

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administrative Meeting of April 27, 2016
10:30 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: Phil Wright, East Oregonian; Dale Primmer, Community Justice Director; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director; Robert Pahl, Chief Financial Officer; Paul Chalmers, Assessment & Taxation Director; Undersheriff Jim Littlefield

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. Chair George Murdock welcomed all.

Pledge of Allegiance. Led by Commissioner Givens.

Chair Murdock reminded those present that the meeting is a public forum. It is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Comments will become part of the meeting record. If persons wish to speak before the Board, please come to the podium, identify yourself and state where you live for the record.

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence. None.

Acknowledgment of Minutes of Previous Meeting. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the minutes of the 3/28/16 Land Use Hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.

Additions to Agenda. None.

Public Comments. None.

Agenda – Business Items

1. **Contract Ratification.** Doug Olsen presented. This is the UCLEA Collective Bargaining Agreement (contract) for July 1, 2016- June 30, 2020. Negotiations have been ongoing for some time. Mr. Olsen summarized the changes from the previous contract. The contract is ready for ratification. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering.** Chair Murdock applauded the negotiation team of Doug Olsen, Robert Pahl, Jennifer Blake, Dale Primmer and Jim Littlefield. The process went pretty smoothly with the hard work of the parties. **Carried, 3-0.**

2. Umatilla Electric Easements. Mr. Olsen presented. Umatilla Electric Cooperative is requesting to formalize the utility easements it may already generally have on two pieces of property in Hermiston (one on Joy Lane and the other on Bensel/Lind Roads – the latter would be subject to a lease). **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

3. Forest Service Memorandum of Understanding. Commissioner Givens presented. This is between the County, USDA, Forest Service, Wallowa-Whitman, Malheur and Umatilla National Forest as part of the Blue Mountain Forest Plan Revision process. All but one county is supportive of the MOU. Mr. Olsen added this is basically to allow the county to have a voice in the process. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

4. Sale of Property. Mr. Olsen reported. This is to authorize sale of property foreclosed on for delinquent taxes (in Hermiston). A \$6,000 bid was made by Zinters and the County counter-offered at \$8,000, which the Zinters accepted. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-37 to move forward with the sale. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

5. Request to Set Hearing for Redemption Acceleration. Mr. Olsen reported. This is regarding foreclosure on Sunridge Estates in Pendleton (21 vacant unimproved lots). City of Pendleton local improvement liens are accruing interest so the County is trying to lessen the debt to allow equity and then go for sale. By law there is a 2-year redemption period, which is to expire in 2017. State statute allows the County to reduce the redemption period to 30 days. A formal hearing is required to consider redemption period and to reduce to 30 days versus 2 years. The action for the Board today is just to set a hearing date. Discussion included average dollar amounts, LID's adds up to quite a bit more. Paul Chalmers, Assessment & Taxation Director, noted part of the motivation is about value of properties; the tax liabilities for all are about \$151,000. Up to now sale proceeds have been sufficient to pay the indebtedness on the lot, including LID, but with the accruing interest, this will be changing. In conversation with City Attorney Nancy Kerns it is felt better to reduce to 30 days for best value. Mr. Olsen added one example is a lot that originally was \$50,000 now with interest is up to \$57,000 in debt. Margins between the sale price and the city lien is hoped to be reduced. **Commissioner Elfering moved to set June 1, 2016, 9:30 a.m. for Board hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

6. Additional Property to Auction. Mr. Olsen reported. This is one lot in Milton-Freewater, acquired in 2014 for delinquent property taxes to see if it could be used by the county. The property continues to deteriorate and it is felt best to add it to the list of properties to be sold at auction. It could then be offered for private sale if not sold at the auction. **Commissioner Givens moved to add to the list by adopting Order No. TX2016-02. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

7. Create Position Health & Human Services. Dale Primmer, Community Justice Director, noted the Board previously approved reorganization of the Health & Human Services Department. The position has been discussed at budget hearing and the budget is available. 80% of the cost would be from A&D and 20% would come out of Veterans and I/DD. One FTE is \$120,000 planned for

FY2017. Chair Murdock noted an additional piece is this is this position will oversee the mental health contract. In response to Commissioner Givens question about the recruitment process, Mr. Primmer advised upon approval, recruiting will start right away. They will try to have the person start by 7/1/16, which is a narrow timeline. He feels it would be about two plus months for the process. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve hiring a Human Services Deputy Director with effective date of no later than 7/1/16. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

8. Elections Payable. Mr. Olsen reported. This is for ballots for the primary election. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the payable to Ryder Elections Services in the amount of \$14,502.35. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering.**
9. Radio District Payable. Mr. Olsen reported. This is for a dispatch recorder in the amount of \$19,121.75 -- a portion of the total purchase price (the City of Pendleton will pay a similar amount). This is in the Dispatch Reserve budget and will need to clear the account by 6/30/16. Commissioner Elfering advised future purchases of equipment will be in the budget for dispatch where all participating parties will share. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the payable to Umatilla Morrow Radio & Data District in the amount of \$19,121.75. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
10. Appointments to Walla Walla Watershed Council. Mr. Olsen noted this action will make appointments to vacant positions on the Walla Walla Watershed Council, and also expand council membership. The current Bylaws do not limit the number of members. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2016-036 appointing Joelle M. Olsen, Molly A. Reid and Sean P. Roloff to the Council for the term 5/1/16 through 12/31/18. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

The next regular Board meeting is May 4, 2016.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Givens will be out this afternoon to Walla Walla. Thursday, he will attend the EOTEC open house (3 to 6 p.m.). Friday, he hopes to attend the regular EOTEC Board meeting at 8 a.m., but he may have Commissioner Elfering sit in since he has family medical issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt,

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners