

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting of May 20, 2020
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon
Public Call in #: 541-728-0275

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

County Counsel: Doug Olsen

Attendance: Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director; Robert Pahl, Chief Finance Officer; Kim Bolen, Hermiston

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Shafer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The meeting is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. There is a call-in number for those who cannot attend in person. If you have something to say, please identify yourself and state where you live in order to be heard on the record – also note if you are speaking on behalf of others.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Shafer.

Awards/Correspondence/Recognition – Chair Shafer read a letter regarding Glenn Scott from EOCI Superintendent, Sue Washburn, expressing gratitude for Glenn’s time and dedication as a volunteer.

Also, for the record, Commissioner Murdock called out appreciation to Joe Fiumara and staff at UCo Health for all their hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic (echoed by Commissioners Shafer and Elfering).

Minutes – Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the Board minutes from the meeting of 5/6/20. **Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

Additions to Agenda – none.

Public Comments – This is for public input for other than agenda items. There were none.

Business Items

1. **Election Payable.** Presented by Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director. This payable before the Board for approval is for printing and stuffing of ballots done by Bend Mailing Services. It is a routine yearly budgeted expense for conducting an election. **Motion was made by Commissioner Elfering to approve payable of \$6,031.66. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
2. **Maintenance Payable.** Presented by Mr. Lonai. This payable for approval is for electrical work done by Double S Electric for moving security from the second floor to the main floor at the courthouse as part of single entry at the main entrance. It also is for server/new network equipment and for updates to the courthouse chiller. **Motion was made by Commissioner Murdock to approve payable of \$8,476.67. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
3. **Health Insurance Renewal.** Presented by Jennifer Blake, Human Services Director. A proposal/quote was received from PacificSource to renew the county health and dental insurance at the current rate – no increase and no substantial plan changes. This good rate is due to a good loss ratio. Commissioner Elfering commented it is good to have renewal with no increase. **Motion was made by Commissioner Elfering to approve the renewal. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

4. Life Insurance Renewal. Presented by Ms. Blake. A quote was received from US Able Life to renew the current life insurance policy for county employees for fiscal year 20-21 at the current rates with no plan changes. **Motion was made by Commissioner Murdock to approve the renewal. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
5. AFSCME Road CBA Extension. Presented by Ms. Blake. The collective bargaining agreement with the AFSCME Public Works Department bargaining unit expires 6/30. Due to COVID-19 and inability to meet to negotiate a new contract, the union requested the board consider a 1-year contract extension with a 3% COLA. The matter is before the Board for consideration and approval. **Motion was made by Commissioner Elfering to approve the one year extension as presented with the contract to expire 6/30/21. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
6. Exempt & Administrative Salary Schedule. Presented by Ms. Blake. The proposal is for 3% COLA increase for exempt and administrative salaries; it doesn't include elected officials. The effective date is 7/1/20. **Motion was made by Commissioner Elfering to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Harris Park. Presented by Chair Shafer. This is for guidelines of use at Harris Park. Due to the flooding damage there the park has been closed and now propose reopening with repairs completed sufficient to allow some use. To comply with state restrictions due to COVID-19 for use of public parks, guidelines have been established. **Motion was made by Commissioner Murdock to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.** Commissioner Murdock asked how the policy is distributed; he felt it should be provided to anyone who makes a reservation vs. just posting. Mr. Olsen noted this can be done.
8. N. Ott Road No Parking Signs. Presented by Chair Shafer. The County received complaints from neighborhood citizens regarding the cul de sac area on N. Ott Road near Hermiston. Complaints included illegal dumping. Commissioner Elfering commented on continuous problem of dumping garbage. Commissioner Murdock asked about posting no dumping signs as well as fines. Mr. Olsen advised it can be added and the dollar amount could be posted. Commissioner Murdock felt adding those signs might deter more dumping and felt it should be added to the "no parking" signs action. **Motion was made by Commissioner Elfering to approve Order No. RD2020-09, with the provision of adding signs posting the amount of fines with no dumping as well. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
9. CARES Act Reimbursement. Presented by Commissioner Murdock. The state issued the process for requesting reimbursement from the CARES Act for local expenses due to public health emergency. The due date is Friday, May 22, 2020, for the first round. In response to Commissioner Murdock's question, Robert Pahl, CFO, didn't know the estimate of costs at this time. **Motion was made by Commissioner Murdock to approve/ authorize the county to submit a request for reimbursement from the relief fund as outlined. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

Back to item #8 – upon Kim Bolen's arrival, Chair Shafer advised action was taken. Ms. Bolen advised she lives in the N. Ott Road neighborhood and has been negatively affected by problems with dumping – drug paraphernalia and other things as well as damage. Chair Shafer thanked her for her phone call that prompted this action. She thanked all for the efforts getting this handled.

Executive Session – none.

Commissioners' Reports.

Commissioner Murdock none.

Commissioner Elfering commented the election finished last night.

Commissioner Shafer advised of three phone calls today about McKay Reservoir and flood alerts. Update is: McKay Dam is at 91% of total capacity; however, water is coming in quickly with heavy rain forecasted. Increased releases will be made due to predicted rain and they will be keeping a close watch on the weather pattern. During testing earlier, there were stream bank problems at 800 feet release. At May 1, they want storage to be at 100% (normal). Last year was a record year, but this year is good at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners