

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Administrative Meeting of October 29, 2013
9:00 a.m., Room 121, County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Larry Givens, Chair; Bill Elfering, Vice Chair;
George Murdock, Commissioner

COUNTY COUNSEL: Doug Olsen

MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT: Bob Heffner, Umatilla County Budget Officer;
Dan Lonai, Umatilla County Administrative Services Director; Phil Wright, East Oregonian
Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. Chair Givens reviewed the county's mission statement and reminded all present that the meeting was a public forum.

BUSINESS ON AGENDA

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the October 16, 2013 Special Meeting with Youth Development Council Representatives were presented for approval. **Commissioner Elfering moved approval of the minutes of October 16, 2013. Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Elfering, Commissioner Murdock and Commissioner Givens voting in favor of the motion.**

Additions to Agenda:

8th Street Bridge discussion
Change date of November 20th Board of Commissioners Meeting

Consent Agenda: None.

Agenda Items:

1. **Authorize Vehicle Purchase:** Doug Olsen reported that the recommendation was to award the purchase to Legacy Ford for the 2014 Escape in the amount of \$25,658. **Commissioner Elfering moved to purchase the 2014 Escape from Legacy Ford in the amount of \$25,658.**

Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Givens, Commissioner Elfering and Commissioner Murdock all voting in favor of the motion.

2. **Authorize Asphalt Paving Machine Purchase:** Doug Olsen reported that the road department requested to purchase a used Barber Greene paver in the amount of \$49,000. The department will pick up the paver, located in Lynnwood, Washington. **Commissioner Elfering moved authorization to purchase the Barber Greene BG225-B paver in the amount of \$49,000. Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Murdock, Commissioner Elfering and Commissioner Givens each voting in favor of the motion.**

3. **One Hour Parking Spaces:** Dan Lonai reported that as of Friday, all east facing doors to the courthouse were to be locked. He proposed that the county eliminate three reserved parking spaces – the Health and Human Services, Road and Civil spaces – to provide 1 hour spaces.

The options were to position the one hour spaces closest to Court Street or near the handicapped access entrance at the opposite end of the courthouse. There was a problem with the spaces at the opposite end in that if a large vehicle were to park there, it could overhang into the parking lot travel lanes. He proposed that the civil sheriff's personnel could use the sheriff's space and that the Human Services and Road staff could use the 1 hour spaces as available.

Commissioner Elfering asked if the proposal was to make those spaces permanent. Dan Lonai confirmed that was the plan.

Commissioner Elfering asked if there was a plan to build a walkway from the parking spaces at the north end of the courthouse to the sidewalk. Dan Lonai replied that could be a future consideration, but that the south end of the courthouse would require more extensive changes.

Commissioner Murdock commented that he brought some information from the access meeting held Friday, October 25th. At that meeting, the county was commended for the way it handled handicapped access.

Commissioner Elfering asked if the tax department was still moving ahead with the temporary street parking for taxpayers. Dan Lonai confirmed that started at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, October 29, 2013.

Commissioner Murdock moved that staff move forward with developing the designated one hour parking spaces. Commissioner Elfering seconded. The motion carried with Commissioner Murdock, Commissioner Elfering and Commissioner Givens voting in favor of the motion.

4. **Expenditure Authorization Policy Amendment:** Doug Olsen presented the revision to Fiscal Policy 1.0, setting new authorization limits. The proposal from the budget officer was that departmental authorizations should be increased to \$5,000. That was modified at the request of the finance officer to authorize the liaison commissioners to a \$3,000 to \$5,000 limit. **Commissioner**

Murdock moved to adopt the revised Fiscal Policy 1.0 providing that the finance officer and the liaison commissioner for a department would have spending authority to \$5,000. Commissioner Elfering seconded. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Elfering, Commissioner Murdock and Commissioner Givens voting in favor of the motion.

5. **Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Appointments:** Doug Olsen reported that due to changes in personnel, changes were necessary to the roster for the county's representation. The changes were for the sheriff's position, the public health director's position and the liaison commissioner. **Commissioner Elfering, in the matter of appointments to the Umatilla County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council, moved approval of Order Number BCC2013-085. Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Elfering, Commissioner Murdock and Commissioner Givens voting in favor of the motion.**

6. **Change date of November 20th Board of Commissioners Meeting (addition):** Commissioner Givens reported that due to the dates for the Association of Oregon Counties' annual conference, there would be no quorum available on November 20th, the next mandated Board of Commissioners' meeting. It was proposed that the Board of Commissioners meeting should be rescheduled to Monday, November 25th. **Commissioner Elfering moved to change the November 20th Board of Commissioners' meeting to November 25th at 9:00 a.m. in Room 114 of the Pendleton Courthouse. Commissioner Murdock seconded. The motion carried 3-0 with Commissioner Elfering, Commissioner Murdock and Commissioner Givens voting in favor of the motion.**

7. **8th Street Bridge (addition):** Commissioner Murdock investigated the history of the county's involvement with the 8th Street bridge, precipitated by Mayor Houk's comments on the Coffee Hour radio show when he alleged that the county was responsible for half the costs of the bridge repair or replacement.

On February 11, 1999, a meeting was held between multiple agencies, including the City of Pendleton and Umatilla County. Hal Phillips was the county's roadmaster at that time and recommended that the county maintain the current status of the bridge with the stance that the county would not participate nor fund repairs or replacement of the bridge. During that meeting, Hal Phillips recommended that the county turn the bridge over to the city.

The City's grant application, submitted in April 2012, shows only the city as applicant and signatory for the grant. Therefore, only those signatories for grants would be responsible for matching funds. Additionally, the grant application seemed to have been submitted before the county was advised of the proposed project.

A bridge inspection was performed in August 2013, but the report is not yet available. The conclusion, after discussing the documentation with county counsel, was that the county was not responsible for any funding of the proposed project.

Commissioner Givens commented that it seemed that the constituents were supportive of the county's stance on the proposed bridge project.

Other Discussion:

Fleet Management Funds: There was a brief discussion as to the status of the budget line for fleet management and, with the most recent authorization, there would be a small residual amount to carry over to the next fiscal year.

Levy presentations: Commissioner Elfering reported that the last two presentations on Monday, the 28th, in Pendleton and Milton-Freewater went well and the attendees seemed to be supportive of the levies.

Public Input: None.

Scheduling of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held November 6, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Headley
Executive Secretary
Umatilla County
Board of Commissioners