

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of June 3, 2026
9:00 am, Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

Commissioners Present: Chair Dan Dorran, Vice-Chair John Shafer and Commissioner Cindy Timmons

County Counsels: Doug Olsen, Nicholas Warner

Guests Present: Robert Pahl, Umatilla County Chief Financial Officer; Jason Jensen, CFO; Tom Fellows, Umatilla County Public Works Director; Bob Waldher, Community Development Director; Captain Karen Primmer, UCSO; Lieutenant Josh Roberts, UCSO; Captain Paul Wolverton, UCSO; Lieutenant Justin Russell, UCSO; Randy Dirks, Aurelian Rep; Kim Beck, Human Services Director; Denise Hodson, Pendleton Sanitary Service; Joseph Fiumara, UCo Public Health Department Director; Sarah Sherman, BLM, Baker Field Manager;

Video link or Calling in: Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director; Kevin Miracle, Sanitary Disposal; Derek Ranta, Sanitary Disposal;

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Dorran called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. He reminded all that the meeting is a public forum and there is a call-in option provided. There is time on the agenda to provide input (or for hearings) to provide comment. The meeting is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Also, meetings are now live-streaming. Comments will become part of the meeting record and ask that they be three minutes or under. If persons wish to speak before the Board, please identify yourself and state where you live in order to be heard on the record – also note if you are speaking on behalf of others.

Pledge of Allegiance - led by Chair Dorran.

Awards/Correspondence/Recognitions - None

Minutes – Commissioner Timmons moved to approve the minutes from May 6, May 18 and May 20, 2026 Board meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.

Additions to Agenda – None

Public Input and Recognition of Visitors – None

Business Items

1. **Budget Adoption – Public Hearing** – Chair Dorran opened the public hearing at 9:02 am. Presented by Robert Pahl, CFO and Jason Jensen CFO. Chair Dorran called for declaration of conflict of interest, all three commissioners declared a direct and financial conflict of interest due to Commissioners salaries being included in the budget. The public hearing on the 2026-27 Budget is set for today, June 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. The budget approved by the budget committee is before the Board for public input and formal adoption. Following the public hearing on the proposed budget, the Board may adopt the budget and take the other necessary action to appropriate funds

and levy property taxes. The Commissioners acknowledged the work that went into the budget and complimented the departments on their presentations. Chair Dorran called for comments either in-person or online in favor of, opposed to and finally neutral comments. There were none. Chair Dorran closed the public hearing at 9:04 am. Thanked CFO's and all departments for a Public comment in favor, opposed, neutral. There were none. **Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Order No. Budget2027-01. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

2. BLM Update - Presented by Sarah Sherman, Field Manager of the Baker City office. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is here today to provide a presentation to update the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners on current projects. BLM is focused on administrative priorities regarding federal energy development, mostly located in Baker County. This includes the Boardman to Hemingway project is diligently being worked on.

The South Fork of the Walla Walla ACEC, the environmental assessment has been completed. There is still consultation work being done through Section 7, Endangered Species Act, with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fishery Service. The National Marine Fishery Service reported that this is not on their priority list and BLM is working to emphasize the project's importance. In January it was decided to reduce the scope of the management plan and focus mostly on restoring access to the trailhead for now. BLM manages the road from Harris Park to the trailhead, after the trailhead the road is then a Forest Service road. There are still some cultural surveys that need to be completed before they can move forward. Patrols are conducted at least monthly by a park/river ranger and additionally a law enforcement ranger also patrols monthly and more frequently if there is a need. Concerns with landowner access arose, a letter was sent to landowners and only one landowner responded. The Commissioners encouraged BLM to directly invite landowners to the table to discuss right of ways/easements, help them regain access to their properties and to be part of the process.

BLM received an application for a proposed Data Center project outside of Hermiston.

The new Department of Interior Wildland Fire Service Agency, consolidating several agencies; BLM, National Park Service, and US Fish and Wildlife Service. So, firefighters are no longer part of BLM but they are working very closely together

Commissioner Dorran informed Ms. Sherman of a new Rural Fire Protection District (RFPD) that borders several miles of BLM property. They discussed several contacts for different agencies and will collaborate to make sure all have updated and accurate contacts.

Lastly, the Baker Field Office is moving to the Wheeler Building in Baker City in the next few months resulting in more space for to be inclusive of all employees.

3. Public Works Purchase - Power Broom – Presented by Tom Fellows, Public Works Director. The Public Works Department is requesting to purchase a new power broom from PAPE Machinery. This purchase is on Public Works' current equipment replacement list. The broom they are looking to purchase is a new 2023 Superior DT74J currently at the Pasco yard. This would be a Sourcewell purchase, contract #111522-SBM in the amount of \$69,500. This broom would replace an older broom in the fleet we plan on selling at auction later this year. **Commissioner Shafer moved to**

approve purchase of a new Superior DT4J broom from PAPE Machinery in the amount of \$69,500.00. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.

4. Dispatch Purchase - Eventide - Presented by Captain Karen Primmer, UCSO. The current recording system, known as Eventide, is at the end of life, and will be out of warranty on July 1, 2026. Some components are no longer available due to the age of the existing system. Additional information received on May 25, 2026, is that the price will go up at least 10% on the software and warranty pieces, while it is estimated that the hardware components will increase somewhere between 100%-500%. This is due to the manufacturing of the hardware, supply lines and issues in the Middle East. This is an upgrade to the existing system with an add on AI component, The overall package serves as a total infrastructure modernization for both dispatch centers and keeps the centers in compliance with the State Law of maintaining a recording system. The system will be further upgraded to handle more QA/QI, using AI, for dispatchers saving significantly more time for the supervisors, who can focus on the staff.

The cost of the system will be shared with MCSO 50/50 split with the exception of the add on AI program. This is based upon 9-1-1 calls for service. As MCSO has a much lower volume of 9-1-1 calls, this split for the program will be a 70/30 split. GosercO is willing to bill after the Budget Cycle in July once they have received the signed quote no later than June 24, 2026. Morrow County approved their portion of the purchase at its BOC meeting. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the upgrade with AI add on to the current Eventide recording system to include a 5-year warranty in the amount of \$226,679.55. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

5. Dispatch Purchase - Aurelian - Presented by Lieutenant Justin Russell, UCSO. Aurelian provides AI powered call handling for non-emergency lines through a service referred to as "AVA". AVA is an interactive AI system designed to converse with callers and provide needed information, gather details if they need to file a report, and divert non-LE related calls to the appropriate destination, taking the pressure off of dispatch staff to answer and process these calls while dealing with 911 calls and Police, Fire & EMS radio. Data was submitted to Aurelian and analyzed by their system, and it is estimated up to 74% of admin line calls could be handled by the system. An additional service included in the \$97,000 price is a module called "CORA". CORA is also supported by AI technology, and actively monitors 911 calls and provides call-taking aids via a "heads-up display" on the Dispatcher's screen. This can help the dispatcher remember to get critical information based on the actual details given by the caller, and will lead to higher efficiency for call-takers. Both services will help take the extreme pressure off of Dispatch staff, while providing a positive experience for callers. Aurelian has offered both services at a bundled discount rate for 3 years, and has provided documentation for Sole Source justification, as well as options for purchasing off of an existing Government RFP.

Randy Dirks, Richland, WA, Aurelian Representative stood for questions. Aurelian is live with 35 agencies currently online, and 15 more are being converted. If signed in June, it will be 4-5 weeks to kick-off and about 6-8 weeks until live.

They are exploring options for grant funding. Chair Dorran recommends a meeting with the financial partners, City Managers. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the proposed contract with Needl, Inc. (Aurelian). Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

6. IMESD CARE IGA – Presented by Kim Beck, Human Services Director. There is an updated IGA before the Board for approval today. The IGA is between Umatilla County CARE and Intermountain ESD (IMESD) and describes the CARE staff member as an employee of IMESD with assistance from the County to provide a vehicle. The employee would work in Milton-Freewater. IMESD reimburses the County for an amount the historically has exceeded the cost of the vehicle and the agreement states any kind of accident or damage to the vehicle would be the responsibility of IMESD. **Commissioner Timmons moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between Umatilla County and Intermountain ESD concerning CARE Specialists. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

7. AWERE Grant – Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director and Chair of AWERE. The Athena-Weston Education and Resource Enhancement (AWERE) grant committee met Wednesday, May 20, 2026 to make a recommendation of how to allocate remaining program funds. The grant program is scheduled to sunset. The committee voted unanimously to award all remaining AWERE funds to the City of Athena Pool Repair Project and to close out the AWERE program. This recommendation is pending approval of the Board of Commissioners. Since its inception in 2003, the program has awarded over \$2.3M to the communities of Athena and Weston. **Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-031. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

8. Solid Waste Franchise Letter – Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director. During the May 18, 2026 BCC work session, Sanitary Disposal presented information regarding its proposed rate increase. The work session included discussion about collection service from county roads as well as a “drive-in” fee that is being billed to customers but not included on the franchise’s fee schedule. This would be non-compliant with the county’s solid waste ordinance. Therefore, the Board of Commissioners have prepared a letter to Sanitary Disposal stating that a “drive-in” fee has not been authorized and requesting that additional service fees not listed in the fee schedule be suspended and not charged until a new agreement is reached between Umatilla County and Sanitary Disposal. Kevin Miracle, Sanitary Disposal, explained that when the business was acquired there were 3 customers being charged a walk-in fee, currently there are 26 true walk-ins. There were additional customers being charged the walk-in fee for drive-in services, they are in the process of being reimbursed. The team at Sanitary Disposal has made several changes to improve its efficiency and fiscal impacts. There is an established fee for walk-in service, the process for this by customer request. **Commissioner Timmons moved to authorize chair to sign and send letter to Sanitary Disposal. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

9. Solid Waste Franchise Renewal – Disposal - Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director. Umatilla County Solid Waste Disposal Franchise holders, in accordance with Chapter 50.027 of the Umatilla County Solid Waste Ordinance, have completed the required steps to apply for a one-year renewal of their disposal franchises. The following applications for disposal franchise renewal were recommended for approval by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee at their meeting on April 14, 2026: Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc.; Sanford & Son, LLC dba Humbert Refuse; and Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. dba Sanitary Disposal. **Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-023. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-024. Seconded by**

Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-025. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.

10. Solid Waste Franchise Renewal – Collection - Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director. Umatilla County Solid Waste Collection Franchise holders, in accordance with Chapter 50.027 of the Umatilla County Solid Waste Ordinance, have completed the required steps to apply for a one-year renewal of their collection franchises. The following applications for collection franchise renewal were recommended for approval by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee at their meeting on April 14, 2026: Eastern Oregon Waste Management, LLC; Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc.; Sanford & Son, LLC dba Humbert Refuse; and Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. dba Sanitary Disposal. **Commissioner Timmons moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-026. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Timmons moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-027. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Timmons moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-028. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Timmons moved to adopt Order No. BCC2026-029. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
11. Solid Waste Franchise Increase – Pendleton Sanitary Service – Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director and Denise Hodson, Pendleton Sanitary Service. Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc., having a solid waste franchise through Umatilla County, proposes to increase the rate within its franchised area of unincorporated Umatilla County by 3.0%. If approved, the proposed rate increase will go into effect on July 1, 2026. On April 14, 2026 the Umatilla County Solid Waste Advisory Committee met and voted to recommend approval of the proposed rate increase requested by Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc. A 14-day public notice (comment period ending May 13, 2026) was published in the East Oregonian and three prominent public places in the service area. No written comments or remonstrances were received during the public comment period. - This item was postponed from the May 20, 2026 Meeting. Ms. Hodson explained that the mileage fee is for a one-time drop of a drop box for those outside of the city limits. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the proposed rate increase of 3% for Pendleton Sanitary Service. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**
12. RFP Rejection for SAR Building – Presented by Nick Warner, Deputy County Counsel. Previously the Board authorized the issuance of a request for proposals for the construction of a building to store emergency vehicles. The RFP was issued, and one proposal has been received. The proposal was above the authorized amount, so a revised RFP will need to be issued and the proposal received rejected. **Commissioner Timmons moved to reject the proposal and authorize reissuance of request for proposals for construction of a building to house Emergency vehicles. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
13. Wolf Depredation Payable - Presented by Nick Warner, Deputy County Counsel. Previously the county Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee reviewed and approved payments for 2025 confirmed depredations. The funding has now been awarded. The payables for the six producers to compensate for depredations for 2025 are before the Board for review and approval. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve grants and payable for six producers for livestock losses. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

14. Knerr Contract Amendment - Presented by Nick Warner, Deputy County Counsel. Previously, the County entered into an agreement with Knerr Construction for improvements to the PATH facility being funded by a CDBG grant. There are two additional improvements that are part of the funded project - kitchen hood and outdoor kitchen. The amendment to the contract with Knerr Construction is before the board to include these two components. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve amendment to the contract with Knerr Construction to include two additional upgrades for a total additional cost of \$45,960.00. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**
15. Fair Purchase – Voces Del Rancho - Presented by Nick Warner, Deputy County Counsel. This is a contract for entertainment for Saturday, August 15, 2026 on the Main Stage at the Umatilla County Fair. **Commissioner Timmons moved to approve payment to Voces Del Rancho in the amount of \$15,000.00 to be paid with a \$6,000 deposit and final payment of \$9,000 the day of event. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
16. UCSO Sale of Vehicle – Presented by Lieutenant Josh Roberts, UCSO. The Sheriff’s Office has a 2019 Ford Explorer Interceptor it no longer needs in its fleet. The vehicle is upfit for use as a K-9 patrol vehicle. UCSO reached out to agencies around the State. Coos County Sheriff’s Office has need of a K-9 patrol vehicle and has agreed to purchase the vehicle from Umatilla County for \$6,000.00. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the sale of a 2019 Ford Explorer Interceptor (Vehicle #324) to Coos County in the amount of \$6,000.00. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**
17. PATH IGA/Invoice – Presented by Nick Warner, Deputy County Counsel. An invoice and proposed IGA has been received by Umatilla County for the PATH Project. This was discussed at the 6/2/26 Work Session. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve signing of the IGA with PATH. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 2-1 (Commissioner Timmons opposing)**
18. Fee Ordinance – Public Hearing – Presented by Doug Olsen, County Counsel. The annual update to the Comprehensive Fee Ordinance is before the Board for a First Reading There are several departments requesting changes. Chair Dorran opened the public hearing at 10:22 am. The requested changes were read to the Board. Chair Dorran called for public comment Closed the public hearing at 10:25 am. **Commissioner Shafer moved to set the second reading to the next Board of Commissioners’ meeting on June 17, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**
19. Executive Session – Employment/Real Property – ORS 192.660(2)(a,b,e,h) – None

Commissioner Reports: None

Meeting adjourned by Chair Dorran at 10:27 am.

Kelsey Bailey

Executive Secretary – Board of Commissioners