

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administrative Meeting of June 25, 2015
9:00 a.m., Room 121, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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Commissioners Present: Vice-Chair Larry Givens and Commissioner Bill Elfering

Absent: Chair George Murdock

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: None.

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Vice-Chair Larry Givens 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, please identify yourself and state where you live for the record.

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence. Deferred to July 1st Board meeting.

Acknowledgment of minutes. None at this time.

Additions to Agenda. None.

1. **Create Position – Sheriff’s Office.** Doug Olsen reported. As part of the Budget Committee hearings, funds were allocated for an additional position to assist with court security. The proposal is to add a corrections officer at the jail to free up other existing staff to help with court security. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve a new Corrections Officer I position effective 7/1/15. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

2. **Salary for Exempt Positions– FY2015-16.** Mr. Olsen reported. This is for exempt employees/admin/elected officials for next fiscal year. The compensation for the Board and other elected officials is approved as part of the Budget Committee recommendation. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve cost of living adjustments for all exempt/admin positions for FY2015-16 of 3% effective 7/1/15. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 2-0. For the record, the Board officially recognized adjustments to elected official salaries of 3% for the Sheriff, District Attorney and three Commissioners, and also one-time parity raise of 7.5% for three Commissioners as approved by the Budget Committee.**

3. Burn Ban. Commissioner Givens noted this is to officially put a temporary burn ban in place due to weather conditions and lack of moisture (it was done at nearly the same time as last year). He asked Mr. Olsen about fees established for violations – are they governed by statute? Mr. Olsen responded it is set by statute and also set by ordinances – the violation fee is \$500. Commissioner Givens commented that he felt some individuals just want to burn and they will simply do so and pay the violation fee. Mr. Olsen advised there may be additional penalties for abusers of the system. Commissioner Givens wanted to see the County get stricter on enforcement and penalty amounts as allowed by law. He commented on the court enforcement side that people should be cited to the fullest extent of the law. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC 2015-054 to implement the temporary burn ban. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

4. City of Pendleton Grant and City of Pilot Rock Grant. Commissioner Elfering advised this is a two-part grant. The two Cities are making a joint application to develop shovel ready properties. They need some surveys done in order to assist with the project grants. \$3,552 is requested for Pilot Rock for an environmental site assessment and the City of Pendleton’s request is for assistance with a survey in the amount of \$7,000. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the grant requests for both Pendleton and Pilot Rock as outlined. Commissioner Givens seconded. Carried, 2-0.** Discussion: Commissioner Elfering noted the request of \$1,000 as contingency was denied.

5. Appointments to Local Community Advisory Council. Mr. Olsen advised the parties listed (Nora Kramer, Jenna Lorenzen, Joseph Scarpelli, Taylor Smith and Heidi Zeigler) have been attending meetings of the council and formal appointment is requested. Commissioner Elfering felt the committees have been effective. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-055 to appoint those as listed in the order to the LCAC to the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (EOCCO). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

6. On-Call Employment. Commissioner Elfering advised this is for Community Corrections. Mr. Olsen added this relates in particular to the A&D program for a waiver of the individual’s criminal background. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve employment of on call employee and waive the criminal history. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Elfering: He visited ConAgra the day before with the Plant Manager, Neal Flyg, Dave Nevin, Energy & Environmental Manager, and Dave Cooper, Manager Plant Human Resources. They expressed concern about Westland Road including difficulties with the structure of the road at the curve – it turns at Walker Road (South end of Westland Road). During the winter that road is slick and hauling trucks are having difficulty negotiating it. (This was discussed recently at the BCC work session about Westland Road). He said many of the about 400 employees have signed a petition to request: 1) providing lighting at that

intersection, and 2) that the road be marked warning about the corner. ConAgra is willing to participate financially in the costs. Next he will meet with Tom Fellows to discuss options and move forward. Other businesses down the road might be interested in participating (including Fed Ex, Petro and Dallas Brothers). Discussion continued about steam and frost issues in colder months – grooving the pavement would help. Commissioner Elfering toured the plant. They need a constant steam supply for processing. The facility produces a lot of steam, but they also get some from other sources to make up the total 100% needed.

Also yesterday, Commissioner Elfering had planned to meet with Capt. Stewart Harp about mental health issues at the jail. Since he was not there, he met with Sheriff Rowan and Lt. Kathy Lieuallen. There is a suggested plan to have a chaplain speak to people. Mr. Olsen and Commissioner Givens talked about need to have separation of state and church. Commissioner Elfering advised it is a volunteer situation on the Chaplain's part. He also talked with Sheriff Rowan about Dispatch and got an update of where things are going. He wants to look at the IGAs the County has with Pendleton and Hermiston regarding technical advisors. He wants to know what is the commitment. Commissioner Elfering plans to meet with the small communities of Umatilla, Stanfield, Echo, and Pilot Rock. Things have changed in the last few years and the sources of revenue have diminished over that time. He also talked about use of cell phones rather than land lines and payment of fees to 911 have decreased as a result.

Commissioner Givens: He met recently with US Forest Service representatives regarding the Blue Mountain Forest Plan. They are setting up small regional meetings to look at complaints. One thing is travel. Another is fire issues – a severe fire event is very possible because of drought and heat conditions. He asked Mr. Olsen to look at prior agreements (regarding mutual aid) and the need to update agreements with the Forest Service and others. Mr. Olsen advised there is an agreement between the UCSO and Forest Service, but not with the County. Commissioner Givens desired to have an agreement with Umatilla Forest regarding law enforcement, dozer equipment capability, and roads. Mr. Olsen advised the Sheriff's Office already has this agreement. Commissioner Givens also suggested including water tenders. He would like to see an agreement for emergency purposes, not for just day to day needs.

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An Executive Session was called at 9:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair Givens per ORS 192.660 (2)(a,b,h) – Employment. Separate minutes were taken.

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Vice-Chair Givens called the Administrative meeting back to order at 9:44 a.m .

Other:

Commissioner Elfering advised he spoke briefly that morning with Paul Chalmers, A&T Director, about citizens dropping off tax payments during the tax season and having issues with access to the building. He said it is an issue of inconvenience – having to park and go inside, it is especially difficult for those having to park where the ramp is located at the south end of the building and A&T at the north end. Mr. Chalmers will bring this to the next staff meeting for more discussion.

Vice-Chair Givens advised that he and Chair Murdock will be going to North Carolina for the NACO conference July 10 – 13. Discussion continued about the Board meeting that week and quorums, about flight connections and the Board schedule for the first three weeks in July.

Vice-Chair Givens (as liaison Commissioner to Public Works/Road Department) advised he has been viewing County roads earlier in the week and will plan to go over more in the next couple of weeks as his schedule allows.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Submitted by:

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary, Board of Commissioners