



OREGON

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Minutes

Tuesday, February 1, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5231, Commissioners Boardroom

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Kevin Cameron, Danielle Bethell, and Colm Willis, Jan Fritz, Jessica Stanton, Jon Heynen, Matt Lawyer, Eli Heindricks, Danielle Gonzalez, Tamra Goettsch, Kelli Weese, Tanisha Bush, Brian Nicholas, Lani Radtke, Carl Lund, Brian May, Max Hepburn, Sherry Lintner, Erinn Miller, Melissa Rounds, Scott Norris, Jane Vetto, Chad Ball, and Robert Manier as recorder.

Jan Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL:

Consider re-appointment of Julie Jackson as a Solid Waste Representative to the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council

-Brian May

Summary of presentation:

- The mission of the Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWMAC) is to provide input to the Board of Commissioners regarding an integrating solid waste system that is financially feasible and protects the human health and environment of Marion County, and to provide recommendations, reports, position papers, and other information as requested by the Commissioners;
- SWMAC is comprised of 16 council members:
 - 8 are members at large; and
 - 8 are comprised of business and industry representatives:
 - 4 are solid waste positions.
- SWMAC council members serve four years;
- The Board of Commissioners approves all appointments to the advisory council;
- Ms. Jackson holds the seat of the transfer station and compost facility, which is owned and operated by Republic Services:
 - Ms. Jackson works for Republic Services as their municipal manager; and
 - Her territory covers Benton, Linn, Marion, and Josephine counties.
- Ms. Jackson is very active in the solid waste industry;
- She has been involved in multiple Department of Environmental Quality work groups;
- Ms. Jackson has served on the following boards:
 - Oregon Refuse and Recycling Association:
 - She has been involved in their legislative affairs committee.

- Oregon Green Schools Association:
 - She has been director and president.
- Association of Oregon Recyclers.
- With the Board's approval Public Works would like to bring this to Board Session on February 16, 2022.

Board discussion:

- Public Works would welcome any recommendations from the Board for filling five vacancies:
 - There are a few candidates;
 - Trying to have representation on the council from outside of Salem; and
 - The Santiam Canyon is currently not represented.

McKay / Yergen / Ehlen Roads Safety Corridor Construction Recommendations – Planning & Funding

-Lani Radtke, Carl Lund

Summary of presentation:

- Ms. Radtke introduced Carl Lund, the new Marion County Traffic Engineer;
- It has been one year since the safety corridor was designated;
- The following items have been accomplished:
 - Installation of safety corridor signage;
 - Increased enforcement through the Sheriff's Office; and
 - Installation of driver speed feedback signs.
- The remaining items needing to be done are high cost, large construction projects;
- Prior to the designation several low-cost projects were completed including:
 - Installation of rumble strips;
 - Enhanced signing;
 - Striping; and
 - Installation of street lighting.
- Public Works is exploring external funding opportunities that may be available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA);
- Public Works is also working with the Oregon Department of Transportation to potentially receive funding for the first roundabout;
- The goal is to have seven roundabouts in the safety corridor:
 - This will help improve safety and reduce the severity of crashes at the intersections.
- Public Works is also applying for grant funding to put in left turn lanes at the intersections:
 - Funding would be through the All Roads Transportation Safety (ARTS) Program.

Board discussion:

- Improvements at each intersection will cost approximately \$5 million per intersection;
- The ARTS Program has more funding now than it has had in the past:
 - They are looking at larger and more expensive projects.

- Public Works has also worked with state representatives to put together a request for capital improvement funds;
- Public Works is scheduling a work session with the Commissioners on the safety corridor;
- Traffic signals have a higher capacity than roundabouts, but they have a higher crash rate:
 - Roundabouts reduce the severity of crashes that do occur.
- The St. Paul Fire Department is concerned that drivers are now diverting to River Road and French Prairie Road:
 - They are requesting driver speed feedback signs:
 - Public Works is already working on safety projects for these two roads.
 - They would also like to know who the new traffic team is at the Sheriff's Office:
 - Ms. Radtke will get the two parties connected.

Marion County Utility/Broadband Coordination Policy

-Eli Heindricks, Danielle Gonzalez

Summary of presentation:

- Mr. Heindricks has been working on the dig once policy, which is a collaborative effort between Economic Development and Public Works;
- The dig once policy was outlined in the 2018 broadband strategic plan; and
- The dig once policy that has been developed adds only one step to the existing utility notification process:
 - When Public Works receives a capital construction project or a project that requires a major construction permit, they need to include broadband providers when notifying utilities; and
 - Economic Development will maintain a list of broadband internet providers.

Board discussion:

- The policy applies to the county, cities would have to choose to adopt the policy; and
- The Commissioners would like cities within the county to be notified when the policy goes into effect, and to encourage them to adopt it.

Wildfire Update

- All

Summary of presentation:

Brian Nicholas:

- K&E Excavating is working on tree removal:
 - They should be finished in late spring.
- North Fork Park cleanup may be delayed due to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) not giving their approval for the trees to be removed:
 - BLM owns approximately 80 percent of the park.

Board discussion:

- The St. Paul Fire Department does not think they will be able to afford the cost of the radio equipment that will be required for the new county radio system:
 - A financial plan has not been developed for the new system;
 - When the project is started there may be federal funding available, and funding from METCOM; and
 - Staff working on the county's radio project understands the very limited financial resources of some of the entities involved.

Tamra Goettsch:

- The Service Integration Team continues to work with families to get them out of the Federal Emergency Management Agency trailers.

Board discussion:

- There are approximately 30 households waiting to be assigned a case manager.

Legislative Update

-Tanisha Bush

Summary of presentation:

- The Commissioners were provided a draft of the letter in support of House Bill 4092:
 - The letter states that the county supports broadband infrastructure.
- The Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials is going to the Legislature with a \$50 million request to support ongoing COVID-19 responses:
 - They are asking for Marion County's support.
- The Commissioners were provided with a list of the bills that Ms. Bush is tracking.

Board discussion:

- The Commissioners would like the letter to address the following:
 - The bill does not define what "rural broadband" is; and
 - The advisory board does not contain any members knowledgeable in technology.
- A public hearing is being held on the bill tomorrow; and
- The Commissioners would like to discuss with Health and Human Services what the county's future COVID response will be:
 - 30 to 40 employees were added for COVID support, and they were only supposed to be temporary positions.

Emergency Rental Assistance Program Update

-Melissa Rounds, Robert Manier, Scott Norris

Summary of presentation:

- The county has been notified that Treasury is recapturing approximately \$2.4 million of ERA 1 funds:
 - This brings the total award to \$6.7 million; and

- After current obligations there is approximately \$4.3 million left to spend.
- Staff is looking for guidance from the Board on expending ERA 2 funds;
- Treasury guidance is requiring direct to tenant payments for ERA 2 funds; and
- Mr. Norris reviewed the Treasury ERA 2 guidelines:
 - There is nothing that specifically says that a check may not be written to both a tenant and a landlord;
 - ERA 2 funds are not limited to back rent to landlords; and
 - There are instances where the funds can be used for utilities, relocation expenses, security deposits, or rental fees.

Board discussion:

- There is no formal audit procedure that shows where money is actually spent;
- To qualify for ERA 2 funds an individual must do the following:
 - Show proof that income is below 80 percent of the Area Median Income:
 - Banks statements, proof of unemployment checks, or other documentation; and
 - An individual is allowed to self-attestation.
 - Proof of rental arrears; and
 - Proof of identity.
- The county has received 40 percent of its ERA 2 award, which is approximately \$3.3 million;
- Under the county's ERA 1 policy, Yardi can make payouts up to \$20,000 per person without approval from the county;
- Approximately \$1.9 million in ERA 1 funds have been spent;
- Commissioner Bethell does not want checks paid directly to tenants, she would be okay with giving the ERA 2 funds back:
 - She feels this money helps keep people from going back to work.
- Commissioner Willis needs time to decide what direction he would like the county to take;
- Commissioner Cameron would like to continue to make checks out to the landlords, but send the checks directly to the tenants;
- The county does not have a contract with Yardi for ERA 2:
 - An amendment to the current contract will be required; and
 - Ms. Rounds will contact Yardi and see if they would be willing to distribute ERA 2 funds for the county if the county is not going to allow direct to tenant payments.
- The Commissioners agreed to the following:
 - Checks will be made out to landlords;
 - If a landlord refuses a check, the check may be re-written to the tenant for the uses outlined in the guideline:
 - Utilities, relocation expenses, security deposits, or rental fees;
 - Proof would need to be given that the landlord has refused the check; and

- Yardi documents all attempted contacts with landlords, as some landlords refuse to participate in any manner.
- Self-attestation will not be allowed.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATES:

Kevin Cameron:

- Met with the Ironworkers:
 - They are concerned that journeymen are not getting work on big projects taking place in enterprise zones.
- Attended the Woodburn Industrial Business Forum:
 - They are continuing to work on North County tourism advertising.

Colm Willis:

- Met with the St. Paul Fire Department:
 - During the ice storm they were cut off from fuel; and
 - They are working on a plan with the local school district for fuel storage:
 - The county may be able to help.
- Met with the Marion County Housing Authority at their property in Stayton:
 - They are having problems with vandalism and theft;
 - They have a fence across the back of the property, but it only goes halfway; and
 - They would like the fence to go all the way across the back of the property.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Betsy Young**
Reviewed by: Shawnnell Fuentes