

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administrative Meeting of June 11, 2015
9:00 a.m., Room 121, 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: Doug Beamer and Marty Ward, NAIFA-Blue Mountain, Insurance Committee; Robert Pahl, CFO; Marie Jones, Finance Department; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources; Phil Wright, EO; Sally Sundin, MAMA, Author.

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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 is a public forum. It is being recorded and minutes will be taken. If persons wish to speak before the BCC, please identify yourself and state where you live for the record.

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence. None.

Acknowledgment of Previous Meeting(s) Minutes. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the minutes of 3/4/15, 3/11/15, 3/17/15, 3/18/15, 4/1/15, and 4/28/15. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

Additions to the Agenda: None. However, Chair Murdock adjusted the agenda to move the Insurance Renewal presentation before public input.

1. Insurance Renewal Presentation. Marty Ward and Doug Beamer, agents of record through NAIFA, presented. The insurance committee met early in the year with Lifewise representatives and there will only be a slight increase. Last year, vision benefit was added at no additional cost and the dental benefit was increased. Medical is scheduled to go up 2.3%, pharmacy benefit is going down almost 11%, and Dental is going up 4.2%. When all combined, the total renewal is .26% increase -- a miniscule change. Rather than the County going out to bid, it appeared with the small increase to go ahead with the insurance renewal.

Commissioner Elfering asked Mr. Beamer if he was surprised with such a small amount of increase. He responded that not a lot of dollars were spent in the group last year. This year things are going in the right direction. Commissioner Givens asked about the pharmacy portion. Marty Ward said it appears employees seem to be using generic prescriptions, which has caused

the pharmacy dollar amount to go down. In addition, Mr. Beamer felt some of the demographics of the group have changed. In comparison with other similar groups, Umatilla County has great medical benefits.

Jennifer Blake advised after meeting with representatives from the bargaining units, they voted to go with the existing coverage from Lifewise. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve renewing the County's medical insurance and dental insurance with Lifewise. Commissioner Givens seconded.** Chair Murdock advised he, Ms. Blake, Mr. Olsen, and Mr. Pahl met the previous day with Mr. Beamer and Ms. Ward to go over insurance before the Administrative meeting. **Motion carried, 3-0.**

Public Input/Recognition of Visitors. Sally Sundin, Pendleton, advised she is continuing to research in the community about opiate addiction after attending a recent Board of Commissioners' meeting. She suggested when out and about, the Commissioners could talk to ambulance drivers about addictions and what they see from a medical perspective. She said in this area, she has found one group is making progress – that is Yellow Hawk Clinic. She advised she has met with many medical providers in the community in hopes of sharing education on the topic of opiate addiction. She also talked about Suboxone, family responsibility if there is an addict in a family, rural areas compared to cities, barriers, and ties between domestic violence and addictions. She commended Senator Bill Hansell for his efforts on behalf of Umatilla County and the area. Discussion included drug activity on the levy and on the Bedford Bridge adjacent to the High School, the City of Pendleton and Pendleton School District addressing drug problems, ties between drug activity, fights, drug dealers and consequences to whole families as “payment” or “pay-back”. Chair Murdock advised after Ms. Sundin's last visit, he believed the Pendleton School District is working on closing the high school campus to keep kids at school and away from being approached by drug dealers on school time. She encouraged the County to keep working on the drug problems in the community to help come up with a resolution.

Presentations: None.

Business Items - Continued

2. New Position Reclassification – Finance Department. Robert Pahl, CFO, presented. He proposes and has budgeted for a new full-time position for Finance. In evaluating the current half-time position, he feels it should be reclassified to a Range 16 based on the job duties and work tasks. Commissioner Givens noted cross-training is important. Chair Murdock also pointed out this is part of the reorganization of Budget and Finance. **Chair Murdock moved to approve the new position in Finance Department of Accounting Assistant IV, Range 16, and reclassification of Accounts Payable Specialist to Accounting Assistant IV effective 7/1/15. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

3. Position Reclassification – Public Health. Doug Olsen advised that Ms. DeBolt could not be present today. Chair Murdock presented. Public Health is being restructured (as noted previously). The Clinic Services Program Manager and the Maternal Child Health Program Manager are proposed to be increased from Range 30 to Range 33. Sharon Waldren would fill one of the positions and the position for Maternal Child Health is open, but that position will be

filled shortly. **Chair Murdock moved to approve reclassification of Clinic Services Program Manager and Maternal Child Health Program Manager positions at Range 33. Motion carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock noted in recent newspaper articles that School Based Health programs have been agreed to by Hermiston, Umatilla and Milton-Freewater. Commissioner Givens added it would be the first for Milton-Freewater. Chair Murdock advised that Hermiston is moving forward – a clinic space has been determined. Commissioner Elfering mentioned a retirement in Hermiston so SBH will dovetail nicely there.

4. Eurus Grant. Commissioner Givens advised Eurus grant funds in the amount of \$45,000 are to go toward the construction of the Milton-Freewater county facility. **Commissioner Givens moved for approval and adoption of Order No. BCC2015-052. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Commissioner Givens advised he recently met with Representative Greg Smith who is working to try to get some funding from the State for the Milton-Freewater facility. He was optimistic about approval and should know by the end of June or first part of July if successful.

5. Equipment Purchase. Mr. Olsen presented on behalf of Public Health (in Department meetings). Approval is sought for purchase of equipment that exceeds \$5,000 -- three immunization refrigerator/freezer sets for supplies at School Based Health centers. The total amount is \$8,478 (including delivery charges). **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve purchase of the refrigerator/freezer sets from Panasonic Healthcare Corporation for \$8,478. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock advised that part of the grant funds received from Wildhorse Foundation will be used for SBHC.

6. Position Reclassification – HR Assistant Director. Mr. Olsen presented. The Human Resources Assistant Director is requested for reclassification to HR Director effective 7/1/15. Chair Murdock advised Jennifer Blake has been working at the program manager level for the past year. She, Susan Bower and Chair Murdock have been working on continual professional growth. Ms. Blake has worked with Ms. Bower on a weekly basis to remove as much as possible the HR tasks from Mr. Olsen's office wherein Ms. Blake is ready to take over leadership of the HR Department. She has complied with all steps of program development and met benchmarks. He is absolutely delighted and wants the County to recognize that. Mr. Olsen agreed. The job description is proposed to be updated and the position as reclassified would be moved up to a Range 33. Funds have been budgeted for some of the cost with the impact on the budget for next year of \$5,447. Chair Murdock added that Ms. Blake has been tested in HR and more is coming, but she has handled all very well. **He moved to authorize for reclassification of Human Resources Director effective 7/1/15. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

7. Community Justice Structure. Chair Murdock presented. There is a proposal that someone from Community Justice could take over the development, delivery and quality control as well as scheduling for Human Services, and that person would be assisted by someone with the certification who actually provide direct supervision. There have been many meetings and Community Justice is now considering if they want to move forward with this action. Chair Murdock noted that issues in the Human Services Department are being addressed. The major

focus is to restore integrity to the program and to do what is needed for the future. Once the details of the proposal are ready, it will be brought to the Board for consideration and action.

There was no Executive Session.

Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Elfering: His wife had knee surgery earlier in the week and she is doing well.

Significant meetings were held with the Sheriff's Office in the last week. The public meeting regarding Dispatch (on 6/4/15) was good way to open communication with community partners. Several things came out of the initial meeting: there is a fiber problem with communications between cities and the County – Hermiston in particular. He will be working closely with Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director, about what needs to be done and to get it done. There will be an advisory committee formed for Dispatch. Nominations will be brought to the Board. There needs to be ongoing communication moving forward. Funding of Dispatch by participants is in need of equalizing and to be consistent; funding needs to be resolved and there is a committee to be formed to focus on that issue. In addition, area fire departments need to be brought into the communications loop moving forward.

Commissioner Givens: Regarding EOTEC, a lot of the infrastructure is in. The Event Center will be a 27,000 sq. ft. facility. Regarding Ott Road and Airport Road, hopefully there will be funding authorized by the legislature, but that is unknown at this time.

He was part of a conference call with NACO about WOTUS (Waters Of The US). The EPA and Corps of Engineers put out final rules which are very subjective and very vague. They say "indirect or direct" nexus to a navigable tributary or navigable body of water. Thus, EPA and the Corps will determine if they have jurisdiction on a case by case basis over whatever the body of water is. The only thing they won't have control over are puddles in drought areas (if they are not near tributaries). Even ditches are under EPA and Corps jurisdiction. He talked about tributaries, high water marks and definitions to be considered have changed. The worst counties hit are northern counties in mid-west states, southeast coast, gulf coasts, California and all of Oregon. Washington is not in that group. There will be more conference calls and a big discussion at the NACo Annual Conference in July. A bill has been passed in the House that takes funding away from the EPA and the Corps. But the President may veto it. This will be an ongoing issue.

At NACO there will be an organizational meeting on July 10 for the Oregon delegation to better organize and come together for consistency in order to be more effective. He expressed the importance of commitment when serving on AOC committees -- people must be involved if they are committed.

DOGAMI. The DAS is asking the legislative finance office to put forth a Bill for \$800,000 to finish out and balance the DOGAMI budget by the end of June. There is now support from

the legislature to get that done. The biggest help to DOGAMI has been Senator Betsy Johnson who has been very supportive to get things balanced.

He received a phone call from Senator Hansell advising him the “license bill” had passed (counties are allowed to have regular license plates as opposed to E-plates). The Governor is to sign the bill to go into effect shortly. Many counties and the legislature supported this bill.

Chair Murdock advised the Transportation Bill came up at the AOC legislative board meeting on Monday – they are submitting letter to the legislature indicating they want a bill passed this time. He refused to sign the letter and encouraged his colleagues to do the same. He did not want to be in position for the legislature to compromise at any costs. Discussion continued about the desire to support our legislators.

The budget hearing will be held 6/17 and there will be a lot of transfers and supplemental budgets to take action by fiscal year end.

Commissioner Elfering advised he is still on jury duty through 6/30. He has not been called yet.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Submitted by,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary,
Board of Commissioners