

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Administrative Meeting of January 24, 2020  
1:00 p.m., Room 121, Umatilla County Courthouse  
Pendleton, Oregon

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**Commissioners Present:** Chair John Shafer, Vice-Chair George Murdock, and Commissioner Bill Elfering

**County Counsel:** Doug Olsen

**Guests Present:** Alex Castle, East Oregonian

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CALL TO ORDER: Chair Shafer called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. He reminded those present that the meeting is a public forum.

**Business Items**

1. East Umatilla County Fire & Rescue District Formation. Presented by Doug Olsen, County Counsel. He was approached by Dave Baty and others to formalize the relationship between EURFPD, Helix RFPD and the East Umatilla County Area Health District who have been jointly operating under an intergovernmental agreement. The entities want to create a new district to cover all of the fire district areas, and include the City of Athena, at a proposed tax rate of \$1/\$1,000 – which is the same as the current EURFPD rate. The Health District would still remain as an independent special district because the area does not match the fire district boundaries. With the plan to get the district formation before the voters at the May election, the Board of Commissioners is requested to set the first hearing to start the process. Two hearings are required in a short timeframe. In order to do that, the first hearing would be set for February 24 (Monday). And after that, if approved, the second hearing would be set for March 18, which would meet the March 19 election deadline. In order to meet deadlines and set the time for the first hearing, it was necessary to call this special meeting. Mr. Olsen referred to a boundary map that shows the two current first districts and includes the four towns affected (Weston, Adams, Helix, and adding Athena).

**Commissioner Elfering moved to approve by setting the first hearing for 2/24/20 and adopt Order No. BCCD2020-011 (corrected to BCC2020-011). Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

**Executive Session** – none.

The meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melinda Slatt*

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners