

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of December 7, 2016
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Members and Guests Present: Dusty Pace; Joe Boyle, Gardner Trucking; Robert Pahl, Chief Finance Officer; Paul Chalmers, Assessment & Taxation Director; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director; Umatilla County Sheriff's Office: Jim Littlefield, Steven McDaniel, Thoren Hearn, Kathy Lieuallen, Kerri Roberts, Tabetha Koehler, Rachell Faber; Debbie Swenson, AFSCME President

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Vice-Chair Larry Givens welcomed all.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Elfering.

Vice-Chair Givens reminded those present that the meeting is a public forum. It is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Comments will become part of the meeting record. If persons wish to speak before the Board, please come to the podium, identify yourself and state where you live for the record.

Awards/Correspondence. Commissioner Elfering read recognition to 911 Dispatch by an email sent by Gordon Krom , Dispatcher about excellent job of Justin Russell handling a call from a citizen who became lost in the woods near Emigrant Springs. He was able to track her location and guide her back to the freeway. Commissioner Elfering commented about a good outcome when many have ended in tragedy. Kathy Lieuallen added she was listening in and agreed Justin did a fantastic job working with the caller the whole time in unfamiliar back dirt roads, starting to rain and his making sure a citizen was safe. Commissioner Givens asked her (and other Sheriff's office personnel) to introduce those present. Kerri Roberts (7 years at Dispatch, 14 years at County), Tabitha Koehler (3 years at Dispatch) and Deputy Rachell Faber. Also present, Jim Littlefield, Thoren Hearn and Deputy Steve McDaniel (one of newest members of the Sheriff's Office).

Secondly, Commissioner Elfering talked about programs taught by Deputies in schools throughout the region -- "Kids C.A.R.E. program and "Impact Teen Drivers". "Kids Can Always Report Emergencies" teaches how to use 911 and how to be effective reporters with needed information. The "Teen Impact Drivers" program is designed for grades 9-12, learning about distracted driving – teaching teens to be safe on the road (as drivers and as passengers). This can save lives.

Thirdly, a letter was received from Cliff & Judy Bracher commending County Planning and Land Use staff who have been very helpful in working through the process of zoning permits. In particular, appreciation goes to Tamra Mabbott, Carol Johnson and Bob Waldher as well as support staff in complex process. Also, P.S. expressing appreciation to County for clean-up project and painting of the maintenance and storage building north of the courthouse – it shows pride in the neighborhood.

Lastly, more thank you cards have been received from kids (Jubilee Tabler, Austin Naillon and Olivia Warner) for County financial support at the recent Pendleton Junior Livestock Show. Funds are used to boost livestock sales to equalize some of the prices.

Minutes of Previous Meeting. None.

Additions to Agenda. None.

Public Input for those items other than what is on the agenda.

Presentations: None.

Business Items:

1. **Tax Redemption Hearing.** Vice-Chair Givens called the hearing to order at 9:18 a.m. and asked Mr. Olsen for the staff report. He advised this is for two lienholders who did not receive notice of the previous hearing on tax redemption period acceleration (Sunridge Estate lots). Vice-Chair Givens declared the hearing open. There were no questions for staff. He asked City of Pendleton Attorney, Nancy Kerns, to come forward. She advised the City is a lienholder and supports the acceleration of the redemption period. There were no other public comments. The hearing was closed at 9:20 a.m. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt order No. TX2016-07. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
2. **Sale of Property.**
 - a. **Pilch.** Mr. Olsen advised that the bid made by Tim Pilch is meets minimum bid requirement (bid for \$8,550, Pendleton Tax Lot 2N3210-DA-12200). **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2016-083. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
 - b. **Pace.** Mr. Olsen advised this is a lot in the Sunridge Estate subdivision; the high bid was from Dusty Pace. There was an earlier auction but no bids were received then. Based on the amount of the bid (\$36,100 for Tax Lot 2N3214-CC-13500); the recommendation is to accept the offer. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2016-084. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
 - c. **City of Pendleton.** Mr. Olsen advised the City of Pendleton was the only bidder on all the other Sunridge Estate Division lots. Liens will be satisfied through the bids; the recommendation is to accept the bids. Commissioner Elfering asked about the three different amounts for three different lots. Mr. Chalmers noted some topography issues account for different amounts. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2016-085. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
3. **Weed Department Vehicle.** Tom Fellows, Public Works Director, presented. This is for a pickup to replace one that has had electrical issues and the dealer is not able to identify the problem; it is not repairable. Recently, the pickup started itself (with no keys and no one was in the pickup), wherein the police called to ask how to shut it off. Weed contracts need to be handled, thus the request to go out for RFP for a new vehicle. It was not budgeted for in this year, but it is felt there is urgency to get a new vehicle due to safety problems to have a reliable vehicle. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve issuing a request for proposals for a new vehicle. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
4. **Edwards Road.** Mr. Olsen noted this is a time for a business owner to talk to the Board about Edwards Road. Joe Boyle, Gardner Trucking, Safety Coordinator, came to the podium. The business

is seeking to use Edwards for access to its business site on Highway 395. Off Highway 207, their trucks travel south on Edwards, then take Edwards to Feedville and turn right onto Highway 395 to access their yard. Other routes are Ott Road (which is not safe – crossing 4 lanes of traffic); the safest route is Edwards Road. Problems have arisen since beautification caused changes in the traffic pattern, and do not allow a left turn out of its business site. Baxter and Canal Roads had restrictions for farm truck traffic. He is asking for consideration of public safety to access Edwards Road. Vice-Chair Givens commented about traffic patterns and safety issues on Edwards, Diagonal, and other intersections. Walls Road (per Tom Fellows) is another bad intersection. In addition, Punkin Center Road and other area roads have restrictions on truck traffic. Discussion continued about through roads, restrictions, understanding problems for truck businesses and traffic routes, possibly using Diagonal Road to Highway 207 and straight through out to Feedville and back in, crossing Highway 395 at Feedville, safety considerations, etc. Vice-Chair Givens suggested talking to ODOT about a turn lane (Mr. Boyle reiterated there was a turn lane until a beautification project about 3-4 years ago). He wants to keep public and drivers safe. Vice-Chair Givens advised the Board can take this under consideration. It was noted the truck restriction has been on Edwards Road for probably 20 years. Mr. Boyle asked to be notified about the Board revisiting this issue. Mr. Olsen was asked to contact Mr. Boyle about any future board meeting to further discuss Edwards Road.

5. Trailer Purchase – Public Works. Mr. Fellows presented. This is his department’s ongoing update to equipment – the pup trailer is on the list. A request for proposals was previously approved, and the proposal is before the Board for approval. This pup trailer is a used (2009) 2-axle end dump trailer. The last one bought was a 1998 or '97 model in very good shape at virtually the same price of this one; it is a good bargain and money is in the budget. He will check equipment needs before determining if one older trailer should go to auction. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve purchase of a 2009 Williamsen trailer for \$15,500 from Benson Brothers. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
6. Purchase of Pickup – Public Works. Mr. Fellows presented. Under the Federal Surplus Property program, a 2005 Ford pickup is available (from the Forest Service) for \$7,875. It is in the 70,000 mile range and is a reasonable deal. The intent is to bring in this one now, and next fall an older vehicle would go to auction. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve purchase a 2005 Ford F350 pickup from the State of Oregon for \$7,385. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
7. Purchase of Vehicle – Human Services (Alcohol & Drug). Mr. Olsen presented. The department went out for proposals for a used minivan. Staff recommendation is to accept the lowest proposal from Hermiston Chrysler for a 2016 Dodge Grand Caravan in amount of \$19,499. This is the department purchase and they have money in the budget. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve accepting the bid as outlined. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
8. Equipment Purchase – Sheriff’s Office. Sgt. Thoren Hearn presented. The jail kitchen requires a large mixer to replace one that keeps needing repairs. Of the three quotes received, the recommendation is to accept the lowest bid from CKitchen in amount of \$7,856.42. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve purchase of a mixer from CKitchen for \$7,856.24. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**
9. Acceptance of Election Results. Mr. Olsen presented. The results of the 11/8/16 election are submitted for acceptance for the Commissioner Position 3 (Commissioner Elfering); Sheriff and the East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District permanent rate and board. **Commissioner Elfering moved to accept the election results and authorize the Chair to sign the acceptance letter. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

10. Formation of District. Mr. Olsen presented. Based on the electors' approval, this is to formally authorize the East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District and to establish the board. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2016-082. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

11. Collective Bargaining Agreement. Mr. Olsen presented. The Collective Bargaining Agreement with AFSCME is up for ratification. The agreement has been ratified by AFSCE Courthouse union. It is another 3-year contract with cost of living adjustments of 2% each year. Next year, for insurance purposes due to unforeseen situation of replacing Lifewise, the agreement can be reopened for insurance. In response to Vice-Chair Givens question to Jennifer Blake, HR Director, about insurance carriers, she noted Blue Mountain Life Underwriters, Doug Beamer, advised there are about five carriers he felt are viable options for the County. Large Claim reports have been requested to Lifewise to go forward with bid proposals after the 1st of the year. The more claim reports the better in getting a look at bids and potential impacts. Discussion continued about challenges and looking at solutions to get something as comparable as possible. Ms. Blake noted during first year, the County needs to be cognizant about talking rates and negotiating rates – especially in the second year. Debbie Swenson, newly elected Union President arrived; she had nothing to add. **Commissioner Elfering moved to ratify the Collective Bargaining Agreement with Umatilla County AFSCME Local Law 3742 for 7/1/16 – 6/30/2019. Seconded by Vice-Chair Givens. Carried, 2-0.**

Executive Session. None.

Commissioner Reports. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt,

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners