

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of August 2, 2017
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Jeff Rost, Medic 400 Administrator; Mike Ciraulo, Pendleton Fire Department Chief; Tammy Sundin, County Community Corrections Office Manager; Undersheriff Jim Littlefield; Sheriff Terry Rowan; Jennifer Blake, County Human Resources Director; Paul Chalmers, County Assessment & Taxation Director; Thomas Roberts, County Emergency Manager; Tamra Mabbott, County Planning & Land Use Director; Bob Waldher, County Planning & Land Use Assistant Director

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair Larry Givens welcomed all.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Murdock.

Chair Givens 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/Correspondence/Recognition. Chair Givens noted the Board is supportive of 4H and FFA kids from the Milton-Freewater Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Usually, individual thank you cards are read in recognition at Board meetings. However, over the past few weeks just under 100 thank you cards have been received after the Milton-Freewater Junior Show. Parents, 4H and FFA leaders did a great job of encouraging appreciation for the County boosting prices for livestock sales. In addition to the individual cards, the Milton-Freewater Junior Show Board and Sale Committee sent a thank you and photo collage. The County also supports the Pendleton Livestock Show and the Fair where funds are provided to boost or “bump” the amounts the kids receive to equalize the sales. Oftentimes, they use money for school or future 4H or FFA animal projects.

Minutes of Previous Meeting None.

Additions to Agenda. A discussion on Fair roads was added, to follow the crusher purchase item.

Public input for those items other than on agenda Chair Givens advised this is the time for public input (for other than a scheduled item on the agenda) and also for recognition of visitors. None today.

Presentations. None.

Business Items:

1. **Ambulance Services Plan Update.** Doug Olsen noted this request is regarding the ASA 5 franchise holder. East Umatilla County Health District is requesting continuance of a waiver from 2013 for the new

district. For additional questions, Jeff Rost, acting administrator for EUCASD, is present. In 2013, the Oregon Health Authority required tracking of information to report back regarding less staffing, which would allow them to use a driver and a paramedic in the back for patient care. Action today is to modify the request in order to continue to use the reduced staffing model. They are a volunteer organization and it would allow continuance of service. One problem is they are not a fire suppression provider, which is separate from a medical provider. They are relying on RNs and Physician Assistant vs. EMTs. Drivers are trained, but the district needs a way to have professionals work in the back of the ambulance. The main purpose is to have a professional available for care during transport; the driver is not a medical provider. The request is needed because of the formation of the new district, to replace the old health district. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the request. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

2. Property Bids. Mr. Olsen presented. There are 10 properties available for sale. The Board had through the month of July to accept written bids. He advised two bidders did not specify what they were bidding on. He opened each bid and summarized:

A) Echo property -- a house on foreclosed property -- at auction Real Market Value was \$65,465. Dale & Jerry Fife bid \$15,700. Mitchell Montchellen bid \$10,101. RJB Investments bid \$15,000. Kathy Zintner bid \$11,000. Lloyd Piercy bid \$41,510. The high bid was from Piercy. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the bid by Piercy for Echo property in the amount of \$41,510. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

B) Property in City of Hermiston – a house located on E. Ridgway – minimum bid is \$13,895. Richard Walczyk bid \$17,777. RJB Investments bid \$37,000. Ostrom Living Trust bid \$14,401. Dave & Kathy Zinter bid \$15,000. Infinite Designs bid \$13,910. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the bid from RJB Investments, high bid of \$37,000. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

C) Hermiston area – near Baggett Lane – an unimproved lot – minimum bid is \$10,605. Kim Ostrom bid \$11,901. RJB Investments bid \$11,000. David and Kathy Zinter bid \$17,500. **Commissioner Murdock moved to accept the Zinter bid of \$17,500. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

D) A House in the City of Milton-Freewater -- \$11,750 is the minimum bid. Infinite Designs bid \$11,783. RJB Investments bid \$15,000. John Delong bid \$17,000. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the \$17,000 bid from John Delong. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

E) A house in Riverside, NE Anvidon in Pendleton. The value is \$44,000; minimum bid is \$6,600. David & Kathy Zinter bid \$10,001. RJB Investments bid \$10,000. Kim Ostrom bid \$7,001. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the bid from Zinter of \$10,001. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

F) A small parcel of vacated property off SE 17th. Pendleton. Minimum bid is \$237. Dennis P Doherty bid \$250. King bid \$240. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the \$250 bid from Doherty. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

G) N. Main lot in Pendleton. \$46,350 at auction, \$6,952 is the minimum. Zintner bid \$7,000. **Commissioner Murdock moved to accept the one bid of \$7,000 from Zinter. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

There was not a bid on one other lot on N. Main; it will be available for future sale.

H) In Reith, 15 acres on hillside north of the road. Bid of \$5,000 from Forth Ranches. Zinter bid \$4,000. \$3,610 bid from Piercy. \$3,500 from Delong. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the \$5,000 bid from Forth Ranches. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

D) In Ukiah, business formerly known as Granny's. The minimum bid is \$9,794. Carolyn Schock bid \$12,155. Picards bid \$10,000. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the \$12,155 bid from Schock. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

3. Linear Crusher Purchase. Tom Fellows, Public Works Director, presented. A request for proposal was approved at the 7/19/17 Board meeting. This is a rock crusher attachment to a loader. He received a quote from Vanway in the amount of \$369,229 plus extra tooling = \$409,781 (includes delivery). This is a very good price for this equipment. And, if approved by 8/15, there would be savings of about \$37,000. They build one unit at a time. The equipment should be received in 60-90 days (vs. waiting over a year). **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve purchase the purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
4. Fair Roads. Jim Littlefield, Undersheriff, reported a safety committee composed of representatives from the Fair Board, EOTEC Board, Emergency Manager, Public Works Director and the Sheriff's Office have met to discuss traffic and safety plans. The road is narrow and residences line it. They are looking to temporarily reduce the speed limit (to 25 mph) on East Airport Road to EOTEC designed to eliminate crashes or pedestrian/vehicle accidents. Basic rule can apply based on conditions/congestion. This being the first year, they do not know what traffic will be, especially at the end of events. There is a main entrance issue with vehicles exiting pulling too far out into the road meeting vehicles coming in.

Visibility exiting EOTEC to the east is blocked by trees and brush on the left. Tom Fellows, Public Works Director, noted his department has trimmed brush in the right-of-way, but there is an issue with a property owner. Mr. Olsen noted he could be liable if there is an accident attributed to poor visibility. Chair Givens noted conversations have been had with the property owner, but it may help to have the Sheriff's office talk to them pointing out the legalities. In a prior meeting, Commissioner Murdock thought the owner was amenable to trimming trees and brush.

Undersheriff Littlefield advised at the end of events, a new exit proposed at the SW corner after 9 p.m. could alleviate some traffic issues; there will not be exit at the main entrance. He hopes not all will leave at the same time. Chair Givens noted Mr. Fellows is aware of the plan – graveling is being done and he is working on proper permits. Sheriff Rowan noted exits were also changed at the old fairgrounds (off of 7th vs. the entrance off of orchard). Undersheriff Littlefield noted they will work on traffic exiting as needed and will filter them accordingly; they don't want a bunch of stops causing road blocking. Monitoring will occur Tuesday and Wednesday, but the main large numbers of vehicles will be Friday and Saturday.

Regarding Ott Road, in talks he has had with ODOT – they do not want to be involved. There will be a barrier on Highway 395 to divert traffic only to the west. Personnel will be on –hand – sheriff's office and law enforcement officers (15-25 helping during the whole Fair time). In response to Chair Givens question to Sheriff Rowan, he felt there will be enough personnel even though they are two positions down (a retirement and a resignation); however, with cooperation and collaboration to get more personnel, it will be instrumental for safety. There are unknowns – this is a new event and new location. When events end, higher numbers will be leaving – as experience has shown. In response to Commissioner Elfering's question about the rodeo, Undersheriff Littlefield noted traffic will exit off Ott Road. They expect some citizen complaints from Ott Road with the big trucks leaving and lots of dust.

Signage will be placed on Highway 395 and Ott Road for trucks related to Rodeo to direct them onto Ott. Chair Givens and Commissioner Elfering noted dust suppression will be increased.

Chair Givens asked Mr. Olsen about citations or towing for illegal parking, what is policy/ordinance and authority? **Regarding citations or towing for illegal parking, County Counsel Doug Olsen advised the Board has authority over county roads and can implement a temporary reduction in speed as well as issuance of no parking areas. The Board may also delegate authority to the Sheriff's Office and the County Road Department to enact policy as set by Board. This includes diverting traffic for the Fair event only. Commissioner Murdock so moved. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering.**

Sheriff Rowan asked if EOTEC has future plans for paving and widening Ott Road from Highway 395. Mr. Fellows noted when the Governor signs the Transportation package, there is money for paving Airport Road and at least a portion of Ott Road, but he doesn't know specifics or when it is programmed (it is a 7-year package).

Commissioner Murdock added the County may be over-prepared, but this is a "pilot" event, essentially. After the first year, the County will be moving forward from hindsight. There was more discussion about traffic counts and speeds, data collection on Airport and Ott Roads, checking the right locations, no parking signs (Undersheriff Littlefield noted they will borrow Pendleton City "no parking" signs – Jeff Brown, Pendleton Public Works has agreed to have them available for pick up by Friday, 8/4). It was again noted the Fair is a County event and the County has been responsible for many things this first year. EOTEC will be taking responsibility for other events there except at Fair time. Chair Givens added, for the future, discussions need to be had on issues and ways to address what comes up as well as revenue sources. The County needs to keep liability down for the Fair.

Undersheriff Littlefield noted the Sheriff's office will step up as needed; plans are in place, but there will be a briefing every day and adjustments will be made. Chair Givens noted overall, EOTEC representatives and the Fair Board have worked very hard over a long period of time to get ready for the Fair. **Motion carried, 3-0.**

Chair Givens was concerned with ODOT's lack of participation. Sheriff Rowan advised they tried months ago to get ODOT and Hermiston City PD, but they didn't want to be involved. It was noted ODOT will need to be involved at some point with more traffic and related slowing down of transportation of goods.

5. Sun Ridge Systems Payable. Sheriff Rowan advised this is an annual renewal for maintenance of RIMS software for 911 Dispatch as well as law enforcement partners use. Sheriff Rowan noted over the last two years the system was assessed and improved. In response to a question from Commissioner Elfering, Sheriff Rowan advised his satisfaction level is in the middle. Connectivity and reporting has improved. Although report writing is simpler and great with RIMS, the Dispatch aspect is more laborious. He elaborated about system and noted they are trying to develop the system to incorporate fire districts as well as law enforcement. It has been a work in progress over the last year; they are working to be consistent and streamlined across the board. The need and goal is to get the right units to respond. Commissioner Elfering offered support by Board if the Sheriff needs it. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the payable, \$55,397 to Sun Ridge Systems, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
6. Oregon Business Advantage Project. Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director, gave the staff report. This is a tax incentive program, COLO (Columbia River Logistics) for Oregon Investment Advantage. Notice is

submitted for any objection. The subject area is located at the Port of Umatilla in the UGB; she has conferred with the necessary partners. It is an income tax benefit and doesn't compete with local revenue sources. There is formal need for the Board of Commissioners to make comment. Paul Chalmers, Assessment & Taxation Director, answered a question that this project relates to buildings at the Port; there are staffing considerations whereby they are adding positions in the enterprise zone – all is on the tax base. This is related to income tax benefits for the developer. Ms. Mabbott added that Umatilla County is on the OIA list based on income level and unemployment. **Commissioner Elfering moved to support the COLO for OIA incentive and to send correspondence from the Board of Commissioners to Arthur Fish as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

7. Site Certificate Transfer. Ms. Mabbott presented. Notice was received from EFSC that the Wheatridge energy project in Umatilla and Morrow Counties is requesting to transfer the previously approved Site Certificate of the Wheatridge wind energy facility to NextEra Energy Resources LLC. To meet the deadline last week, the letter was submitted with no County objection. Commissioner Elfering added the project is mainly in Morrow County. And Commissioner Murdock noted involved parties have met on several occasions to keep the County informed. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve, support and ratify the letter submitted to the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council.** There was discussion about site of transmission lines and public comments. **Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
8. Creation of Positions. Tammy Sundin, Office Manager and Community Corrections, reported on behalf of Dale Primmer. This is a request approval for hiring Probation Officer tech positions for clients on supervision. The recommendation is for two techs – one paid out of Community Corrections and the other to be paid from justice reinvestment; funds can be transferred in the interim, but they request posting the positions. Commissioner Murdock noted this relates to the drug court. Ms. Sundin added this is for the redistribution of services. LPSCC is recommending positions for services. Commissioner Murdock advised he is involved as a cross-relation between Community Corrections and Alcohol & Drug. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve that Community Justice post for hiring two PO Tech positions. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Commissioner Elfering noted there is no impact on the General Fund.
9. Pendleton Downtown Association Payable. Commissioner Murdock presented. This is for the Pendleton Enhancement Project fence. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the payable of \$10,000 to Pendleton Downtown Association. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** This is the second installment of \$10,000 for total of \$20,000.

There was no executive session.

Commissioner Reports.

Commissioner Elfering. July was busy for him -- he spent a total of 7 days in the month in Pendleton. There are a lot of economic development projects that are requiring his time. They are moving forward and the next 4-5 years should be exciting.

Commissioner Murdock. He's been involved in county legal matters. Secondly, 14 of 15 members of Eastern Oregon University were in Pendleton the previous night at a reception. They expressed value of the partnership in Umatilla County and of the desire to increase the number of students with partnerships. Tom Insko, EOU President, spoke about continuing conversations of meaningful programs for students and careers after they graduate. We want to keep young people in Eastern Oregon. Commissioner Elfering talked about collaboration

with BMCC tech programs and EOU. Commissioner Murdock added it involves not only technical degrees but bachelor level degrees in the future.

Commissioner Givens. He will attend the Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Board meeting that afternoon. August 17-18, prior to the eclipse event, he will travel to Enterprise for a joint meeting of the Oregon Transportation Commission and NEACT. He attended the NACo annual conference in late July in Columbus, Ohio. Three resolutions of 11 were passed that directly affect Umatilla County (through his EELU Committee). NACo will be lobbying for 1) support of infrastructure build-out for a liquid natural gas pipeline from Colorado across country to Coos Bay, Oregon for export. This is a huge lobbying effort. 2) Woody biomass will be supported by lobby efforts to increase use of woody biomass to reduce fuel buildup and enhance productivity of natural resource environment in timber and rangeland. 3) Materials preference lobby effort to not have a bill requiring federal government to dictate to counties and communities what materials they have to use in repair and building of water infrastructure (wastewater, sewage). Local entities know what they need in this area and don't need federal government oversight. This is a local control issue.

Commissioner Murdock. He was reappointed to his NACo committee, Human Services & Education. Chair Givens noted Umatilla County was given recognition in the NACo program as well as Wasco County and Clackamas County, Oregon. Commissioner Murdock suggested a formal letter of thanks to IMESD would be in order for Mark Mulvihill's attendance as a panel member at the annual conference. It was agreed. Chair Givens also felt a letter of thanks could go to Susan Bower for recognition of capacity building and award received at the NACo annual conference.

Chair Givens noted the AOC will have a Board retreat 8/12-14. He noted AOC is downsizing their staff. Commissioner Murdock advised he has submitted his resignation to the policy committee of health and human services due to his busy schedule in the coming year as he can't make the commitment.

Commissioner Murdock noted there will be a county event for the eclipse on August 21.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners