

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, September 22, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

PRESENT: Commissioner Kevin Cameron and Commissioner Colm Willis. Also present were Jan Fritz, chief administrative officer, Jane Vetto as county counsel, and Brenda Koenig as recorder.

ABSENT: Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Commissioner Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

(Video Time 00:00:48)

Motion: Commissioner Willis moved to remove an item from the Action agenda under Public Works: Consider approval of the Architectural and Engineering Contract with David Evans and Associates, Inc. to provide engineering services for the Hazelgreen Road NE/Pudding River Bridge Replacement project. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:01:21)

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Beem:

- Mr. Beem is requesting more funding for individuals that are blind and or deaf; and
- Mr. Beem expressed that transportation in an emergency situation can be challenging for individuals that are blind or deaf.

(Video Time 00:02:56)

PRESENTATION

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) update –Chad Ball

- Mr. Ball reported the following updates for the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - A two percent decrease in COVID-19 cases within Marion County was reported for the dates of September 5, 2021, through September 18, 2021:
 - The state reported a 6.5 percent decrease for the same two-week time period.
 - The county is averaging an estimated 228 cases per day; and

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- The case rate is anticipated to decline over the next two to three months.
- An estimated 70 percent of Marion County adults ages 18 and over have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine:
 - An estimated 57.5 percent of all eligible county residents have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.
- An estimated 2,000 individuals are being administered a vaccine every week;
- Pfizer has reported that vaccination trials for youth ages five to eleven have produced a strong immune response:
 - The company anticipates submitting the trial data to the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) by the end of the month; and
 - There is the potential to start administering the vaccine to youth by the end of October:
 - The dosage will be less powerful than an adult dose; and
 - Two doses will still be required.
- The FDA has recommended a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine for individuals ages 65 and older that have previously been vaccinated and that may be at high risk for contracting COVID-19:
 - The recommendations are anticipated to be submitted to the following on September 24, 2021:
 - The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention Advisory Council; and
 - The Western States Pact group:
 - The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will support the implementation of the booster once the Western States Pact group issues a recommendation; and
 - The booster will be released for use in Marion County once the OHA has approved the support.
- In August 2021, the FDA revised the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer and the Moderna vaccines to allow immunocompromised individuals to receive a third dose:
 - No booster doses for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine have been recommended at this time.
- Youth attending in-person schools are encouraged to practice the following:
 - Washing hands frequently;
 - Wearing a face mask or face covering;
 - Practicing six-feet social distancing around individuals who are not currently part of the household; and
 - Staying home if you feel sick.
- Individuals that are considering receiving a COVID-19 vaccine are encouraged to contact their primary care providers to discuss the vaccine; and
- The rate for positive COVID-19 cases in youth is starting to plateau.

Board discussion:

- Data provided by the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) reported a gradual downward trend for COVID-19 cases.

(Video Time 00:06:04)

Flu shot presentation – Dawn Lehman

- The flu vaccine has been utilized since the 1940's;
- Administration of the vaccine will not give an individual the flu virus;
- The flu vaccine helps to keep an individual healthy and protects others;
- The impacts of not receiving a flu shot in the midst of a COVID-19 pandemic may be detrimental:
 - There is a potential for individuals to contract both a COVID-19 infection and a flu infection simultaneously:
 - An individual's immune system may be overwhelmed by two concurrent viruses;
 - Available hospital space may be limited;
 - Illnesses may be more serious; and
 - An individual's lungs may be weakened.
- The flu may cause some of the following secondary infections:
 - Pneumonia;
 - A sinus infection;
 - An ear infection;
 - Inflammation; and
 - A worsening of the following:
 - Asthma;
 - Chronic heart disease; and
 - Lung disease.
- Any individual over the age of six months is eligible to receive the vaccine;
- A flu vaccine is highly recommended for some of the following:
 - Pregnant women;
 - Individuals spending time around children and newborns;
 - Individuals that are immunocompromised;
 - Individuals traveling;
 - Children;
 - Individuals over the age of 65; and
 - Caregivers.
- Flu vaccines can be obtained at some of the following locations:
 - Pharmacies; and
 - Doctors' offices.
- It takes an estimated two weeks from the vaccine administration date to receive the full effects;
- It is safe to receive both a flu vaccine and a COVID-19 vaccine simultaneously; and

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- Community members are encouraged to obtain a flu vaccine.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Cameron expressed the following:
 - He is administered a flu vaccine during a board session meeting in an effort to set an example and also encourage community members to get vaccinated;
 - Community members are encouraged to consult a physician before receiving a flu or COVID-19 vaccine;
 - In some instances, individuals in local hospitals that are not vaccinated are dying;
 - Vaccines have been proven effective with improving flu virus symptoms;
 - Vaccines do not prevent an individual from contracting the flu; but
 - Vaccines can assist with reducing the length of time an individual is sick.

(Video Time 00:13:16)

Wildfire housing proposal –Commissioner Kevin Cameron and Matt Lawyer

Commissioner Kevin Cameron:

- Commissioner Cameron expressed the intent of the presentation is to update public members with the recovery and housing efforts following the 2020 Labor Day wildfires.

Matt Lawyer:

- The county has been developing a short-term and a long-term housing plan in an effort to assist wildfire survivors with returning to their communities;
- Currently eleven adults and four children are occupying nine rooms in a hotel;
- Fourteen adults and six children are occupying twelve temporary Recreational Vehicle (RV) spaces located within the City of Mill City;
- Data received from the Santiam Service Integration Team (SIT) reported that over 300 households are residing in the following locations that are not their primary residences:
 - Hotels;
 - Homes of friends; and
 - Homes of family members.
- The county’s housing goal includes some of the following:
 - Create short-term housing for a period of two to three years with an option to extend;
 - Create long-term housing options that accommodates the housing needs for some of the following:
 - Renters;
 - Buyers; and
 - Workforce housing.
 - Create a variety of housing styles which includes some of the following:
 - Apartments;
 - Townhomes;
 - Duplexes; and

- Single family residences.
 - Relocate individuals residing in short-term housing into a long-term housing option once housing becomes available.
- Sixteen cabins may be installed at the North Santiam State Park located just off of Highway 22:
 - The cabins are 16-feet by 24-feet in size;
 - The indoor cabin space will include room for a master bedroom and a bathroom;
 - Oregon Corrections Enterprises (OCE) will build the cabin units;
 - The Marion County Housing Authority will own and operate the housing project for the short-term basis;
 - Ownership of the housing project may transfer to the Marion County Parks division once the short-term housing project is complete;
 - The total land improvement costs for the cabins is estimated at \$827,800;
 - The total costs for 16 cabins is estimated to be \$1,280,000:
 - The county is working with OCE and an engineer to reduce expenses; and
 - Additional options to assist with cost reduction are being reviewed.
 - A contingency cost of \$175,140 has been factored into the project expense; and
 - The total cost including the contingency is estimated to be \$2.2 million.
- A tiny home village located on the property of a motel within the City of Gates is a second potential site location in the county's plan:
 - The property will house 16 units;
 - Each tiny home unit will include two paved parking spots;
 - A septic area will be developed on the northeast corner of the property;
 - The living space may include some of the following:
 - A master bedroom;
 - A bathroom;
 - Space for a stackable washer and dryer; and
 - Additional space that can be utilized for sleeping quarters or storage space.
 - The tiny homes will be situated on a chassis so they can be moved if necessary;
 - The Marion County Housing Authority will own and operate the tiny home project;
 - Ownership of the housing project may transfer to Marion County once the temporary housing project is complete;
 - Marion County can then utilize the tiny homes as vacation rentals in county parks;
 - The total land improvement costs for the tiny homes is estimated at \$889,300;
 - The total costs for 16 units is estimated to be \$1,152,000;
 - A contingency cost of \$193,590 has been factored into the project expense; and
 - The total cost including the contingency is estimated to be \$2.2 million.
- Oregon Housing and Community Services has committed to providing a letter of intent to award grant funding for phase one of the project;
- Wildfire funding from the 2021 state legislative session will be used to finance the cabins, tiny homes, and installation expense;

- Currently the county is actively engaged in developing a proposal for the long-term housing;
- The proposal will include a variety of housing options with an emphasis on creating affordable housing for wildfire survivors and the community workforce;
- The county will continue to partner with state agencies to ensure the projects are viable, cost effective, and meet the needs of the wildfire survivors;
- The county has received approval from the state to move forward with the land development for the projects:
 - It will take an estimated 17 weeks to get the sites ready to accept housing units.
- Mr. Lawyer expressed his appreciation to all the individuals and organizations for all their hard work and efforts on the projects.

Board discussion:

- A church group, consisting of an estimated 200 individuals, volunteered for some of the cleanup efforts needed at the North Santiam State Park:
 - The park had significant damage from the 2020 wildfires and the 2021 ice storm;
 - The group volunteered for an estimated five hours and accomplished some of the following:
 - Removed broken asphalt on paths;
 - Cleared campsites;
 - Removed debris along the river and surrounding areas;
 - Refilled paths with aggregate and packed it down;
 - Painted signs;
 - Repaired park benches; and
 - Installed new information kiosks.
- An estimated 50 percent of homes impacted by the wildfires now have septic permits and are working to rebuild;
- The county wants to assist with getting the remaining 50 percent back into their homes;
- Donations are being accepted through the United Way to assist the wildfire victims:
 - Donation information can be found on the county's website.
- Temporary housing is a positive step with assisting community members that are working to rebuild their lives;
- Community members are encouraged to attend a vision meeting for the following:
 - The City of Gates on Thursday, September 23, 2021; and
 - The City of Detroit on Friday, September 24, 2021.
- The commissioners expressed their appreciation to everyone who assisted with the project.

PROCLAMATION

(Video Time 00:32:01)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – Action

1. Consider approval of a proclamation recognizing the month of September as National Recovery Month in Marion County. –Teri Morgan and Melissa Pola

Summary of presentation:

- The month-long celebration is for individuals who overcome or successfully manage substance use disorders;
- Recovery month assists with the following:
 - Increasing awareness;
 - Providing education; and
 - Reducing stigmas.
- Addiction can coincide with mental health disorders which includes some of the following:
 - Depression;
 - Anxiety; and
 - Post-traumatic stress disorder.
- The 2021 theme emphasizes that recovery is for everyone:
 - Every person;
 - Every family; and
 - Every community.
- Addiction is considered a disease of isolation and is a nation-wide epidemic;
- Individuals experiencing addiction have been impacted by the following:
 - The COVID-19 pandemic:
 - An estimated 1,076 individuals have enrolled in addiction treatment programs since the on-set of the pandemic.
 - The 2020 wildfires; and
 - The 2021 ice storm.
- A significant number of unsheltered individuals attend treatment programs every day;
- Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) strives to develop and promote low-barrier access for individuals with addiction issues;
- Ms. Pola shared her journey with addiction and recovery:
 - She lost custody of her children;
 - She was scared and alone;
 - She had to learn to develop a lifestyle of recovery from addiction;
 - With hard work, encouragement, and recovery support, she is now able to parent her children;
 - She has completed an addiction studies program at Chemeketa Community College and is a certified alcohol and drug counselor;
 - She is the primary counselor at Her Place, a drug rehabilitation facility;
 - She is a homeowner;
 - She has a bachelor's degree from Corban University;

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- She is working on a master's degree in social work at Portland State University;
- Her job allows her to give back to community members who also struggle with addiction;
- In November 2021, she will celebrate 10 years of recovery from addiction and trauma; and
- She expressed the following:
 - Recovery fosters hope; and
 - Dreams are attainable.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners and audience members applauded Ms. Palo for all her efforts in overcoming addiction and her accomplishments;
- The commissioners expressed their appreciation to MCHHS, Ms. Morgan, and Ms. Pola for everything they do to assist individuals struggling with addiction; and
- Addiction treatment saves lives.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve a proclamation recognizing the month of September as National Recovery Month in Marion County. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

The commissioners read the proclamation.

CONSENT

(Video Time 00:45:04)

BUSINESS SERVICES

Approve an order for the resolution of a litigation matter.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Approve a recommendation to reactivate the Labor and Employee Relations Manager classification and uphold the pay grade for classification code #064, Human Resources Manager.

PUBLIC WORKS

Receive notice of hearings officer's decision recommending approval for Zone Change/Comprehensive Plan Amendment (ZC/CP) Case #21-004/ Anthony Arnautov and schedule a public hearing for October 13, 2021.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Approve Amendment #5 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to add \$101,952 in incoming federal funds for a new contract total of \$166,788.72 to continue providing patrol services on BLM land through September 30, 2022.

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TAX OFFICE

Approve an order for the cancellation of uncollectible personal property tax accounts in the amount of \$119,949.01.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved for approval of the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

ACTION

(Video Time 00:26:29)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

2. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with LocumTenens.com in the amount of \$760,000 to provide qualified candidates to fill temporary medical staff positions in Behavioral Health Programs and Alcohol and Drug Treatment Programs through September 30, 2024. – Cydney Nestor

Summary of presentation:

- The contract provides short-term, temporary, prescriber services for individuals participating in the following:
 - Adult out-patient programs; and
 - Children’s out-patient programs.
- The county is not always able to find prescribers to contract with long-term;
- The county relies on the contract with LocumTenens.com to find needed prescribers which includes some of the following:
 - Psychiatric nurse practitioners; and
 - Psychiatrists.
- The prescribers provide support services via the following:
 - Tele-health; or
 - On-site in county buildings.
- The contract assists the county with maintaining consistency and stability with prescriber services.

Board discussion:

- The county has been contracting with LocumTenens.com for multiple years;
- The medications the prescribers utilize to assist with treatments includes some of the following:
 - Anti-depressants;
 - Anti-psychotics; and
 - Drugs that treat some of the following:
 - Anxiety;
 - Attention deficit disorder;
 - Bipolar disorder;

- Psychotic disorders;
- Hyper activity disorder; and
- Depression.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Contract for Services with LocumTenens.com in the amount of \$760,000 to provide qualified candidates to fill temporary medical staff positions in Behavioral Health Programs and Alcohol and Drug Treatment Programs through September 30, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:52:57)

Commissioner Willis requested a moment for further discussion related to the Contract for services with LocumTenens.com.

Board discussion:

- LocumTenens.com is able to provide medical staff for alcohol and drug services:
 - The county is not actively utilizing the company for this option; and
 - The company is utilized to fill vacant positions on a temporary basis.

(Video Time 00:50:25)

3. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with Garten Services, Inc. in the amount of \$800,000 to provide janitorial services at various county locations through September 30, 2024.
–Ryan Matthews

Summary of presentation:

- County employees provide janitorial and custodial services in buildings that are owned by the county;
- Garten Services, Inc. provides janitorial and custodial services for properties that are leased by the county;
- Leased space includes offices located at some of the following:
 - Silverton Road;
 - Beverly Avenue; and
 - The Psychiatric Crisis Center.
- The contract went through a procurement process;
- Garten Services, Inc. was awarded the contract;
- Services provided by Garten Services, Inc. entails some of the following:
 - Daily services which include:
 - Sweeping the floor;
 - Mopping the floor;
 - Cleaning counters;
 - Cleaning sinks;

- Cleaning toilets; and
- Emptying garbage cans.
- Specialized services performed periodically throughout the year which include:
 - Deep cleaning carpets;
 - Stripping floors; and
 - Waxing floors.

Board discussion:

- Garten Services Inc. is located within Marion County.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Contract for Services with Garten Services, Inc. in the amount of \$800,000 to provide janitorial services at various county locations through September 30, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:54:11)

HUMAN RESOURCES

4. Consider approval of the Administrative Services Agreement with Navia Benefit Solutions in the amount of \$125,000 to provide third party administrative services for certain employee benefit plans that are maintained by the county through December 31, 2026. –Michelle Shelton and Kathie Carter

Summary of presentation:

- Navia Benefit Solutions will provide third party administrative services for the following accounts:
 - Flexible spending;
 - Health savings; and
 - Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) administration.
- The new vendor will allow the county to streamline for efficiencies with the following:
 - Human resources; and
 - Payroll.
- Health Savings Account (HSA) members will have the ability to direct investment options;
- The new vendor will save the county approximately \$4,500 annually; and
- The contract will go into effect on January 1, 2022.

Board discussion:

- The contract is in effect through the year 2026;
- The Human Resources department will review the contract in five years; and
- Extending the contract past the term date will require approval from the Board of Commissioners.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Administrative Services Agreement with Navia Benefit Solutions in the amount of \$125,000 to provide third party administrative services for certain employee benefit plans that are maintained by the county through December 31, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:56:38)


PUBLIC WORKS

5. Consider approval of the Architectural and Engineering Contract with David Evans and Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$874,982.13 to provide engineering services for the Hazelgreen Road NE/Pudding River Bridge Replacement project through October 31, 2025. –Ryan Crowther
(Motion made and approved to remove item from the Board Session Agenda)

**PUBLIC HEARINGS
9:30 A.M.**

None.


Commissioner Cameron read the calendar;
Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 10:02 a.m.



CHAIR

Not Present At Meeting

COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSUQ1gg6M78UsBE3q6w4rdf59Z5rXkEi5>