise holders and county staff -- was that if you start too high, it will discourage people. They want to continue as is while achieving a higher percentage than the goal, it should be continued. Gina Miller, Code Enforcement Officer in County Planning, was present to provide additional information and answer questions.

Commissioner Givens talked about landfill fees suggested increases proposed by DEQ and where those increases would ultimately go and the group decided to not support the state's proposal. Ms. Miller also noted that in addition to raising recovery goals, discussed at the meeting – overall with increased fees would go to DEQ for staffing – local areas noted they have had to cut positions and the group at large felt the increase would not really benefit the county. The Umatilla County Solid Waste Advisory Committee recommended a letter (shown on the monitor, dated 09/02/14) stating they are not in favor of the legislative proposals. Commissioner Givens noted AOC committee meetings included discussion about DEQ staff positions that were not necessary – he said that group did not feel increasing fees is needed for wasteshed. Ms. Miller noted the proposed staff positions are administrative – not feet on the ground. Ms. Miller noted Susan McHenry (SWAC Chair) was on her way and wanted to provide testimony at today's meeting. Vice-Chair Murdock noted we would pause this discussion until Susan McHenry arrives.

Commissioners' Reports.

- A. Commissioner Givens: after today's BCC meeting, he will go to Milton-Freewater for a presentation at the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the MPO. After that, he will go on to Walla Walla for an MPO meeting. At that time, they will vote on the main sponsor of the MPO to become Walla Walla County. Walla Walla County will take on the MPO and its staff with the formal vote taking place at the meeting today.

Regarding the State Fair, Commissioner Givens reported that Umatilla County, as an agricultural county with good economic development had an excellent showing.

Commissioner Givens also reported he will go to Portland on Thursday evening for a DOGAMI meeting (he is the chair).

- B. Vice-Chair Murdock: advised the County has hired a new director for the Public Health Department after a 4-month search – Meghan DeBolt. He said he was thrilled about Meghan DeBolt’s eminent qualifications. She is a graduate of Pendleton and her husband is a graduate of Walla Walla and in returning to Pendleton, she intends to be here a long time. He talked about her qualifications, including the fact Ms. DeBolt is finishing up an MBA from OHSU in Portland with a major in healthcare administration finance.

West-End Mayors. Vice-Chair Murdock reported he had attended a regularly scheduled meeting yesterday. They want all mayors to attend a joint meeting where typically the west-end and east-end groups meet separately. Umatilla County will host an upcoming meeting in the fall and all mayors will be invited – arrangements are to be made. This should be a good collaboration. Duane Thul, Mayor of Weston, agreed – this is an excellent idea.

Commissioner Givens reported that he recently met with legislative representatives for a fact-finding mission to look at the EOTEC site in Hermiston. Groundbreaking is planned to begin in October. Those legislators (led by Betsy Johnson) were looking at possibly more state funding – not a commitment, but they are looking at ways to help move forward. And regarding cooperative agreement, Walla Walla County is working closely with Umatilla County at stateline – they were very enthusiastic about working in cooperation by agreement. Vice-Chair Murdock talked about the county fairs – Walla Walla and Umatilla. Each hosted the other; there is very good cooperation and positive relationship between the two fair boards. In addition, equipment is being shared for good benefit and cost-savings to each fair.

Return to item J., Umatilla Wasteshed’s Waste Reduction Goals. Susan McHenry approached the podium and introduced herself as Chair of the Umatilla County Solid Waste Advisory Committee. She provided copies of a letter regarding DEQ’s proposed legislative fee increase and changes to the Umatilla County Wasteshed Recovery Goals. She noted three meetings were held during the summer with DEQ to work out details and to make a proposal. She talked about the first proposal for increase and about revenue fluctuating with disposal amounts. At the 7/30/14 meeting, DEQ answered the question posed about where will the money go? DEQ stated they would increase their staff numbers – statewide. Ms. McHenry talked about specifics of the increased staff and their suggested duties and functions and about DEQ’s proposed projections for waste and % figures. Concern was expressed by Pendleton and Hermiston to the DEQ at a recent meeting. Recycling has been an issue for years in our area since we don’t have the equipment and she does not feel it should be mandated.

Ms. McHenry noted the Committee recommendation is to not reduce the recovery goal; they are satisfied with the goal of 20% is sufficient. DEQ’s fee increases are not supported by the local Committee, which amounts to about a 50% increase. The Committee requests that the Board of Commissioners oppose the proposed DEQ fee increase. Ms. McHenry went on to discuss tipping fees, whereby the legislature would not be required to approve; rather they would be presented for approval biennially to the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (which has no expertise in rate setting, and legislative accountability

for fees and expenditures is an inherent responsibility of a State agency such as DEQ). The BCC's recommendation today would also request a draft of the DEQ's proposed legislation when it is available.

Ms. McHenry noted great participation in the recent meetings – all franchise representatives as well as Mark Nystrom from AOC. She advised the letter to the Board of Commissioners includes a good representation by all involved. Commissioner Givens remarked about the DEQ fees, that they would not support in the field positions – fees would go to administrative positions. He also noted after attending the 7/30 meeting, the State didn't propose any tipping fee increase from outside the state. Discussion included waste coming from out of state and if those fees could be increased -- DEQ says it's an anti-trust violation to increase fees to out of state entities. What other sources are there other than tipping fees? They have not thought about that yet – it is part of the 2050 plan. DO noted it is interstate commerce. This is a federal Constitution issue. Other ideas were discussed regarding sources for funding by taxing, possibly. Ms. McHenry also talked about household hazardous waste/ it is very expensive; she noted in our area it is not illegal to put hazardous waste in household garbage (lightbulbs, spray cans – everything but liquids).

Ms. Miller noted the local representative from DEQ recently retired and that position is now based in Bend. This is difficult to work with and hand-in-hand cooperation has decreased with this change over the last 6 months. The Board talked about lack of representation in Eastern Oregon – the state feels Bend is Eastern Oregon, which it is not. Commissioner Givens talked about the legislative process and coming up with ways to fund positions that would not impact the county's general fund.

In regard to Order No. BCC 2014-063 and based on the recommendation presented by Ms. McHenry on behalf of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Commissioner Givens moved to approve. Seconded by Vice-Chair Murdock. Carried 2-0. The Commissioners thanked Ms. McHenry and Ms. Miller for their presentations. Also thank you to Ms. McHenry for serving on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee.

There was no further business.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary

Umatilla County Board of Commissioners