



OREGON

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Management Update Minutes

**Tuesday, October 19, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

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

## ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Danielle Bethell, Kevin Cameron, and Colm Willis, Jan Fritz, Chad Ball, Tamra Goettsch, Tom Rohlfing, Scott Norris, Sherry Lintner, Scott McClure, Michelle Shelton, Camber Schlag, Ryan Matthews, Colleen Coons-Chaffins, Melissa Rounds, Jeff White, Teri Morgan, Robert Manier, Jane Vetto, Jessica Stanton, and Kristy Witherell as recorder.

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

## INFORMATIONAL:

### **Discuss Changes to the Marion County Volunteer Award Process**

- Sherry Lintner

#### ***Summary of presentation:***

- Ms. Lintner would like to change the volunteer award nomination and selection process; and
- Recommending three changes:
  - Allow divisions and programs to nominate multiple individuals in each category;
  - Select the Rex Hartley Volunteer of the Year out of the pool of individuals nominated for other awards:
    - Currently it is a separate nomination.
  - Accept nominations year round.

#### ***Board discussion:***

- Currently recognizing volunteers for their service in a particular year:
  - Are not looking at volunteer years of services.
- The current process for the Rex Hartley award:
  - A volunteer may be nominated for one of four categories, or the Rex Hartley award:
    - May not be nominated for both.
  - There is a small committee of volunteers that selects who will receive the Rex Hartley award.
- The commissioners would like the process to allow a volunteer to be nominated for one of the categories and the Rex Hartley award; and
- Ms. Lintner will research the original intent of the Rex Hartley award.

## **HIS Place Program Briefing**

- Ryan Matthews, Colleen Coons-Chaffins, Teri Morgan

### **Summary of presentation:**

- Mr. Matthews and others met with the Chief Financial Officer of Pacific Source:
  - They are being allowed by the state to invest some of the dollars they are required to hold in reserve; and
  - Their goal is to make strategic investments to address gaps in the healthcare system in the communities they serve.
- The county tried previously to obtain funding for a His Place program:
  - Would assist single fathers who are receiving addiction treatment services in maintaining custody of their children;
  - There is a large need for this type of service; and
  - Similar to the Her Place treatment services offered to women:
    - Her Place has been a very successful program for years.
- Pacific Source is giving a \$500,000 donation to the county to start a His Place program;
- The county has identified a property:
  - Close to being turnkey:
    - Needs safety improvements to the outside to make it safe for children; and
    - The roof needs to be cleaned.
  - There are two houses on the acre property; and
  - Two blocks from the Woodburn Health and Human Services (HHS) office.
- HHS would like to make an offer on the property.

### **Board discussion:**

- The property is within the city limits of Woodburn;
- There needs to be a conversation with the City Manager of Woodburn;
- The property is listed at \$795,000:
  - The county's offer would be \$750,000.
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars could potentially be a source for the gap funding:
  - HHS has the funds available if they do not come from ARPA.
- Allowed to bill for services so the staffing and ongoing programming costs are sustainable;
- Staffing structure would be modeled after Her Place; and
- The commissioners support moving ahead with the project.

## **Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Update**

- Melissa Rounds, Robert Manier

### **Summary of presentation:**

- As of yesterday \$238,000 has been funded;
- Have received 365 applications;
- One of the biggest challenges has been getting individuals to apply;
- Working with the Recovery Outreach Community Center and the United Way to get information on the program out to the community:

- United Way is going to work with property managers to encourage them to participate in the program; and
- United Way will work with Spanish speaking communities to encourage participation in the program.
- There is a potential the Treasury Department will reallocate the funds not being spent by Marion County:
  - 65 percent of the funds needed to be spent by September 30, 2021; and
  - Treasury has provided revised guidelines:
    - 30 percent of the funds need to be spent by November 15, 2021; and
    - The county has to submit a performance improvement plan:
      - Treasury would like to see tenant direct payments.
- Have met with the following agencies to advertise and explain the program:
  - Willamette Workforce Partnership;
  - Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub;
  - Oregon Housing and Community Services Department; and
  - Community Action Agency.
- Working with Yardi on a bulk utility payment program; and
- The county can voluntarily relinquish the funds to another agency.

***Board discussion:***

- The *Statesman Journal* ran an article on rental assistance and the Marion County program was not mentioned:
  - The county did run ads in the *Statesman Journal*.
- The commissioners will reach out to the local landlord association; and
- The commissioners do not support tenant direct payments.

**Wildfires/COVID-19 Update**

- All

***Summary of presentation:***

Tom Rohlving:

- Property tax refunds for property owners affected by the wildfires:
  - There are still 500 lots that need to be manually processed;
  - Property tax refunds will be processed after November 15, 2021; and
  - It will take approximately three weeks to get the payments sent out.

Tamra Goettsch:

- Service Integration Team update:
  - There are 92 households awaiting assignment of a case manager;
  - There are 263 households being managed by a case manager; and
  - 8 cases have been closed, and 6 more will be closed this week.

Brian Nicholas:

- The Oregon Department of Transportation is still accepting Right of Entry forms; and
- Taylor Park Campground has been cleaned up.

## COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND UPDATES:

### Colm Willis:

- Attended the Association of Oregon Counties District 6 meeting:
  - Metro counties do not like the rule that requires a 67 percent vote in the legislative committee to endorse a position:
    - They would like a higher threshold; and
    - Commissioner Willis does not support a change.
  - This past year District 6 has been under represented on the legislative committee because Commissioner Pope is both a past president and the current district chair, but he only has one vote:
    - Could have two votes on the legislative committee if Commissioner Pope served as past president and someone else served as district chair.
  - Multnomah County has not paid their dues.

### Danielle Bethell:

- There are a lot of meetings scheduled by state and local forestry boards:
  - The county needs to be aware of what is occurring in these meetings, and to provide input where appropriate;
  - Commissioner Cameron attends many of these meetings; and
  - A county policy analyst will be assigned to cover forestry.
- There were problems with Webex not working at New Employee Orientation:
  - Offsite employees were redirected to a conference call, but this did not work for a few employees.
- Attending bargaining meetings with NorthWest Seniors and Disability Services on vaccination requirements for their employees.

### Kevin Cameron:

- Attended an O&C timber counties meeting:
  - 120,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management land was burned:
    - A small percentage of the timber will be salvaged.
- Met with the Sheriff's Office, Parks Department, U.S. Forest Service, and the Marine Board at the Mongold boat ramp at Detroit Lake:
  - Discussed safety issues around the floating ramps not being available when the water is low:
    - There is a company working on a solution.
- Eric Underwood is the new interim City Manager for the City of Donald.

## OTHER:

### Scott Norris:

- Last week the Land Use Board of Appeals issued a decision in Schaefer v. Marion County:
  - The case was about a zone change, compatibility plan, and goal exceptions for 16 ½ acres abutting the Aurora Airport;
  - The decision was favorable to Marion County; and
  - The decision will likely be appealed to the Court Of Appeals:
    - The deadline to appeal is November 2, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Kristy Witherell**

*Reviewed by:*