

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of June 3, 2015
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

** **

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Tom Fellows, Public Works Director; Dan Durfey, Weed Department Supervisor; Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director; Capt. Dave Williamson, UCSO; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director; Meghan DeBolt, Public Health Director; Sally Sundin, Pendleton citizen; Paul Chalmers, A&T Director

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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 state where you live for the record.

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

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence. Chair Murdock read correspondence/recognitions. (1) A card from the Pendleton Rotary Club, signed by Dr. Jake Cambier and Bob Blanc -- thanks for the generous donation to the District Rotary Conference recently held in Pendleton. A total of about 500 people attended and spent 4 days. It was a great promotion for tourism. 2) Kudos to Deputy Westmoreland for his assistance when a citizen's car was hit. And also for his kindness to a man he was transporting to jail – paid for the man's dinner at a local food place out of his own pocket. 3) Kudos to Sgt Roberts for helping a stranded motorist – fixed his tire in the rain. It is great to see deputies out helping people in need.

Acknowledgment of minutes of previous meetings. Commissioner Givens moved acknowledge meeting minutes for Board meetings of 1/29/15; 2/12/15; and 02/18/15. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering Carried, 3-0.

Additions to Agenda. None.

Public Input and Recognition of Visitors. Sally Sundin, Pendleton, came to the podium. Speaking as the mother of an addict, she recently found out about the process for help with an overdose (if they do not have insurance) – the process for help in Pendleton is in a bad state. The Detox facility does not give appropriate medication for treatment of opiate withdrawal. In Umatilla County we are in a mess for meth and heroin addiction. She can point out a few blocks from the courthouse where drugs can be purchased (heroin, meth and Suboxone). Scientific evidence says cold turkey detox does not work. At the detox facility in town, a person can only get Benadryl for treatment – that is not sufficient. She referred to

materials from David Sheff who has written a book “Clean” about addiction; it came out a year or so ago; a very influential person. She talked about others appearing on TV to discuss the epidemic of meth in the U.S. based off of Sheff’s book. She has his attention. She is from Umatilla County – the worst meth county in the state (from June 2006). She also talked about her relative, a DA in Lawrence County in the Ozarks and discussions she has had with him about the bad meth problem in Umatilla County. We are worried about putting statues on potholes in Pendleton, we are worried about smells/odors (reference to marijuana and ordinances in Pendleton) and farts (per a recent newspaper article/letter to the editor in the EO). She is worried about students being given free meth at the (Bedford) Bridge across from the high school to get them addicted. Good food is needed at the high school to keep kids in school and away from drugs right across the street. David Sheff is writing about addiction and the ties to it. She then left.

There were no other presentations to the board.

Commissioner Elfering talked about Ms. Sundin’s frustration with the situation. The issues Ms. Sundin references are in the City of Pendleton limits – maybe they could be shared with Police Chief Stuart Roberts. Capt. Williams said he could provide information to the BENT Detective for further investigation. Chair Murdock noted Ms. Sundin’s comments appeared to be directed to the Pendleton City Council, Eastern Oregon Alcohol Foundation, the Pendleton School District and the Pendleton Police Department.

Agenda

1. Retrofit Exterior Doors Crash Bars. Presented by Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director. The proposal to rectify issue with exterior doors of the courthouse (the main, north, CARE entrance and Elections entrance). All have issues when doors are locked there is no egress through that door to get out. During business hours doors are unlocked, but not so for those who are here after hours and they need to be able to get out. The cost to retrofit all four doors is about \$13,000 (the north door would cost about \$8,000; the front/main door frame is useable, so it will cost about \$3,500). The plan is to take the costs out of next year’s budget. Commissioner Elfering talked about specifics and Dan agreed to double check needs for all doors. Discussion continued about people working after hours and the safety and security for after-hours workers and the need for access, also about cameras, and about Fire Marshall inspection for doors/safety. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve moving forward with the door retrofit. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
2. Authorize Contract for Mental Health Services. Presented by Meghan DeBolt, Public Health Director. A Request For Proposals was issued for providing Mental Health services at the School Based Health Centers (Pendleton High School and Pendleton Middle School). She recommends moving forward to contract with Osoa Therapy and hopes to have the contract in place before school year is over. The current provider is retiring and could provide transition before leaving. This is part of a State Mental Health grant. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the contract for mental services from Osoa Therapy. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering.** Discussion: Chair Murdock noted that Ms. DeBolt has worked hard to create partners in the community. Our mission is to fill in the spaces where needed and when the private sector does not provide services. Doug Olsen noted that, historically, these services have been contracted out. **Carried, 3-0.**
3. Authorize Purchase of ATV for Weed Department. Dan Durfey, Weed Department Supervisor, presented. The Weed Department needs a more powerful ATV for the field. Quotes were

requested for equipment including a sprayer and the ability to drive in rough terrain. They do work in BLM areas with steep and rocky areas. They need more power when hauling 25 gallons. The Weed Department has brought in approximately \$18,000 extra in revenue due to added money in existing contracts. The recommendation is to authorize purchase from Oregon Power Sports. **Commissioner Elfering moved to authorize purchase of a 2015 Suzuki ATV from Oregon Power Sports in the amount of \$8,900. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

4. Fee Ordinance Amendments. A public hearing was called to order at 9:25 by Chair Murdock. The first reading of Ordinance No. 2015-04 was done. The staff report was made by Mr. Olsen. This is annual update for fees for services for County departments. He went through the ordinance summarizing the changes. In answer to a question from Commissioner Givens about Fairground fees, Mr. Olsen noted those fees will only be for one more year as EOTEC will set fees after that.

There were no additional questions. There were no comments or questions from the audience. Chair Murdock closed the public hearing at 9:34. **Commissioner Givens moved to set the Second Reading of the Ordinance for the Board meeting on 6/17/15. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

5. Gray Wolf Delisting. Commissioner Givens gave the background. He had asked Mr. Olsen to prepare a resolution based on a sample form that was received from another county. He felt it would be good for Umatilla County to document its support for the delisting. **In the Matter of Requesting the Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission to Delist the Gray Wolf Under the Oregon Endangered Species Act, Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2015-051. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**
6. Vehicle Repair – Criminal Division. Capt. Dave Williamson presented. This accident happened when the deputy hit a guardrail to avoid hitting a dog. It will cost about \$5,500 to repair. Commissioner Elfering noted it appeared only one estimate was obtained; he recommended getting a second estimate in the future. Capt. Williamson advised the Sheriff's Office is looking to purchase deer catchers for vehicles next year. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the payable and invoice from Pendleton Auto Body in the amount of \$5,257.20. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Bower Payable. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the payable to Susan Bower, Eastern Oregon Business Source in the amount of \$7,200 for April and May Services. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock noted that Susan Bower has been used for a variety of personnel items in addition to professional development. Her work has been excellent.
8. Seasonal Help. Tom Fellows, Public Works. At Harris Park, the proposed camp host will not be there for health reasons and staff will need additional help. Revenues are better than anticipated; fees collection is \$8,800 so far for this year (just on space rentals) and State revenues are up \$6,600. These are unanticipated revenues. What is suggested is to employ summer help in the \$12 to \$15/hour range based on skills, knowledge and abilities. This will make sure the Park is covered. Mr. Fellows' intent with the suggested wage scale is to attract good skills base and knowledge. The camp host is a volunteer position, but he noted some counties pay their hosts a

small stipend (Morrow County). He feels Umatilla County should go that direction – maybe \$15 to \$20 per day. Normally, these hosts are retired – some money would offset their costs. It would be about \$1,500 to \$1,800 for the season, but it would allow attracting a larger pool of applicants. He has talked to Robert Pahl, CFO, but will need to touch base with him again for the new fiscal year. Chair Murdock commented favorably about Harris Park and has heard good comments from the public about changes happening there. Mr. Fellows agreed there are a lot of compliments this year as compared to last year -- many more positive than negative comments. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve adding one seasonal position employee to Harris Park effective 6/1/15. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

Commissioners' Reports:

Commissioner Givens will attend the NEACT meeting tomorrow, 9 a.m. to noon in La Grande. This is a quarterly meeting; they will review bylaws and other administrative items.

Executive Session – Employment, pursuant to ORS 192.600(a,b,h) was declared by Chair Murdock at 9:53 a.m. He asked Jennifer Blake, Human Resources, to stay and the remainder of the audience to please vacate the room. Separate minutes were taken.

The Executive Session concluded at 10:12 a.m. and Chair Murdock called the regular Board meeting back to order.

Commissioner Reports, continued. Commissioner Elfering had a meeting with Sheriff's Office to preview materials to be presented at the Dispatch information meeting tomorrow (June 4). They are expecting probably 35 to 40 partners to attend the meeting. Some issues include costs and formula for payments.

He spoke this morning before the Board meeting with Jesse Shaw about ATV use on County roads – a follow-up from previous discussions.

Depot update: Don Chance officially retired as of 5/31/15. There is an interim Director at the Columbia Development Authority until the new Director comes on board.

State Fair update: He sent a letter from Umatilla County officially withdrawing from participation at the State Fair. Karie Walchli, County Tourism Coordinator, met several times with State Fair representatives. The County's location at the State Fair was not adequate and they were not willing to work with us.

He has had good liaison meetings with UCSO and DA's office. He said Dan Primus was concerned about vehicles and ethics. He wanted to be sure he was using his vehicle properly (in light of the recent Senior Manager meeting about ethics and public officials). Commissioner Elfering clarified the DA's use is proper and assured him he is on firm ground with the way he is using his vehicle. On another subject, he received a complaint that an "E" plate car was dropping off his child at school. This was clarified by the Sheriff's Office and had been approved in advance – the person was on 24 hour on-call.

Back to the Depot: The Army wants all the water certificates; the County wants them to share. Martha Pagel reviewed and gave an opinion. The Corps of Engineers is to be looking at this and hopefully the issue will be resolved. The Depot will transfer back sometime late in the fall – it seems to be moving backward. He will talk with Greg Smith about this issue. Suggestion is to involve Congress to get something done.

Commissioner Elfering will be the guest on KOHU Odds & Ends tomorrow.

Chair Murdock: He will be the guest on Tribal radio tomorrow.

He appreciated Commissioner Elfering's and Karie Walchli's work for months on the State Fair. In light of the decision to not participate in the State Fair, he would like to ramp up the County presence at the County Fair. Commissioner Elfering felt this will be done in addition to increasing tourism and products displays. He feels there will be feedback and disappointment about not having a County presence at State Fair. Chair Murdock hoped there will be a very good showing at the County Fair similar to what was previously at the State Fair. This could be good and positive.

On 6/16, he will have cataract surgery. He will be able to chair the 6/17/15 Board meeting.

Lately he's been working on evaluations of Senior Managers and staff.

He has gotten a lot of positive feedback from the public about the County's reserving funds for PERS. PERS reserve fund was a great proactive move. Many other counties did not do this. Chair Murdock added that the PERS board still has some findings to decide.

Regarding the budget, Chair Murdock advised that indirect costs associated with programs other than General Fund (Human Resources, Finance, Legal Counsel and maybe others) will need to be addressed next year. Last year, administrative changes were a focal point.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

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