

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of July 27, 2016
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Mark Moore, EUCHD; Rex Morehouse, Tea Party; Rob Burnside, CTUIR Fire Chief; EUCHD Board rep; Kim Weissenfluh, County DD Deputy Director; Sally Sundin, Advocate; Mark Mulvihill, IMESD Superintendent; Robert Pahl, County CFO; Monte Ludington, Deputy District Attorney; Gina Miller, Planning Department; Ray Denny, CTUIR Public Safety Director; Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director; Dan Primus, District Attorney; Jaclyn Jenkins, Chief Deputy District Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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. (1) Commissioner Givens read a letter from the Association of Oregon Counties -- thank you from all 36 Oregon counties for hosting the spring conference in June; it was a well-organized and quality event with a great Umatilla County welcome to all. It was also mentioned by National Association of Counties president, Sallie Clark, who expressed her appreciation for Umatilla County's hospitality. She was especially grateful for staff involvement. She said a highlight of her year was her visit to Oregon. (2) Chair Murdock read a thank you letter from Sallie Clark for the Umatilla County experience and for the Pendleton blanket. (3) Chair Murdock read a thank you letter from Bethany Van Cleave for the award of a Don Peterson Memorial scholarship (she received 1 of 2 scholarships given each year). (4) Commissioner Bill Elfering read a letter commendation from Knappa Fire District in Astoria of Sgt. Maj. Joshua Paulus (County Youth Services employee) as an Oregon Army National Guard Soldier for his emergency roadside assistance at a vehicle accident in June where he provided immediate assistance to victims of crash. He and other Soldiers were returning from a Cascadia Rising event at Camp Rilea.

Special recognition was made to Jaclyn Jenkins, Chief Deputy District Attorney, who received the Prosecutor of the Year Award for drug cases in Oregon at the annual meeting of the Oregon Narcotics Enforcement Association. District Attorney Dan Primus noted this award was received as result of nomination by officers who worked with Ms. Jenkins; it is a very high award and a remarkable achievement.

Minutes of Previous Meetings -- 6/15/16; 6/29/16; and 7/6/16. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve minutes of the Board meetings as noted. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

Public Comments. Chair Murdock asked for any input for other than what is on agenda. Sally Sundin posed a question to the Board about a new medication for opioid dependent addicts. Chair Murdock noted he will speak to the county health officer. She talked about last year – in previous minutes – it was noted a couple of doctors in Hermiston prescribed Soboxone, but she did not find one who prescribed this important medication for treatment for addicts. She talked about an article in the Walla Walla Union Bulletin “Endless Grief”. Addictions are tied to behavior, lawbreaking and abuse of others. She talked about a recent trip to Florida and horrible addictions and public-view deaths and lawbreaking. She shared a newspaper article. Her point is our county has a wonderful DAs office, but there is still need to address bad problems (addiction, STDs) to help police officers with handling addicts. She talked about implementation of an FDA rule that allows doctors to prescribe medication for treatment of addicts. She advised she is in the process of moving to Walla Walla from Oregon and suggested the County work with Walla Walla as it ties to drug activities in Umatilla County.

Commissioner Givens responded that County is working with NACo on major emphasis of opioid treatment across the nation. He noted the importance of attending those meetings to work together for lobbying efforts to work on drug/addiction issues as well as roads, transportation, land use, etc. He noted working hand in hand with Walla Walla County on many issues.

Ms. Sundin is still concerned about drug issues and an urgent need to handle it. Behavior from drugs puts people in jail – and causes other illegal actions (thefts, burglary). She commended Pendleton Police Department Chief and others for creative thinking in Umatilla County.

Chair Murdock also added that Amy Ashton-Williams is the new director of Public Health, effective 7/1. He agreed there is need to expand a panel of services and noted she is moving in that direction.

Rex Morehouse, 217 NW 9th, Pendleton. He appreciated the pledge of allegiance today. In talking with Ms. Sundin about a person needing help to get off drugs, he asked how that works. Chair Murdock advised people are referred from EO Alcohol Foundation – but it is limited regarding drug addiction. The Human Services Director is familiar with options, but many factors are involved and he suggested talking with her.

Presentations: Mark Mulvihill, Superintendent of IMESD, presented an award to Umatilla County as a significant partner. Recently, the Oregon Association of Education Service Districts made an Innovation Award. IMESD won two of the four awards presented. One is for a security initiative with the City of Pendleton (school security) and the other is Wellness Hubs in a wraparound effort for early learning through 12th grade. A signature program is CARE – a great resource program. He recognized Jenni Galloway, CARE Coordinator, who has defined the program for this region and is recognized throughout the state.

There are four wellness hubs in Umatilla County – CARE, oral health, mental health and nursing – coordination and development is through IMESD and UCo Health are significant leaders. These programs are getting into schools as a local initiative within eastern Oregon. Staffing in schools here is increasing and is making a great positive impact in a unique relationship with the County and IMESD in this region. The need is to get to kids early. He presented the Innovation Award for a great partnership in developing programs for kids.

Commissioner Givens commented the process at the County level has been long (Mr. Mulvihill noted the CARE Program began around 1998). Long-term work is so importance. In response to a question, Mr. Mulvihill noted hubs are: NE, Milton-Freewater, Helix and Athena. Central: Pendleton, Pilot Rock and Ukiah. Hermiston is its own hub. West End: Stanfield, Echo and Umatilla – all go by school districts, geographically covered. Resources are in schools. Chair Murdock noted school districts are very pleased with the program and have expressed appreciation for the collaboration of all -- contributions of all make it work.

Additions to Agenda. None

Business Items

1. Formation of New Health District. Chair Murdock called the hearing to order at 9:33 a.m. Doug Olsen provided an overview. This first hearing is to consider a new district that will include all of the service area under the County Ambulance ordinance. If it proceeds, there will be a second hearing and a potential election. Today includes discussion about boundaries of the new district and to receive public input. He noted, this proposed district does not include any part on the Reservation.

In favor, Mark Moore, 215 NE 33rd, Pendleton, noted the large driver is ambulance coverage – the only people paying are in Athena-Weston school/tax district @ 14 cents/thousand. They also cover Helix and near to Hermiston and up toward Tollgate, which area is not taxed. In order to be solvent, they need to expand the coverage area and taxing district. In 1988, the original taxing district as proposed was to cover the Athena-Weston boundaries. Over time, the Tribe has taken over some coverage, but the need is still to expand and to obtain a new tax base. Commissioner Givens asked about “no man’s land” (area not covered). Mr. Moore advised ambulance coverage is provided in all areas of the county, but there may be areas where no tax revenue is contributed.

Chair Murdock asked for others in favor.

Rob Burnside, 45947 Minthorn Lane, Pendleton, noted he recently met with Mr. Moore about redistricting. It makes sense for the CTUIR to cover the northern part of the Reservation. They work together to respond to calls. Currently, the northern boundary starts at the northwest corner and runs to Lieuallen Road and follows the river to the county line. On the east side, they go to county line. The Tribe is in support of taking over its part.

Gina Miller, representative of the Milton-Freewater Ambulance District # 4-471. They support the new district; they have a mutual aid agreement. It will be good to have taxing district match up with the ambulance district.

Chair Murdock asked for those in opposition? None were heard. He closed the hearing at 9:42 a.m. Mr. Olsen noted the second hearing must be held by 8/19. Therefore, the Board needs to hold a meeting on 8/17, but there is not a quorum at this time. Commissioner Elfering advised he will be at the 8/17 meeting. Chair Murdock is out and not available to call in. Suggestion was made to have a meeting on 8/16. Commissioner Givens asked if that date would work and he can attend. Mr. Olsen advised the Board Order includes the next hearing date. He will make the change. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2016-057. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Note: the Order will include the correct and agreed-to hearing date of 8/16/16.**

2. Special Transportation Fund 2016-17 Allocations. Robert Pahl, as representative of the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee, reported. Recommendation of projects was explained for a total of \$241,170. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the 2016-17 STF Allocations as recommended and to authorize contracting with entities for allocations. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
3. STF Committee Bylaws. Mr. Pahl advised the committee wants to change the Bylaws to allow additional committee members for broader representation, but still to maintain at least five members. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve by adopting and signing the Amended Bylaws of the**

Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.

4. STF Committee Appointments. Mr. Pahl advised with the amendment to Bylaws, committee appointments can be made, including Barbara Hawks, Rod Harwood, Cricket Nicholson and Kacey Warner. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-058. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
5. Reschedule Board Meetings. Mr. Olsen presented. The Board meetings for 8/17/16 and 11/16/16 need to be rescheduled due to lack of a quorum. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the meeting schedule (August-December 2016, except to change the 8/17 meeting to 8/16 vs. 8/24 and to confirm the 11/23/16 meeting date). Seconded by Chair Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
6. Fairgrounds Lease Extension. Mr. Olsen presented. The proposal is to extend the lease with Hermiston School District to 6/1/17. This will allow planned activities -- rodeos -- and the School District wants to continue as is. The County would still have control over the fairgrounds until 6/1/17. Commissioner Givens added the School District and City of Hermiston have agreed to step up with maintenance to help the County. The School District was concerned that the last two events (horse show and sale in October) and high school rodeo (1st week in May and collegiate rodeo last week in May) would be affected; they wanted to keep those events at the current fairgrounds location. For clarification, the lease would be extended from 1/1/17 to 6/1/17. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve extending the Fairgrounds Lease. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Solid Waste Franchise Renewal – Quality Compost. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve solid waste franchise annual renewal as recommended by the SWAC and adopt Order No. BCC2016-059. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
8. Create Peer Mentor Position – Human Services. Mr. Olsen presented. The new position will provide services to clients who are involved in drug court and outpatient treatment at Community Corrections. The program is grant funded for a limited duration. Chair Murdock noted this item was vetted by him at the 7/25 staff meeting with Marie (Jones) Simonis, Assistant Director Finance; appropriate funding and controls are in place. If not used, the funds may have to be returned. **Chair Murdock moved to approve by authorizing to create and advertise the new position. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
9. New Office Assistant 3 Position – Human Services. Mr. Olsen presented. This position will work in the A&D program providing outreach work from the County to enroll eligible people for services. It is a 1-year grant. Commissioner Elfering asked if there is a tally of employees paid for by grant-funded positions. Mr. Olsen advised perhaps Human Resources has that information -- he did not have a list, as such. It is understood grant-funded position terms are finite. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve to authorize to create and advertise for the new position. Seconded by Chair Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
10. Employee (Volunteer) Approval. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the volunteer in Community Corrections Division. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

11. Economic Development Grant. Commissioner Elfering presented. A \$10,000 grant request was received from the Umatilla County Historical Society for a wheat exhibit at Heritage Station, "Umatilla Gold, The History of Wheat in Umatilla County". **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the \$10,000 economic development grant. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
12. Vehicle Purchase – Public Health. Mr. Olsen presented. This is to authorize a Request For Proposals for a vehicle for Environmental Health/on-site septic program. 10/1/16 is the proposed date that the state is to give the on-site septic program back to the County. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve/authorize issuing an RFP for purchase of a vehicle as outlined. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
13. Vehicle Purchase – CDDP. Mr. Olsen presented. The Developmental Disabilities Program is still in need of dependable transportation. The request changed for two mid-sized cars @ a cost of \$45,000, to potentially include up to three compact vehicles. Chair Murdock noted over the last year or so, vehicle replacements have been a priority. This is a budgeted item, per Robert Pahl, CFO. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the CDDP be authorized to work with the County Road Department in soliciting bids on up to two mid-sized vehicles or three compact vehicles, for up to \$45,000. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

Discussion continued about Commissioner Elfering's car is in the vehicle replacement plan and it is up for replacement in the next year.

14. Property Bids. Chair Murdock noted bids were formally opened and reviewed by himself, Doug Olsen and Paul Chalmers to ascertain that bids met or exceeded prescribed minimums. Bids met the minimum requirements. Mr. Olsen went through each property auctioned on tax foreclosed property, and the bids received on each property. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-060 (Montchalin). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-061 (Edgerly). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-062 (Smith). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-063 (Smith). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-064 (Fifield). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-065 (Hunt). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-066 (Streamside). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.
Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2016-067(Amstad). Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.

Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Elfering will report later on his attendance at NACo conference, 7/22-25/16.

Commissioner Givens noted a highlight for him at NACo conference was the unified rejection of a proposal by the Utah Association and Commissioners in EELU (and Public Lands) to have NACo propose and lobby to have all federal lands returned to all states (not including national parks). It failed overwhelmingly.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt,

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners