

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of August 19 , 2015
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Bill Clemens, Pacific Power, Walla Walla; Dale Primmer, Community Justice Director; Paul Chalmers, A&T Director; Phil Wright, East Oregonian; Gina Miller, Planning-Code Enforcement; Sharon Waldern, UCo Health; Meghan DeBolt, UCo Health Director; Pat Beard, Travel Pendleton-Chamber; Scott Fairley, Regional Solutions; John Trumbo, Clear Alliance

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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 led by Commissioner Givens.

Awards/Recognitions/Correspondence. None today.

Acknowledgment of Minutes of Previous Meetings. Commissioner Elfering moved to acknowledge the minutes of the meeting of 7/28/15. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0. Commissioner Elfering also moved to acknowledge the minutes of 8/5/15 regular board meeting and the minutes of the Executive Session. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.

Additions to Agenda. None.

Public Input and Recognition of Visitors. Chair Murdock asked if anyone would like to address the Board for something other than what is on the agenda.

Agenda – Business Items

1. **Presentation – Clear Alliance.** John Trumbo, Pendleton, came to the podium as spokesperson. (Children Learning through Education And Research). He had many debates about marijuana information pros and cons and after the ballot measure passed, people need to be educated about marijuana. The non-profit group of volunteers was formed to provide proper information. Most harmed are children for those that abuse substances. There are grant opportunities available and they would like to see a variety of disciplines – law enforcement, government, health, etc. He would like to see Umatilla County to be the first to

support their efforts in obtaining grants. He noted the advisory group and those represented; a lot of information is shared at face to face meetings and conference calls. Medical professionals make presentations that are very eye opening -- facts and figures are cited and sourced and information is valid and proven.

Their goal is to educate the public. They are not political – information is for use as one sees fit. Thus the need to apply for grants to cover costs of their operation, which is growing very rapidly. His request is for Umatilla County to support the effort of applying for grants. He presented a hand-out of information to review for action at a time in the near future. He requested a form of testimonial letter. On 9/3/15 Clear Alliance representatives will be in Salem to present at a conference about narcotics; they also have plans to make presentations statewide. They have a paid Executive Director. Part of the grant funds would go to that position. Clear Alliance addresses all substance abuse – not just marijuana. However, they are now targeting marijuana and heroin as well as prescription drugs, alcohol, and meth as part of crime prevention programs. The focus is on children who start with marijuana as it is a “gateway”. The Board took no action, but further discussion would be held at a future meeting.

2. Presentation – Update – Wallula to McNary Project. Bill Clemens, Pacific Power in Walla Walla, presented. He distributed fact sheets to the Board for information. This is part of the public outreach on this project. He introduced Brian Fritz, Project Manager, to answer questions if needed. He advised that Tamra Mabbott asked him to note the Planning Commission will review the project first to make their recommendation – today’s presentation to the Board of Commissioners is strictly informational.

This Gateway energy transmission expansion will be \$6 billion. This project is part of an overall system upgrade. In particular, this line will be used for customer needs to facilitate energy demands. He referred to a map in the hand-out for the subject area. In Umatilla County, the line will be sited adjacent to an existing transmission line. It will be submitted in the permit application with input from landowners. He went on to elaborate on the specifics including project plans, work done from 2008 to date, and timeline of items. The project went dormant for a couple of years, but it is revived at this time. He went on to talk about benefits – power to move to market, for safe electrical generation and also jobs creation. In particular, it is for wind projects that would tie into the transmission system. He went on to list activities to be undertaken for future work. Pacific Power has worked closely with communities involved and has taken public comments into consideration. System service reliability is also a benefit.

There is also a “gateway” project. A big portion is in Idaho and Wyoming to bring those resources through Oregon. He mentioned B2H project is another transmission project – it is part of bigger transmission event in the West. It has been about 20 years since the last big program.

Commissioner Givens asked about efforts to increase capacity to bring in renewables – what percentage is Pacificcorp? Mr. Clemens advised currently about 60% is coal-fired generation. As those facilities reach the end of useful life, reliance on coal is projected to be about 30%. Those resources need to be replaced. This big project is part of that. Regarding

sustainability, Commissioner Givens asked if Pacificorp is considering natural gas as a replacement to coal. Mr. Clemens responded the 10-year plan moving forward is wind is more the focus as opposed to natural gas. They have diverse area covered in the Pacific NW in renewable mix. Also a lot of work in how power is scheduled for transmission – key is to have infrastructure in place to maximize generation of power sources. Discussion continued: the existing transmission system is at total capacity – there is no spare power. New lines would provide more capacity. It promotes load growth by allowing more capacity. In light of a lot of fires recently in the area, wood vs. steel structures were discussed. Mr. Fritz noted that steel is twice the cost of wood. More than burning the structure down, the power insulators get grounded out.

Commissioner Elfering applauded co-locating the line alongside another transmission line. He commends that as it reduces economic impact to landowners. Mr. Fritz advised the line will follow BPA at the River – it is a mix about height and size of transmission lines. Some discussion went on about the B2H project and the line location as well as utility companies, landowners, public comment and process of siting. The area in question with this project, there is not a lot of high value agriculture area, for the most part.

3. Travel Pendleton – Pat Beard, Pendleton Chamber. Mr. Beard showed a Power Point presentation and provided a hand-out for the Board. Tourism in Pendleton and Umatilla County is probably the largest under-utilized economic engine. There are a lot of assets noting downtown Pendleton is being restored -- Underground Tours in particular; great local food and drink; great events – Round-Up draws people and many people come back. There are about 50 events in addition to the annual Round-Up to bring people in overnight, including the Farmer’s Market and a compact downtown. Urban people look for places to get out of the city -- Pendleton is handmade every day. He talked about a three minute video for use on Instagram for best impact. He is working on a project tied to Seattle with billboards, Instagram and Facebook – all very powerful and effective. For example, the Seattle Seahawks 12th man flag event had great response in the region. Social media is far reaching. Travel Oregon is an incredible marketing machine which he is using. They increased tourism in Wallowa at Painted Hills by almost 70% in that one campaign – 7 wonders in Oregon. He also talked about economic impact; for example, about \$700,000 for the “Bike Week” earlier this summer in Pendleton. He went on to provide figures for direct travel spending in Oregon and in Umatilla County -- a little more than \$140 million spent in overnight stays. Visitor spending in Umatilla County in 2014 a little over \$60 million (not overnight). Also depicted was the employment impact; total direct earnings total = \$45 million in Umatilla County. He also talked about potential ideas to be developed for attracting tourism more year-round, not just one week a year at Round-Up.

Billboards on I-84 could be a huge draw to get people off of the highway to come to Pendleton. Mr. Beard advised billboards are a much underutilized advertising tool. It can be expensive, but the reward would be huge. Chair Murdock noted the value of local assets. Mr. Beard suggested going to the Facebook page of Travel Pendleton to see postings of all things local.

Commissioner Elfering noted Travel Pendleton is requesting \$10,000 from Economic and Community Development funds for the “Hipster” (Seattle) project. Chair Murdock asked

about targeting Portland at some point. Mr. Beard responded the Seattle area is the initial target based on many factors. He is looking at demographics and things will evolve to be refined for the near future. Commissioner Elfering added the funding request would come from Lottery dollars, and this project would be a good economic development tool. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the \$10,000 funding request to come from the Economic Development budget.** Mr. Beard noted \$4,500 would be for the first market campaign in Seattle in 2015 (calendar year), then in 2016, January – June 30, Portland would be targeted based on research. **Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock commented about the unified thrust with focused projects being an important standard.

4. Presentation - Regional Solutions. Scott Fairley, Eastern Oregon Regional Solutions Governor Brown's office, presented a summary update. His region includes 10 eastern Oregon counties. He talked about the make-up/representation of the advisory committee, working with various business development groups and projects are identified in this region. Highest priorities have been identified around timber, workforce, and marketability. A total of \$13 million has been awarded of which Umatilla County received \$1.476 million for two projects – water improvement at the Port of Umatilla, and a project in Grant County for a biomass reduction project. Also, \$5 million was awarded to address forest priorities in the region for restoration projects and for saw logs to go to mills. \$7 million will go to regional industrial sites; with additional funds for career technical education. \$11 million will go for Umatilla Basin water supply development. In a previous legislative session, \$1 million was awarded to demolish recovery center. It was a great legislative session for Umatilla County and the region.

Projects - work continues on industrial land in Pendleton and Pilot Rock to develop sites that would make applications higher up on priority list. He feels sometime this fall funding will be approved. A technical career education program –a partnership was formed with BMCC, EOU and Treasure Valley Community College to identify what type of jobs and the proper education program curriculum to provide workforce training. Jobs identified were truck driving, nursing and health, manager and supervisors, correctional officers, forest and rangeland technicians, and mechatronics skills. These are project growth areas.

Continuing work with Pendleton Unmanned Aerial Program at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport in Pendleton. In addition, work continues with Columbia Development Authority for economic development potential. They are also working with DEQ and stakeholders in the Umatilla Basin to coordinate investments in irrigation infrastructure to reduce nitrates (food processors and agriculture).

Umatilla and Morrow County are the busiest counties in the region. Chair Murdock asked for a summary of statistics. Mr. Fairley agreed to email the summary information. He noted the process will start soon for 2017 Regional Solutions projects to go to the legislature for budgeting review and approval. Capital projects and also non-capital projects will be advanced in 2016 budget request.

Recessed for 5 minutes at 10:28.

5. Community Correction Biennial Plan Approval. Dale Primmer, Community Justice Director, provided a summary including history, updated plan, budget, programs – all of which were submitted to the local advisory committee for review and recommendation for approval. The figures/budget is for biennial period. A grant application will be due in October for Justice Reinvestment funds. Umatilla County's share is 2.38% based on formula and population; the county's portion would be \$914,000. He went over the type of programs included, reporting, budget, etc.

At this time, a letter of support by the Board of Commissioners is requested to include in the plan. Commissioner Givens asked Mr. Primmer about the domestic violence component. Mr. Primmer noted this is an addition in the plan this year. Previously, domestic violence was an unaddressed component. A funding opportunity was realized to use for dedication to provide supervision, services, and sanctions in domestic violence cases. This meets criteria of public safety, therefore resources are added in the plan for the next biennium. Commissioner Givens commends Mr. Primmer and the Community Justice Department for including awareness of domestic violence – he also noted the role of Public Health coordinating the education aspect regarding domestic violence. Chair Murdock added domestic violence was introduced by Mark Royal (Mr. Primmer's predecessor who retired in July) as a major concern, where he made it a priority to add the domestic violence program to the Correction Plan. A joint project will also deal with child abuse and prevention aspect. Meghan DeBolt (Health Department Director) noted an assessment program will coordinate with St. Anthony Hospital. The program will be to jointly hire a full-time violence prevention coordinator to identify and work in schools in health education focusing on healthy relationships. There is an evidence based curriculum available in schools.

Subcommittee for LPSCC was tasked to identify priorities and funding available. They agreed to continue with focus of a "day management program" – intensive supervision for high risk people with chronic behavior. Second will be for treatment in the jail (along with Lifeways) – an underserved population since budget reductions in 2008 when some programs were lost. That program for the future will be a more holistic approach working with community partners for resources to people coming out of jail. Drug court program has changed based on legal authority; the committee agreed to not work with that program any longer – it will be handled in a different way through a different program. He also talked about billing and collection for treatment of indigent population. Three unfunded programs were left based on the committee priorities. Inmate welfare money for transitional housing, subsidy to some extent will assist when inmates are released. Mr. Primmer talked about the aging prison population being released and has nowhere to go and no one to help – those people go to the transitional housing. That facility is 13 beds and about 8 people are there for a relatively long time.

He talked about Bill 1145 dealing with probation revocations. New alternative forms of sanctions. Funds will allow for the funding increase of a position from part-time to full-time. Also funds will be used for some new equipment – cellular device rather than a land line for tracking.

Commissioner Elfering asked about planning on mental health court. Mr. Primmer responded Lifeways and LPSCC are looking for models to use in our area. Commissioner Elfering noted a program with Lifeways/UCSO for mental health services of those in jail and those who should not be in jail – different viable treatments before and after. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the Community Corrections Plan for 7/1/15 – 6/30/17. Seconded by Commissioner Givens. Carried, 3-0.**

Chair Murdock commended Mr. Primmer for having Community Justice take on oversight of A&D/Human Services. Mr. Primmer said there are many great people working in the County.

6. Authorize Purchase of Vehicle for A&T. Paul Chalmers, A&T Director. Authorization is sought to issue a request for proposals for a vehicle to be funded out of the Fleet Management Fund. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve issuing a Request for Proposals for a Used/Program mid-sized vehicle for Assessment and Taxation, not to exceed \$16,000. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Network Assessment. Mr. Olsen presented for Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director. There is concern about the county's network, especially dispatch and the system they use. He requests a consultant to perform an assessment. \$5,240 is the consultant's bid, recommend by Mr. Lonai for approval. This would be for an evaluation of servers county-wide. Commissioner Elfering asked about Dispatch. Mr. Olsen advised the request today is for the entire county network. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve the contract with Cerium Networks for \$5,240. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering . Carried, 3-0.**
8. Household Hazardous Waste. Gina Miller, Code Enforcement/Planning, presented. This is opportunity for the County to host a hazardous waste collection1 event – notices and advertising will be forthcoming shortly. DEQ is stepping up to pay for the event (about \$50,000-\$60,000) and the County would be responsible for advertising and providing some volunteer time. This is a by-product of approved programs. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve county participation in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event. Seconded by Commissioner Givens.** Question by Commissioner Elfering as compared to a program in Hermiston for recyclers with people bringing household hazardous waste. Ms. Miller answered the reason for collection events is to keep hazardous materials out of landfills and the ground. Commissioner Givens commented that hazardous waste primarily goes to the facility in Arlington. Tires and paint will not be a part of this event. A list of materials was provided previously to BCC. **Motion carried, 3-0.**
9. Create Position – Environmental Health. Meghan DeBolt, Public Health Director, presented. She and Melissa Nye met with State representatives about the number of licensed facilities in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, which is over 580 facilities. Based on that large number, another full-time inspector is needed. The recommendation is 1 inspector for every 280 facilities. Next year, after approval of a new House Bill, it would be 1 FTE for every 200 facilities. This is a huge and demanding job. Now, with 2 FTEs they are able to be 100% compliance with state requirement. Commissioner Givens added the state is putting more pressure on counties to take on on-site inspections -- possibly another mandated but unfunded requirement of the state. Chair Murdock noted Robert Pahl, CFO, and Jennifer Blake, HR

Director, both have reviewed this item, and it is approved by them at this time. Commissioner Elfering asked about sustainability? Mr. DeBolt noted Public Health is looking at fees and other ways to raise resources. They are looking at fee models for environmental health in other counties for equity; also to look at savings and for next year, in particular the Morrow County contract will be reviewed for possible changes to increase its fund contribution for that contract. Commissioner Givens also talked about mobile vendors and how much time inspections can take as well as any required follow up; those are things to consider in addition when looking at changing the fee structure. Commissioner Elfering noted long-term strategy for sustainability of budget. Ms. DeBolt clarified about a .5 FTE position and offsetting of funding and what positions will be funded in what programs for full coverage.

Commissioner Givens moved to approve a new Environmental Health Specialist position effective immediately, with condition – to look at reevaluating fees – legally, can we readjust fee structure regarding non-compliance. Mr. Olsen answered, the County is limited by state administrative rules. Mr. DeBolt noted a model she is looking at from Deschutes County that covers this area. Commissioner Givens stressed the importance of building sustainability and not inadvertently penalizing folks who are staying in compliance. **Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock noted for budget discussion, he would like to have the Finance Office provide an analysis of contribution of Public Health to general fund in the last three years. Marie Jones agreed to work on that information.

10. Request For Proposals for Medical Services. Ms. DeBolt requested Board authorization to submit an RFP for medical services at the School Based Health Centers. She has worked in the recent past with St. Anthony Hospital and also with Praxis, but there are independent service practitioners in the communities available. She responded to Commissioner Elfering and explained nurse practitioner and physician assistant duties – they work under oversight by a physician. To be compliant, St. Anthony Hospital has a grant to pay for this so there is not a budget impact. **Commissioner Givens moved to approve issuance for an RFP for medical services for Public Health School Based Health Centers. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Motion carried, 3-0.**

Commissioners' Reports. Deferred until next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary
Umatilla County Board of Commissioners