

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Meeting of March 18, 2015  
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse  
Pendleton, Oregon

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**Commissioners Present:** Chair George Murdock; Vice-Chair Larry Givens; and Commissioner Bill Elfering

**County Counsel:** Doug Olsen

**Members and Guests Present:** Bob Heffner, Budget Officer; Mark Morgan, City of Hermiston Assistant City Manager; Suni Danforth, Milton-Freewater; Verl Pressnall, East End Rod & Gun Club President; Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director.

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair George Murdock welcomed all and reminded those present that the meeting was a public forum. It is being recorded and minutes will be taken. If persons wish to speak before the BCC, identify yourself and state where you live for the record.

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

**Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence**

Chair Murdock read commendations: (1) Thank you to Neighborhood watch from County citizens. (2) Thank you to Sheriff Rowan from Dwight Johnson for support and recommendation letters in his selection for Pendleton's First Male Citizen of the year. (3) Thank you to Sheriff's Office from Delbert Kennedy. Candace was very helpful in renewing his Concealed Handgun License and kudos to her and to the UCSO.

**Minutes.** None at this time.

**Additions to Agenda.** None at this time.

**Public Input/Recognition of Visitors.** Chair Murdock asked for any general comments to the Commissioners other than presentation scheduled as an agenda item. None at this time.

**Agenda**

1. **Hermiston Enterprise Zone.** Mark Morgan, Hermiston's Assistant City Manager, presented. The City of Hermiston is requesting renewal of the zone. It is a property tax abatement tool authorized by the State. The law has a 10-year sunset, ending 7/1/15. Several companies have used the Enterprise Zone in last 10 years, for example, DuPont Pioneer Seed and Shears Foods. They comprise about \$7 million of new annual payroll in the Hermiston area. The renewal must be submitted by April 10 and, to go with application, Hermiston requests the Board of Commissioners approve/support the Zone renewal. Mr. Morgan advised there are only 4 open

positions for renewing Enterprise Zones, however, there are new zones. This is a competitive process and he felt the application is strong and hopes it will be approved. Commissioner Elfering asked Mr. Morgan to clarify about total dollar amounts. He responded that DuPont has used the tax abatement for three years; it will be back on tax rolls. Shears was able to take advantage of the zone with Hermiston extending limits to them. They created about 270 direct jobs at this time last year. Current reports are forthcoming and the City will see if more jobs are added. Mr. Morgan felt that number will be more than 270. **Commissioner Givens moved to renew Hermiston's Enterprise Zone, adopting Order No. BCC2015-028. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

2. Supplemental Budgets. Bob Heffner made the staff report. Budget Order 2015-48 is for the Courthouse Security Fund. An increase of \$30,660 is required in Personnel Services appropriations due to increased activity. The increase is supported by an increase in resource transfers from the General Fund. Budget Order 2015-49 is for the Corrections Assessment Fund, transfers to Jail, Human Services (A&D) and Community Corrections. Chair Murdock opened the public hearing at 9:30 a.m. He asked for questions or comments. As none were heard and there were no comments from the public, he closed the Public Hearing at 9:35 a.m. **In the Matter of a Resolution Adopting a Supplemental Budget per ORS 294.473 for fiscal year ending 6/30/15, Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Budget Order 2015-48. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. In the Matter of a Resolution Adopting a Supplemental Budget per ORS 294.471 for fiscal year ending 6/30/15, Commissioner Givens moved to adopt Budget Order 2015-49. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

Transfer of Appropriations. Mr. Heffner made the staff report. Budget Order 2015-50 (General Fund – General County) requires a \$30,660 increase in Transfer Out appropriations to support the increased support to Courthouse Security; support for the increase would be provided by transfer of appropriations from General Fund Contingency. Budget Order 2015-51 (General Fund – Computer Information Services) requires a \$3,000 increase in Materials & Services appropriations to remain within authorized expenditures at year-end; support is provided by a transfer of appropriations from the General Fund Contingency. Budget Order 2015-52 (General Fund – General County) requires a \$56,858 increase in Materials & Services appropriations to remain within authorized expenditures at year-end; support is provided by a transfer of appropriations from the General Fund Contingency. **In the Matter of a Resolution Making a Transfer of Appropriations per ORS 294.463 for fiscal year ending 6/30/15, Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Budget Order 2015-50. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. In the Matter of a Resolution Making a Transfer of Appropriations per ORS 294.463 for fiscal year ending 6/30/15, Commissioner Givens moved to adopt Budget Order 2015-51. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0. In the Matter of a Resolution Making a Transfer of Appropriations per ORS 294.463 for fiscal year ending 6/30/15, Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Budget Order 2015-52. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

3. B2H (Boardman to Hemingway) Project Comments. Public comments are due tomorrow. Chair Murdock noted the formal comments by the Board are ready to submit to the BLM. A Board order is also included. In addition, pictures and other information reflected by the public comments at 2/17/15 joint meeting of the Board of Commissioners and landowners and comments from the Planning Commission as well as from J. R. Cook (NOWA) and Attorney

Wendie Kellington – all are to be incorporated in the public comments. Commissioner Givens said he felt it is a strong message. Chair Murdock advised the fundamental message at the outset says the County does not want the transmission line. But, if it is sited, the majority of Umatilla County wants the line to go along the existing corridor of I-84. He felt there were very helpful comments and strong message. In addition to the photos, Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director, suggested a map should also be attached. The County will submit comments and all materials by email today and follow by sending a hard copy – overnight to meet the deadline. **Commissioner Givens, In the Matter of Formal Comment on Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project (B2H), moved to adopt Order No. BCC2015-029. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

4. EOBS (Eastern Oregon Business Source) Payable. This is regarding Susan Bower's contract with the County. Chair Murdock noted exemplary work by Ms. Bower. More and more she is working as an ombudsman role in all departments. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve \$6,667 payable to Eastern Oregon Business Source (for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
5. Authorize WWVMPO Payable. Commissioner Givens noted this payment of \$5,500 is one-time for all entities that belong to the WWVMPO (Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization). The bill is to bolster finances; there is other funding. Commissioner Elfering asked about MPO facilitating federal funds through that district. Commissioner Givens advised Umatilla County must be a member of MPO and there is a cost. Discussion included if the County would have been able to spend funds to directly benefit? Commissioner Givens talked about matching and other involved entities. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the payable to WWVMPO in the amount of \$5,500. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
6. LUBA Decision. Doug Olsen reported. The East End Rod & Gun Club appealed to LUBA and LUBA has issued its decision. The first component is that the facility was lawfully granted by the County. This portion of the County decision was affirmed and that it is a legal facility. However, the gun club asked to expand the facility and LUBA had problems with that portion of the application. The County did not have an allowable use for expansion in that area. LUBA denied that portion. The part before the Board is to implement the decision and to formally find the application by EER&GC be denied for expansion, but that the existing facility is lawful. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2015-026. Commissioner Givens seconded. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Initiating Legislative Action. Mr. Olsen reported this is second part of the gun club item. Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director, requested Board direction to move forward to amend the County's Development Code so that standards are in place (siting standards are required by LUBA in order to permit expansion). **Commissioner Givens moved to approve Initiating Amendments to the Umatilla County Development Code to allow for the expansion of Firearm Training Facilities. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Ms. Mabbott noted that the amendment would be before the Planning Commission for a hearing on April 23 with its recommendation forwarded to the Board for adoption on April 28. Mr. Olsen noted it will be a public hearing. It will include an emergency clause to allow the Code to be effective immediately upon signing/approval. Mrs. Mabbott advised an appeal is possible. For the record, she noted

the Board supported Senate Bill 86, which allows firearms training facilities as conditional use as opposed to current law about those facilities. Commissioner Givens asked if there is anticipation of an audience and any in opposition. Ms. Mabbott advised only a notice in the newspaper is required and that has been done. She is working closely with Doug Olsen and Michael Robinson, attorney for the East End Rod & Gun Club.

8. Accepting BOPTA Actions. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve actions by the Board of Property Tax appeals and to adopt Order No. BCC2015-027. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Commissioner Givens advised he would like the Commissioners to send a letter of appreciation to A&T staff for their exemplary job regarding BOPTA. Commissioner Elfering also suggested thank you letters could be sent to other Board participants as well. **Commissioner Givens moved to formally commend A&T staff regarding their work with property owners in resolving tax appeals. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
9. Boiler Repair. Commissioner Elfering noted this is for the jail. There was an issue with paying the repair bill for services on the boiler. The upshot was the billing was questioned and a small credit was given. For future work, Richard Doherty has found someone who can do the work at a lower cost. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve payment of the \$5,976.80 bill to Cole Industrial, Inc. Commissioner Givens seconded. Carried, 3-0.**
10. Inmate Medical Expense. Mr. Olsen reported. The County is responsible for the bill when an inmate needed medical treatment with outside medical providers. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve/authorize payment of the \$8,197 bill to St. Anthony Hospital for the medical expense. Commissioner Elfering seconded. Carried, 3-0.**
11. Vehicle Repair. Mr. Olsen advised this bill is also from jail. An County vehicle hit a deer and repair was required in amount of \$5,981. Commissioner Elfering asked if bids were requested for the repair. Mr. Olsen was unsure. Commissioner Elfering asked that in the future more than one bid should be obtained. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve/authorize payment of the repair for \$5,981.50 to Pendleton Auto Body. Commissioner Givens seconded.** Chair Murdock suggested the Board's desire is to have at least 2 bids. Discussion continued about the bid process and two vehicles with similar damage. **Carried, 3-0.**
12. April Board of Commissioners' Schedule. Chair Murdock noted the busy Board schedule (including the upcoming Budget Hearings 4/22-24). In that regard, he wanted to communicate to the Senior Managers they will have one meeting in April, on the 29th, rather than two meetings in the month as in the past.

#### Commissioner Reports

1. Commissioner Elfering noted a front page EO article about the Columbia Development Authority. There was discussion about recruiting a director to replace Don Chance who will retire within two months. This is regarding the depot property. He said there is a difference of opinion about a full-time director or otherwise (Port of Morrow disagrees about a full-time position); the Port of Morrow feels 7 years is long enough to handle business and a full-time permanent position is no longer needed. It is in the hands of BRAC including issues of water

rights. There is a lot of activity there. The land transfer is imminent, he believes. Agreements have been made but there are loose ends to tie up.

2. Commissioner Givens talked about the joint Board meeting yesterday with the West County Mosquito Control District Board in Hermiston. The district is well managed and the budget is leaner. They are only using 4 cents of 9 cents of their tax levy. The group talked a bit about mosquito issues on ponds on the east side. Commissioner Givens noted a call from a constituent in the M-F area. Possibilities of a contract were discussed -- if it is a big problem. The West County District felt the Milton-Freewater area should set up their own district along the river; mosquitos can be a problem there. In addition, the Health Department works closely with the Mosquito Control District. Commissioner Elfering agreed. The people involved are diligent and committed.

Senate Bill 873. Commissioner Givens recently visited with Senator Hansell about it. There will be a lot of pushback from cooperatives and power companies and individual rate payers. Commissioner Givens will be traveling to Salem the coming week. On Sunday afternoon, he will attend the AOC Executive Committee. On Monday, he will attend a LOAC meeting. He will stay in Salem Wednesday (his granddaughter will be named a Senate Page).

MPO. Commissioner Givens will attend meetings tomorrow and Friday for interviews of applicants for the director position. Both are from Texas.

3. Chair Murdock will travel to Hermiston for a constituent meeting in the afternoon.

On Friday at 8 a.m., he will attend a meeting with new Governor Kate Brown at a Pendleton location.

Chair Murdock will travel to La Grande tomorrow afternoon for a meeting of the Local Workforce Investment Board. Two nominees are to go on the Board – Bob Barnes and Mark Mascall. Cam Preus from BMCC is also a member of that Board. He felt Umatilla County will be well represented.

There was no further business.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melinda Slatt*

Executive Secretary  
Umatilla County Board of Commissioners