

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting of January 5, 2022
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

Commissioners Present: Chair George Murdock, Vice-Chair John Shafer, and Commissioner Dan Dorran

County Counsel Doug Olsen

Guests Present: Robert Pahl, Chief Finance Officer

Video link or Calling in: Tom Fellows, Public Works Director; Mike McHenry, Pendleton Sanitary Services; Katy King, Humbert’s Refuse *(see list of video or call-in, copy on file.*

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Murdock called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He reminded all that the meeting is a public forum and there is a call-in option provided. There is time on the agenda to provide input or for hearings to provide comment. The meeting is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Also, meetings are now live-streaming. Comments will become part of the meeting record. If persons wish to speak before the Board, 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

Awards/Correspondence/Recognition. Commissioner Dorran recognized the Sheriff’s Office for the 2021 Toy Drive and read the letter about Deputy Elwood who coordinated with many as well as collecting toys and personal items, which was approximately 4 semi-truck loads of toys collected and delivered to EOTEC in Hermiston for a huge amount of sorting and boxing for delivery. Many deputies volunteered for days with destinations in the county, plus more in Oregon as well as Washington locations (e.g. St. Anthony Hospital, Good Shepherd Hospital, two Ronald McDonald houses in Portland and more).

Christmas families 2021 – two were sponsored which included 10 foster children who were given special gifts. Sherri Hutchinson coordinated. Each child received gifts of toys and personal items specific to them in their “want list”. Gifts were distributed with the help of elves (deputies and more). Smiles were wide!

Shop with a Cop – This included Sheriff’s Office and Police Departments of Pendleton and Pilot Rock. The day started with breakfast then shopping followed by another meal.

Recognition – Chair Murdock gave special thanks to the Pendleton Sanitary Service. With the inclement weather for a few days, a special garbage truck with chains arrived at their home at the top of the street. Great customer service! Mike McHenry, who was on the line, thanked Commissioner Murdock for the recognition.

Minutes – none.

Additions to Agenda – none.

Public Comments – none.

Business Items

1. **Election of 2022 Board Officers.** Chair Murdock noted he was originally scheduled to be in Oklahoma City, but his flight was canceled due to inclement weather. **Commissioner Dorran moved to adopt BCC Order No. 2022-001 (naming Chair John Shafer and Vice-Chair Dan Dorran). Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried 3-0.**

Commissioner Murdock turned the gavel over to Chair Shafer and left the meeting to virtually attend his national conference call.

2. **Solid Waste Rate Increase.** Presented by Doug Olsen. A proposed rate increase was submitted by Humbert's Refuse, which first went through the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for review. It was recommended for Board consideration to be effective March 1, 2022. On line were: Mike McHenry, and Katy King, Humbert Refuse. In response to a question for annual rent option, Ms. King advised the containers are 300 gallon cans. Charge is only made when dumped and there is added rent for those who don't dump during the year. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve and adopt order BOC 2022-02 (approving increase in collection and disposal rates for Sanford & Son LLC, dba Humbert Refuse). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried 2-0.**
3. **Public Works Equipment Update.** Commissioner Dorran presented (for Tom Fellows, Public Works Director – out due to inclement weather/ working to clear bad roads). The department historically creates a list of new and used equipment for purchase within the budget year for consideration. Approval is sought to add to the list for fiscal year 2021-22 the replacement of a 1977 oil distributor (truck) with increasing problems getting parts and expense of repairs. **Commissioner Dorran moved to adopt Order No. RD2022-01. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 2-0.**
4. **Emergency Management Software Renewal.** Presented by Tom Roberts, Emergency Manager. Authorization is sought for TraffiCloud Software renewal for the reader boards, and rapid pop-up signs. Ability is by remote access for changing of messages. Permission is sought to continue license to March of 2023 (to be re-upped for the subscription). Total is \$8,561 – one-half to be paid by Morrow County. Mr. Roberts explained signs: one large on a trailer, one small functions as a radar board, a couple of additional pop-ups to be hauled in trunk of a car. Reports can be retrieved (i.e. law enforcement with radar capacity). In response to Commissioner Dorran regarding a minimum number, he advised there can be more signs – the total is on a per sign basis with its own subscription rate. It is an iCloud platform via Verizon connection as part of the price -- sending/receiving information for each sign. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve and authorize signature to proceed with use of the system until renewal in March 2023 and authorize payment of the invoice reflecting the quote amount when received. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried 2-0.**
5. **Board Meetings Schedule.** Mr. Olsen presented. There is one Board of Commissioner meeting in the next quarter that lacks a quorum -- the second meeting in February (the 16th). The proposal is to move up that meeting to February 9; the following meeting will be March 2. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Motion carried, 2-0.**
6. **Court Facilities Grant Application.** Commissioner Dorran presented. He apologized for information he provided at last Commissioner meeting – it was incorrect. He explained a letter of intent is due on 1/10 and presentation of a narrative is due on 1/24. Before the Board is the possibility of preparing the application internally, with no cost to the County for outside services. He noted the priority ranking from 2008-09 study.

The study included notes of structures of court facilities and etc. Umatilla County is at point of need and the request is to bring the proposal back to the Board for approval to submit an application to the AOC/OJD Task Force, including a letter of interest, due 1/10, and then application for a planning grant due 1/24/22, utilizing county staff.

Commissioner Dorrان moved to approve. Commissioner Shafer, regarding the preliminary study in 2008 and 2009 Committee on Court Facilities Report, the courthouse now has a single point of public access, x-ray machine + metal detector. What would that do to the numbers he mentioned? Commissioner Dorrان: almost all courthouses have gone through the process – there are very few courts who go through courthouse entry. The biggest problems are that courtrooms and jury rooms, technology (all things listed in study) have gotten worse due to the pandemic. Commissioner Shafer: Upon approval by AOC/OJD, is there any idea of cost? Commissioner Dorrان: budgeted estimate is \$100,000 - \$200,000 minimum. Commissioner Shafer: has the state committed to half the amount? Commissioner Dorrان: the program defines it is a 50% match. If more agencies are involved and can contribute, the \$100,000 to Umatilla County would decrease. (i.e. community corrections and other(s) could reduce costs by kicking in to the budget). Mr. Olsen: doesn't the grant have a limit? Commissioner Dorrان: the grant limit is \$750,000. Nothing is locked into a dollar amount. Three counties have dropped out of the construction portion after the planning study. Commissioner Shafer added his biggest concern is the dollar amount; if adopted /approved today, we aren't out any money? Commissioner Dorrان: correct. The narrative is being put together at this time. Regarding bonds to finance, that isn't the only avenue to build courthouses (e.g. Clackamas County used private investors). Commissioner Dorrان noted his biggest concern is the condition of the courthouse. The process is needed. Commissioner Shafer disagreed with that. Again, he doesn't want to put out funds right now. He was concerned with contribution of a \$20,000 contribution discussed last week. However, after discussion and utilizing county staff, he is okay at this time. **Motion was seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Motion carried, 2-0.**

Executive Session – none.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Dorrان 1) A letter was received from Undersheriff Littlefield regarding performance on Monday & Tuesday (January 3 and 4), a huge thank you to Search & Rescue, where many volunteers rescued stranded motorists in the Milton-Freewater area. All night many gave their time – Kudos to S&R and road crews. He noted this was part 1 of a storm pattern and recognized Tom Fellows for pre-planning strategies from Saturday and Sunday. On Monday, the storm involved the complete county – west end and north end. Road crews went area to area. Some areas were opened for power companies to get power restored as well as coordination with ODOT to get into areas as needed. Emergency equipment even got stuck. Umatilla County Public Works crew was outstanding. Also, farm neighbors helped neighbors and the general public has been very active in this storm.

Commissioner Shafer – well said – he totally agreed.

Adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary, Board of Commissioners