

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of July 18, 2018
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Jon Shafer, Umatilla County; UCo Health: Alisha Southwick, Doria Velasquez, Jim Setzer, Megan Linhart, Samantha Matlock; Gina Miller, County Planning-Code Enforcement; Bob Waldher, County Planning Director; Larry Rowan, County Code Enforcement; Dan Lonai, County Administrative Services Director; Jennifer Blake, County Human Resources Director; Tom Fellows, County Public Works Director; Phil Wright, East Oregonian

Call To Order The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair Murdock welcomed all.

Pledge of Allegiance was 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. He noted there is a point for public input before business items for other than agenda.

Awards/Correspondence/Recognition. Chair Murdock summarized numerous thank you cards the Commissioners received from kids for county funds support at the recent Milton-Freewater Junior Livestock Show.

Recognition: Alisha Southwick announced that Megan Linhart successfully completed requirements to be a Registered Environmental Health Specialist. She took the national exam in May. With that certification, she can practice independently and train future inspectors (food vendors, pools and lodging, which takes extra work on evenings and some holidays). Chair Murdock also pointed out he has learned that health inspections at events genuinely appreciate the work of UCo Health to protect them from problems. For example, if there is a problem at a large event, it could be disastrous. Congratulations Megan Linhart!

Minutes of Previous Meeting. None.

Additions to Agenda. None.

Public input. Chair Murdock advised this is the time for public input (for other than a scheduled item on the agenda) -- there were none -- and also for recognition of visitors.

Business Items:

1. **Burn Ban.** Gina Miller, Planning-Code Enforcement and Smoke Management, presented. This is the annual non-agriculture burn ban geared to small scale, residential burning. The ban still allows farmers to burn if needed on regularly allowed burn days, except for red flag days where no burning is allowed. There have been a significant number of fires already in the Milton-Freewater and Weston areas – responders from nearly all firehouses in the county to protect property. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve Order No. BCC2018-054 (to take effect 12 p.m. 7/18/18). Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
2. **City of Athena Code Enforcement.** Bob Waldher, Planning Director, presented. This is for code enforcement services for Athena. His office was approached by Athena’s City Recorder about entering into a code enforcement agreement for five hours/week @ \$35/hour. If approved, Planning could pursue an additional staff code enforcement officer to focus on the east side of the county. Officer Rowan works mainly in the Hermiston and Umatilla area. With an additional five hours/week, it would be two full days per week and cover Athena for up to five hours and also work in the Pendleton and Milton-Freewater areas. In talking to Mr. Olsen, it would be a similar agreement as that with the City of Adams. Mr. Waldher also worked with the Finance Department to determine \$35/hour would work; two additional days would work in the 2019 budget. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
3. **Stop Sign Order.** Tom Fellows, Public Works Director. This is for stop sign West of Hermiston, due to increase traffic due to the nearby development. This is to help with that area traffic. It will be a permanent sign on Livestock Road and Westland Road. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve Order No. RD2018-08. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
4. **CTUIR Roads.** Mr. Fellows presented. CTUIR Public Works approached him about road repairs on a number of roads. He suggests having the Board review and enter into an agreement to provide an estimate for work as time will allow. This is for Short Mile Road. He feels the chip-seal could be done on Short Mile Road, but the other item (SE 56th Street and Gopher Flat Lane) may have to wait, depending upon workload during the busy summer. He will propose to CTUIR the County would provide labor and equipment, but budget doesn’t include materials; he will suggest they provide/pay for the materials. It would be set up as reimbursement for actual labor and equipment. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. RD2018-09. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
5. **Maintenance Position.** Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director, presented. The Administrative Services Department is being requested to do further remodeling and renovation of office space at the Juvenile/DD Building. It has been quite a bit of work and maintenance staff is very busy with other projects. Based on that, remodeling could be done if an existing part-time position can be increased to full-time with Developmental Disabilities Program paying the difference with its available budget. The job would begin August 1, or sooner. Chair Murdock suggested the work could begin right away (Jennifer Blake, HR Director, agreed effective today would work). Mr. Lonai noted the current part-time employee is able to go temporarily work full-time. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
6. **Pioneer Construction Payable.** Mr. Lonai presented. This is for an additional change order for Pioneer Asphalt to finish up work in the front of the courthouse. There were misunderstandings between the City,

County and the contractor. Chair Murdock added he has heard a tremendous number of positive comments. He suggested sidewalk work also needs to be done in front of the maintenance shop across Court Street. Mr. Lonai noted shrubs are being taken out on the Court Street side of the courthouse (for purposes of safety and sanitary concerns) and trees will be planted. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve payable of \$7,500 to Pioneer Construction. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

7. Sale of Property. Mr. Olsen presented. This is for sale of delinquent tax properties (three). As is the usual practice, following the annual auction, accept bids on unsold properties for 30 days. Bids were received on the following: (1) unimproved lot on N. Main in Pendleton, bid = \$1,500. (2) Pendleton house, nine bids submitted from \$9,000 to \$32,000. 3) Milton-Freewater house, two bids = \$25,000 and \$50,000). All bids are in excess of minimum amounts. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve Order No. BCC2018-056. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2018-057. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Givens moved to approve Order No. BCC2018-058. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
8. Employee Commute Authorization. Ms. Blake, HR Director, presented. The Board previously authorized a variety of county positions to use county-owned vehicles to commute. A number of co-workers have requested to be commute passengers; those individuals would be subject to the same reporting requirements and would make a taxable fringe benefit. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2018-055. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.** Mr. Olsen clarified the Order is an update/amendment of a prior Order No. BCC2018-008 (2/7/18) to allow for this arrangement.

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Elfering talked about the National Association of Counties conference, July 13-17. He attended many committee sessions at the annual meeting. He felt the most exciting thing was the second vice-president race – with a close final vote (Gary Moore was elected). He feels networking is great at annual conference where important year-long issues are acted upon. Chair Murdock agreed it is great to meet new people.

Executive Session. None

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners