

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of April 15, 2015
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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Commissioners Present: George Murdock, Chair; Commissioner Bill Elfering; and Larry Givens, Vice-Chair (attending via telephone)

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Michael Parker, Umatilla; Susan McHenry, SWAC and LPSCC; Bob Ward, City Manager, Umatilla; Jesse Shaw, Milton-Freewater; Tom Fellows, Public Works Director; Bob Heffner, Budget; Undersheriff Jim Littlefield; Russ Pelleberg, Umatilla Public Works Director; Phil Wright, East Oregonian; Paul Chalmers, Assessment & Taxation Director; Tyler Cisneros, Echo; Steve Rodarte, Umatilla; William Reuter, Hermiston; Gina Miller, Planning Staff – Code Enforcement; Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources; and, attending via telephone along with Commissioner Givens, Mike McArthur, AOC Executive Director; and Anne Givens.

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CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Chair George Murdock welcomed all and reminded those present that the meeting was a public forum. It is being recorded and minutes will be taken. If persons wish to speak before the BCC, please identify yourself and where you live for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance. Those in the room stood, saluted the flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes. December 11, 2014 and December 30, 2014. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the meeting minutes of December 11, 2014 and December 30, 2014. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence.

Chair Murdock acknowledged Bob Heffner as Budget Officer for last 10+ years. Today was his last day at Umatilla County. The budget is balanced and will be presented to the Budget Committee on April 22. Mr. Heffner’s work has been exemplary. Thank you to him for his service to the County and congratulations on his retirement. Those in the room applauded Mr. Heffner.

Additions to Agenda. None.

Public Input: Chair Murdock asked if any visitors wished to provide input for anything other than what is on the agenda. There were none. Commissioner Givens asked that Mike McArthur at AOC (on the phone) provide a brief legislative update. Mr. McArthur: among AOC priorities, three are important: the transportation funding package – there are difficulties due to low carbon fuel issues. The Governor says it

is a high priority – there will be compromise on low carbon fuel standards. There needs to be Republican support; he is not sure it will happen. And, there are other measures to mitigate transportation problems. ODOT will need \$90 million for the DMV computer system upgrade. It is a shared system and they are looking at other funding sources. Now that SRS has been passed, it will help with additional funds for roads and schools. Another transportation issue is counties are prohibited from charging for right of ways. A Bill has been worked on over last 20 years to address this problem. SB 668 allows counties to pass ordinances to recover costs for rights of ways. Utilities always oppose this – cities have the right, but counties should have the right as well. Another issue is community mental health services for flexible funding where law enforcement is interacting with mentally ill. Around \$60 million is sought for this; the budget is still being worked out. Some would like to see a crisis intervention team in all counties to help with the mentally ill. Services are desperately needed. Mark Royal, Community Justice in our County says if funding is available, the community service facility near the jail could be used. Regarding the Criminal Reinvestment Act -- it is felt the budget can be increased from \$20 million up to about \$40 million. AOC is pushing hard to get back savings that they feel are owed in criminal justice system. Chair Murdock thanked Mr. McArthur for the report. There were no questions.

Agenda

1. City of Umatilla Road Transfer. Mr. Olsen presented. This item is coming back to the Board for further action. It originally came before them in October for transfer of certain roads in Umatilla. There was a question about a dispute between the City of Umatilla and Port of Umatilla and the Board deferred action until they resolved their issues. Now it has been resolved. Part of the transfer would also include part of County property to transfer to the City of Umatilla (the next agenda item). Commissioner Elfering felt it is now appropriate to move forward with the transfer and he **moved to adopt Order No. RD 2015-02. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
2. City of Umatilla Property Transfer. Mr. Olsen noted property was obtained through delinquent property taxes in 2010. The City is requesting that the property be transferred to it as part of a transfer of jurisdictions of roads as allowed by ORS 271.330. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC 2015-033. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
3. Off-Road Vehicle use of County Roads. Jesse Shaw from Milton-Freewater came to the podium. He wants to get roads opened up for 4 wheelers and off road vehicles on County Roads. He has spoken with a representative at the City of Milton-Freewater to open up city roads for 4 wheelers and off road vehicles. He also plans to meet with National Forest Service people -- some roads have been opened . He also wants to see Tollgate area roads opened. He wants to use roads that are not busy highways. Off road vehicles would be equipped with proper signals. He feels other states (MT, for example), allow 4 wheelers and ORVs to drive on smaller roads. He would like to see Umatilla County open county roads for ORVs. Many riders are over 60 years old and there are a lot of people who support it. He'll be discussing this with Senator Hansell and others in the area about opening roads.

Commissioner Elfering asked if he had previously discussed the road issue with the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Shaw said it was probably about 2000 – but the ORVs are much safer now and are equipped more safely. Commissioner Elfering asked about licensing. Mr. Shaw replied they are not licensed. In the 90s, 3 wheelers were not safe and the right to license was taken away. Commissioner Elfering asked about difficulties being seen. They are small and not as

visible – is this a problem? Mr. Shaw said he has ridden motorcycles and 4 wheelers – they are very safe. He’s driven over many states (mostly northwestern states – MT, SD, and ND). He noted some people display flags for visibility. Oregon will require turn signals on vehicles; he realizes that Highway 11 – it is too busy. He added that 18 years or older are allowed by law to drive ORVs; they must also be a licensed driver. Commissioner Elfering asked about speed. Mr. Shaw says it would be same as driving a motorcycle – also requiring a helmet when riding.

Commissioner Elfering noted he would like to talk to Public Works director regarding roads. Commissioner Givens asked Doug Olsen if the County has authority to open roads as requested. Does the DMV come into it? If so, are there requirements. There is more research to be done. He noted farmers are somewhat opposed due to damage caused by ORVs. Mr. Olsen said under law, the County can open any roads it wants to as long as they are two-lane gravel roads. As far as DMV, it regulates a lot of it – for example, equipment. Commissioner Givens also commented on farmers wanting to close roads -- he pointed out Mr. Shaw said he could get a lot of signatures to petition for this. Mr. Olsen said this is first the Board has heard of it – he wants to do more research. Also, Commissioner Elfering wants to work with Public Works and law enforcement for input. Mr. Shaw said there would not be riding on closed roads during the winter. He feels a lot of the damage is not caused by ATVs, it is caused by large trucks with large tires. He has done a lot of research and appreciates Board consideration. **Commissioner Elfering felt the idea is worthy of consideration – he suggested a committee of Public Works, UCSO, and County Counsel study the roads issue – he made it a motion. Commissioner Givens was not sure a committee is needed; he felt staff could be directed to do this. Commissioner Elfering stipulated to that in his motion – not a formal committee but a staff directive. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0-**

4. Asphalt Oil Contract. Tom Fellows, Public Works Director, presented. The Invitation to Bid was reissued for the purchase of Cationic Emulsified Asphalt (a contract for chip seal this year). Four quotes were received. The low quote was \$384/ton from Idaho Asphalt Supply and it is recommended by staff to award the contract. **Commissioner Elfering moved to award contract for purchase of CRS-2 to Idaho Asphalt Supply for \$343/ton plus a freight charge of \$41/ton. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
5. Medical Marijuana Study Committee Report. Tamra Mabbott, Committee Chair (and Planning Director), presented a progress report to the Board (includes a 4/2/15 memo from Ms. Mabbott, a 3/17/15 proposed amendments to the Umatilla County Development Ordinance, 6 position papers from several Committee members, and a “Local Government Regulation of Medical Marijuana in Oregon, League of Oregon Cities”, March 2015). Almost a year ago, the Committee was formed. Several busy meetings have been held – studying literature and also there are a lot of opinions. She noted there is a large volume of material posted on the County website.

The focus has been on medical marijuana, but there has been a lot of discussion of Measure 91 at the legislative level.

This report is an interim report. The majority of the Committee recommended the moratorium be extended on Medical Marijuana dispensaries. Mr. Olsen says the legal authority is available to the County due to its Home Rule Charter status. Ms. Mabbott is proposing, after the legislature concludes, the Committee reconvene to discuss updates and then it could discuss recreational marijuana. At this time, the County Code does not have a definition of any type of marijuana.

This would be included in land use code – to adopt standards for obtaining a permit. The proposed code changes goes farther than state law; it includes some specifics about grow sites based on law enforcement and the DA’s office in conjunction with land use aspects. This will be presented to the Planning Commission later this month. She talked about restrictions of locations; maps would be available.

Ms. Mabbott recognized some Committee members present – herself, Mr. Olsen, Undersheriff Littlefield, and Meghan DeBolt. It is a challenging topic that professionally and ethically challenged Committee members. Position papers were prepared by some and are part of the Board’s packet. Commissioner Elfering said there are still some Bills before the legislature about marijuana. Discussion continued about the authority of OLCC and Oregon Health Authority. At March meeting, OHA representatives attended (via phone). The committee felt there is a lack of oversight on their part. This was concerning to the Committee. She went on to note a gap about testing by OHA and limited staff to enforce as well as a lack of certification for testing.

Commissioner Givens asked Mr. Olsen about what actions communities within the County have taken. Mr. Olsen said the City of Hermiston has not changed its development code – they follow federal law. The City of Pendleton is looking to allow some type of dispensary, but nothing is formal yet; it is still under consideration. There are some places in the County where a dispensary will be allowed. Commissioner Elfering asked about the implications to medical marijuana dispensaries and availability of recreational marijuana – would a medical marijuana dispensary be viable? Ms. Mabbott feels that allowing medical marijuana with appropriate checks and balances could alleviate black market operations. Discussion continued about issues of seeds, growing sites, separation of medical vs. recreational dispensaries, etc.

Ms. Mabbott noted the papers before the Board are drafts to go before the Planning Commission first for a recommendation.

Regarding Ordinance No. 2015-02 in the Matter of Imposition of a Moratorium on Marijuana dispensaries, Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the first reading. Chair Murdock advised the floor was opened for comments from the public. Michael Parker from Columbia Basin Compassion Center came to the podium. One year ago, a moratorium was placed on dispensary business. Patients still needed medical marijuana. On one grow site, they only grow for four people. During the moratorium, he grew plants to help those who needed medical marijuana to alleviate pain. He is concerned for people who need it if they cannot get it. He talked about restrictions and about draft suggested rules. He felt it is in conflict with State laws. He is also concerned about age restrictions of 21 and older (what about 18-20 year olds who need it?). And, he is concerned about the law enforcement aspect for restrictions. And, there are questions about liability insurance, permits, fees – many things are unclear and conflict with current law. The County has been looking at this for a year with the moratorium. He felt County rules are way beyond anything the state has recommended. However, he agrees some regulations are needed.

Commissioner Elfering noted these are draft regulations only at this time. Mr. Parker requested the proposal be carefully reviewed; he is especially concerned with the 1-mile rule. The 1,000 ft. rule is standard, however. Chair Murdock asked Mr. Olsen to clarify. Mr. Olsen replied -- at this time, the Board is to consider a moratorium so that no medical marijuana dispensaries can be in the jurisdictional area of the County. Cities are separate. This would be first and final reading of the Ordinance since the moratorium will expire. It would be effective immediately.

Commissioner Elfering moved the moratorium be continued until 12/31/15. Commissioner Givens seconded. Carried, 3-0.

Some people in audience requested being heard today. Commissioner Elfering noted the Planning Commission will provide another chance for public input.

Chair Murdock noted the public could speak to the moratorium. Mr. Reuther, Hermiston area, approached the podium. He grows for patients at this time since there is no dispensary at this time. There are people who need it. He did not understand the reason for extension. Why is there a moratorium to begin with? They were operating under state law – if there are any additional rules, the state could make them. Why are they (dispensaries) to be closed?

Steve Rodarte – member of community. He feels the moratorium should not have been extended. He felt the Medical Marijuana Committee had a biased cross section – many were for banning – and they did not feel there was medicinal value. It is about people who need it. There will be abuse, but he does not feel it should be strictly regulated. He talked about grow sites; permits are public records – it is opening up risk for thieves. Only 4 people per grow site are allowed. He feels there should not be extension of a moratorium. The Committee had one year to come up with rules. He also talked about articles in the newspaper and recent TV program about marijuana and good effects for those in need of pain relief (epilepsy and others). He also discussed economic value; privacy of patients and growers – he feels there is no justice. In Eastern Oregon, Umatilla County voted against recreational marijuana. But a medical marijuana dispensary is not for recreational marijuana. He felt there is a big need for medical marijuana and it should not be kept from those who need it. It is real. (i.e. seizures have been shown to stop with medical marijuana use). He noted some cities are passing laws to allow dispensaries -- why is the County lagging behind?

Commissioner Elfering appreciated Mr. Rodarte's comments. The Committee has met and considered all elements – pro and con – the Committee gathered resources; he felt it is unfair to say the Committee is dead set against it. There was a lot to consider and that was done. A major component is to look at ordinances for land use. The process must run and ordinances to be considered within the laws – he agrees with much of what Mr. Rodarte said, but the Committee made its recommendations – this is the beginning place for ordinances. The process must move forward to make it safe for people and ordinances must be in place. Also, consideration must be given for the legislature's actions for the future of medical and recreational marijuana. The moratorium must be dealt with – it would be irresponsible to let it expire without doing something in the meantime.

Mr. Rodarte requested extending moratorium for 2 to 3 months at a time, rather than a long time (until 12/31/15). Commissioner Elfering said the moratorium can be lifted at any time – it is the Board's choice. Mr. Olsen concurred -- this is correct. Commissioner Elfering wanted to give the moratorium adequate time. Chair Murdock asked if the Board wanted to go back to the vote – they responded there was no reason. It was agreed to move on with the meeting.

6. SWAC Annual Report. Susan McHenry, Solid Waste Advisory Committee Chair, presented. This is for year 2014 – broken down by quarters, per Umatilla County Code of Ordinance, Chapter 50.087(C). The SWAC met in January and in April. The main focus areas were review of implementation progress; review of recovery rates; identifying barriers and suggest corrective action; and to suggest additional practices for implementation. She also noted new committee members, David Faux and Arne Swanson. She talked about issues with Pilot Rock's franchise -

now resolved. Goals are being exceeded. A primary focus this year has been working with Emergency Services (Jack Remillard) on a disaster debris management plan; they also worked with the Corps of Engineers for an exercise and how to address a potential emergency. They addressed contacts and what services could be provided. Gina Miller, Code Enforcement Coordinator in the Planning Department, noted there will be a fillable form (on the County website) to be included in a hazard mitigation plan pertaining to debris disaster management. Also, staging areas will be considered – in Pendleton, they are looking at the old landfill and maybe an area at the airport. Franchisees will identify that information for use in the event of a disaster.

Another item where a lot of time was spent was legislation – Bill 263 proposes programs to be implemented by DEQ – staff over last 12 years has decreased statewide (through attrition). Bill 245 deals with the funding portion – funding by increases in disposal fees at each landfill site. Currently the payment is made in a certain amount for permit fees and other fees to DEQ for general operations. With restored positions, there would be education on reduction of waste statewide. It was determined the additional fees would be of no benefit to Umatilla County citizens. The Governor’s office says both Bills will be passed. In our area, opposition does not have enough support by the AOC and LOC. With passage of Bill 245, after many amendments, it is acceptable for a cost of living increase not to exceed 3%. There may be annual increases regularly. This could be a significant impact on garbage rates and costs of recycling.

The report also sets out identifying barriers and suggested corrective action. Household hazardous waste is part of this item. The report is primarily for information; there are no recommendations at this time. No questions were asked. Commissioner Givens thanked Susan McHenry and Gina Miller for their work on the SWAC. **Commissioner Givens moved to accept the SWAC report into the minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock also thanked Ms. McHenry and Ms. Miller for their time and efforts.

7. LPSSC Report. Susan McHenry talked about Bill 3194. The LPSSC has a subcommittee to address Justice Reinvestment Act and funding available with that law. \$20 million to \$50 million has been obtained from funds not used for building prisons. The Governor reports she is not bound by the previous Governor’s priorities. Application for funds will be prepared to submit. Priorities have been identified, i.e. treatment programs. A portion of grant funds would be designated to go to a non-profit organization in the public safety arena. A meeting will be held on April 29 to determine how to apply for priorities -- Umatilla County would have between \$100,000 up to \$800,000. The grant application is a one-time opportunity, unfortunately. The Committee needs to be cautious about what program(s) to implement. Commissioner Elfering thanked Ms. McHenry for her involvement on LPSSC.
8. SWAC Franchise Renewals. Gina Miller, Code Enforcement, presented. On April 7, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee met and voted to recommend approval of all 8 franchise renewal applications for the current year per Chapter 50.027 Umatilla County Code of Ordinance.. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-034 granting a Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Desert Wind, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-035 granting a Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Humbert Refuse and Recycling, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-036 granting a Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc. Seconded by**

Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-037 granting a Solid Waste Disposal Franchise to Quality Compost, LLC. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-038 granting a Solid Waste Collection Franchise to Humbert Refuse and Recycling, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-039 granting a Solid Waste Collection Franchise to Pendleton Sanitary Service, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-040 granting a Solid Waste Collection Franchise to Pilot Rock Sanitation LLC. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2015-041 granting a Solid Waste Collection Franchise to Sanitary Disposal, Inc. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.

9. Supplemental Budgets. The Public hearing was opened by Chair Murdock. Bob Heffner, Budget Officer, presented. Budget Order 2015-56 (Community Corrections requires a \$3,230 increase in Materials & Services to expend monies under new grant authority, condition unknown at time of budget preparation). Budget Order 2015-57 (Drug Court requires a \$23,000 increase in Materials & Services under new grant authority, condition unknown at time of budget preparation). Budget Order 2015-58 (Milton-Freewater Head Start Building requires a \$500 increase in Personnel Services, condition unknown at time of budget preparation; and this will decrease Capital Outlay appropriations by \$500). Budget Order 2015-59 (NAIFA Reserve Fund received a \$5,000 donation, condition unknown at time of budget preparation; and Materials & Services appropriations are increased by \$5,000). There were no questions. Chair Murdock called for public input/comments – none were heard. Public hearing was closed. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Budget Order No. 2015-56. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Budget Order No. 2015-56. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Budget Order No. 2015-57. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Budget Order No. 2015-58. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Budget Order No. 2015-59. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
10. Creation of New Position – Human Services. Doug Olsen reported. This request is for a new on-call position for Specialist II related to mental health services – requiring LCSW license. It is anticipated to be 8-10 hours on average per month, about \$3,000 part time position for this fiscal year. Funds are available. Commissioner Givens asked if it has been signed off by the Finance Director. Robert Pahl had reviewed the proposal and he is comfortable with the 8-10 hours; if it is any more, he would need to reconsider. **Chair Murdock moved to approve the new position as presented, effective April 15, 2015. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
11. Position to Reclassification - Planning. Mr. Olsen reported. The Planning Department is requesting reclassifying its Senior Planner positions from Range 25 to 27. The cost will be covered through reducing a vacant planner position (now Range 22) to an associate planner position (Range 20). Jennifer Blake, H.R., requests authority to hire at an associate planner range to create new level. The end result is an additional \$64/month (shifting classifications). CFO Robert Pahl reviewed and approves. Chair Murdock, for the record, said they looked at range points allocated to Ms. Mabbott's department, and the suggested changes fit into the allocated

points. Ms. Mabbott noted they are working within their department budget. She is very excited about this position and feels it will be great for the department. Commissioner Givens asked for clarification about the senior planner. Ms. Blake noted Range 27 planner is an approved reclassification – lead senior planner. The position will be for land use and special projects. She also noted the existing position is not removed at this time. Ms. Mabbott will rewrite the job description at Range 20 for an entry level planner. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve reclassification of Senior Planner position as discussed. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

12. Work Schedule Approval. Paul Chalmers, A&T Director. He requested a modified work schedule for six field appraisers in the Assessment & Taxation Department. Six appraisers are currently doing re-appraisal work in the Hermiston area. He would like the option of 4 10- hour days, staggered, based on seniority. The benefit is it would eliminate a travel day. It would be for the period April until October; it would not be used during winter months. They would go back to 5 8-hour days – this would also be the work schedule for weeks with holidays. Coverage would be available for Mondays and Fridays. Commissioner Elfering talked about security of staff in the field. **Chair Elfering moved to approve the work schedule change for 4 10-hour days effective 4/20/15 for six field appraisers. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

13. Authorize Sale of Property. Mr. Olsen presented. The County foreclosed on several tax lots in 2014. The properties were up for sale at auction in May 2014, but no bids were received. The properties are before the Board to set a minimum bid for the auction. Rieth property has a proposed bid of \$2000. Commissioner Givens asked about setting reasonable prices on properties. Chair Murdock requested that Paul Chalmers determine values and then a Realtor could be contacted. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve Mr. Chalmers determining values for use by a Realtor. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Regarding the Rieth Hotel, Mr. Chalmers suggested keeping the \$2,000 bid and regarding the Radio Tower, to keep the \$2,250 bid. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve keeping the bid amounts for the Rieth Hotel and the Radio Tower as suggested by Mr. Chalmers for the auction scheduled for May 27, 2015. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

14. Travel Policy Update. Jennifer Blake, H. R., presented. She recently met with Chair Murdock and County Counsel Olsen to review and prepare an updated travel policy. She elaborated on changes. Last update was 2009 for this policy. Mr. Olsen noted changes: The method for obtaining travel authorization, per diem amount, lodging payment, and miscellaneous expenses. Unless there is not a county vehicle available, no fuel reimbursement will be allowed for use of personal vehicles. A “frequently asked questions” portion is also added. The policy and pre-travel authorization forms were included.

Mr. Pahl noted a major change is that commissioners will sign off as liaison to department heads, but staff members would be approved by department head; no commissioner sign-off would be needed. This was discussed previously, but not acted on and implemented. An explanation on travel facts will also be included. Commissioner Givens talked about staff using their own cars and being allowed to use a gas card. Chair Murdock added, if county car is available and they choose to use their own car, gas will not be provided by county. Mr. Chalmers asked about vacation time around a conference time (and use of county or personal vehicles). Mr. Pahl noted

if the supervisor approves, it is OK. Commissioner Elfering suggested there be a provision for approval to allow for exceptions. Discussion continued about reimbursing for mileage, use of county gas card, if county car is not available. Mr. Olsen felt this needs to be discussed – exceptions, concerns, common practices. Mr. Chalmers reiterated in his department, he has only paid for 1 way if a vacation is tacked onto the training. Commissioner Givens noted that Mike McArthur (AOC Director) pays the lesser amount in mileage rather than in gas cards according to IRS rates. Mr. Olsen advised the County pays 45 cents mileage reimbursement. IRS is 55 cents reimbursement.

There was further discussion about management decision by department. Mr. Pahl wants to avoid the Finance Department having to make the call about what is covered or not. Chair Murdock felt comfortable to adopt the travel policy changes with the exception of personal use of vehicle. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve adopting the revised Personnel Policy 4.4 with removing the lack of reimbursement of personal vehicle use. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.** The present policy for expenses paid for personal vehicle use will remain.

15. Appointment to Budget Committee. **Commissioner Elfering moved to appoint Scott Sager to the Umatilla County Budget Committee (in place of Nancy Mabry who cannot attend this year), including adoption of Order No. BCC2015-043. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
16. Appointment to EOTEC Authority Board. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC2015-042, reappointing Kim Puzey to the EOTEC Board of Directors. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
17. AOC Payable. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the payable for dues to the Association of Oregon Counties in the amount of \$20,322.01. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
18. Echo Community Benefit Plan Grant. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the ECB Board's recommendation to award \$9,800 to the Echo Community Church and to adopt Order No. BCC2015-045. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
19. Authorize Grant to the Umatilla County Historical Society. Commissioner Elfering noted application was received from the UCHS to contribute to the purchase of a building in downtown Pendleton to relocate the Community Bargain Counter. He advised a contribution has been made to general fund in amount of \$10,000. This request is for one time. Commissioner Givens pointed out it would be \$15,000 total for the year. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve an Economic Development grant and payable to Umatilla County Historical society in the amount of \$10,000. Seconded by Chair Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
20. Umatilla Basin Water Commission Dissolution. Commissioner Elfering advised this is to dissolve the commission. The 5 main parties agreed at the meeting earlier in the week to the dissolution as spelled out. Assets are being acquired for \$100,000 by the Butter Creek Irrigation District. Discussion included length of time it has taken to wind things up (going on 3 years).

Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt BCC Order No. 2015-046. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.

21. CAPECO Work Plan. Mr. Olsen advised approval is sought for the bi-annual work plan. Chair Murdock reviewed it and recommends approval. **Chair Murdock moved to approve CAPECO's Work Plan and authorize signing it. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
22. Appointment to LPSCC. Commissioner Elfering reported. Approval is sought to appoint Carol Speed of GOBHI to the Umatilla County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt Order No. BCC 2015-044. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

There was no executive session.

Commissioner Reports

1. Commissioner Givens. While in Salem Monday and Tuesday, a significant reception was held for Leadership Hermiston at Greg Smith's home. It was well attended and went very well.

On Tuesday, he met at the state capitol for education session with lobbyists. Mike McArthur also attended as AOC's representative. HB 2508 was considered and testimony was heard. He does not know what the proposal will be at this time.

Today he will testify on SB 668, a Bill to allow counties to charge a fee for use of right of way construction of facilities along county public roads (discussed earlier by Mike McArthur). If this passes, counties can charge fees where they have not been able to previously. Cities can charge fees (through ordinance), but counties cannot.

In addition, a licensing Bill (amendment of SB 948) will be heard today. Chair Murdock noted EO Forum at BMCC last night where Rob Bovett attended. He felt it was a great and clear presentation – one of the best at the EO Forum. He appreciated Mr. Bovett's attendance and his great presentation, in particular, about marijuana. Chair Murdock requested that Mr. McArthur give Mr. Bovett a special pat on the back for his great efforts and representation of AOC.

2. Commissioner Elfering. He attended a meeting in Boardman last weekend of the Joint Ways & Means Committee. Water and irrigation was the main topic. Infrastructure projects were highlighted.

He tended a LPSCC meeting yesterday. One major issue is SB 822 regarding recording of preliminary hearings of grand jury proceedings and in courtrooms. [Mr. McArthur said it is being opposed]. Commissioner Elfering advised the LPSCC group felt it is a confidentiality concern. Wireless and internet is not functioning well in Pendleton and Hermiston – it is a challenge to present evidence by computer. Commissioner Elfering noted that he will discuss this connectivity issue with Dan Lonai in Administrative Services.

He attended AOC meetings on Monday by telephone. Primary discussion was Water Resources Department and SB 839. Commissioner Givens noted a request to support place based integrated water resources planning. He feels part of that was discussion about well issues exempt from water rights (domestic wells) has to do with loan funds from part of \$51 million regarding pumps with shortage issues of domestic wells. Another issue was it would extend only to those with

80% or less of median income – he’s not sure how this would be incorporated -- by region or otherwise.

Commissioner Elfering also reported about a meeting of the Columbia Blue Mountain RC&D he attended yesterday. They are struggling at this time; they are looking for a leader in development. RC&D used to have primary impetus from the USDA, but that is no longer. CBMRC&D scheduled a meeting in 6 months to discuss a project to help with funding.

Commissioner Givens went back to water issues, in particular, a federal drought declaration in Umatilla County. He noted in Washington, Walla Walla has had a federal drought declaration. He talked about the Walla Walla basin and how to recognize that in Oregon as an individual basin. They are still looking at a process to consider how to separate the basins.

3. Commissioner Murdock noted for general interest the Umatilla County Public Health Awareness Dinner last week. Over 150 attended. He believes they raised about \$10,000. Next year they are looking to double attendance -- to about 300.

Last week, the Tri-County Veterans Services Roundup was held in Pendleton. Veterans Administration representatives, representatives from AOC and many area veterans attended. It was a great sharing event.

There was no further business.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary
Umatilla County Board of Commissioners