

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Administrative Meeting of May 26, 2021
8:00 a.m. (Google Meet/Room 114)
Umatilla County Courthouse, Pendleton, Oregon

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Commissioners participating: Chair George Murdock, and Vice-Chair John Shafer
County Counsel: Doug Olsen
Guests: Robert Pahl, Jennifer Blake, and Mark Royal (appearing remotely)

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Chair Murdock called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Business Item:

1. **Behavioral Health Request for Proposals.** The matter before the board is to take action on intent to award contract. Mr. Olsen reported that County issued a request for proposals to provide behavioral health services in Umatilla County. Two proposals were received, from Community Counseling Solutions and Lifeways, each to provide both substance abuse treatment and mental health services to Umatilla County residents. Commissioner Shafer reported that a five member panel reviewed the proposals, scored each proposal individually, and then met to discuss. There were two county representatives, Mark Royal and Commissioner Shafer. Other members were from education area, law enforcement, and public/LPSSC. The recommendation from the committee was unanimous in awarding contract to Community Counseling Solutions. Mark Royal added that each member scored the proposals on own, prior to the committee meeting. **Commissioner Shafer moved to issue intent to award contract to Community Counseling Solutions. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Carried, 2-0.** It was added that the proposal from Community Counseling Solutions had September 1, 2021 as the date to assume substance abuse treatment services, and December 1, 2021, for the mental health services.

2. **Essential Worker Pay.** Before the board is to provide premium pay to essential county workers as authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act. Commissioner Chair Murdock stated that at the onset of the pandemic, Umatilla County determined that all of its workers were essential, and employees continued to work on site and not telecommute. As a result, all those that were working should be eligible for premium pay to compensate for working while facing heightened risk. The proposal is to pay \$250 per month for each month an employee worked a minimum of 20 hours between March 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021. It was added that the employee must be employed beyond May 31, 2021 to be eligible. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve premium pay as outlined. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Carried, 2-0.**

3. Internship Program. A proposal was submitted to create an internship program under the direction of Human Resources. Ms. Blake requested that a pool of money be established for an intern program for the county. The program would allow interested students or trainees, the ability for an internship in a county department to obtain experience and training. The individuals could help on a task or special projects, and be provided a stipend of \$250 per week for 16 hours of time. Human Resources would administer the program. **Commissioner Shafer moved to authorize program. Commissioner Murdock seconded. Carried, 2-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Melinda Slatt*, Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners