



OREGON

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Minutes

Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 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, Chad Ball, Jessica Stanton, Matt Lawyer, Tamra Goettsch, Jane Vetto, Lori O'Mara, Kathy Bolen, Chris Trussell, Traci Fiske, Colleen Coons-Chaffins, Brandon Reich, Brian May, Scott McClure, Brian Nicholas, Danielle Gonzalez, and Kristy Witherell as recorder.

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

INFORMATIONAL:

Discuss Project Joy 2021

- Kathy Bolen

Summary of presentation:

- Provides foster children presents at the holidays;
- Marion County employees donate presents, in addition to cash gifts;
- The kickoff is November 15, 2021; and
- A presentation will be made at a Board Session.

Review Policy #1005 – Parking at Marion County Facilities

- Colleen Coons-Chaffins, Traci Fiske

Summary of presentation:

- A section addressing electric vehicles has been added:
 - Working with Portland General Electric and Energy Trust of Oregon to see if it is feasible to update all campuses with electric chargers.
- Language has been updated; and
- Hours have been changed from "all hours" to "business hours":
 - Do not want employees using the parking if they are not working.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners would like a fee to be paid by employees using the electric chargers to cover the cost of electricity.

Review Marion County Surveyor's Office Map Standards and Plat Naming Policy

- Kent Inman

Summary of presentation:

- The map standards should reduce the amount of time that staff spends reviewing these items;
- The board previously adopted an ordinance on the map standards and plat naming; and
- A board order will be brought to Board Session on November 24, 2021.

Discuss Building Permit Fee Waiver for Commercial Structures Affected by the 2020 Wildfires

- Brandon Reich

Summary of presentation:

- Building Inspection is proposing a fee waiver for commercial structures that were destroyed or affected by the wildfires;
- Two methods are currently used for determining the amount of commercial fees:
 - Based on value provided by property owner; and
 - Type of construction.
- Proposing the fee waiver be based on the value of the structure prior to the fire;
- If approved, the total amount of fees waived will be approximately \$150,000;
- Fees that have already been paid would be refunded; and
- Fees would be waived through June 2023.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners would like to know what it would cost the county to waive 100 percent of these fees.

Review Building Inspection On-Site Wastewater Permit Fees

- Brandon Reich

Summary of presentation:

- There are currently three on-site wastewater specialists on staff:
 - Allows the county to provide a high level of customer service.
- The current fee structure does not support three employees; and
- Will bring more detailed information to a future Management Update meeting.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners would like local home builders to be made aware that fees may rise, but that the current high level of customer service will continue.

Discuss Initiating Amendments to the Marion County Urban and Rural Code

- Brandon Reich

Summary of presentation:

- Every few years a code update is done to keep up with legislation and statute;
- Following are some areas that have changed at the state level:
 - A brewery is allowed on rural land;

- Accessory dwelling units are no longer required to have off street parking;
- A second dwelling can be built on forest land so a relative can live on the land and help manage the forest;
- Changes to the number of houses allowed on exclusive farm use land that has been owned by the same family since 1985;
- Secondary farm homes do not have to be manufactured homes; and
- Secondary farm homes can be built for a relative.
- Code update could include an extended stay permit for recreational vehicles.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners are willing to start the process required for a code update.

Wildfire Update

- All

Summary of presentation:

Brian Nicholas:

- The Oregon Department of Transportation is having trouble keeping their wildfire website up to date; and
- The contractors are going to start updating the county directly.

Danielle Bethell:

- The Long Term Recovery Group website is active.

Chris Trussell:

- There are two new incentive programs funded by the state in the following departments:
 - Building Codes Division:
 - Fire hardening incentives.
 - Oregon Department of Energy:
 - Energy efficiency incentives.
- Property owners affected by the wildfires are being allowed to build their homes back using 2008 codes;
- The new incentives are to encourage property owners to build to current code which is a higher standard:
 - The work done would be inspected.
- Do not know an effective date or how much the county will receive; and
- The incentives will be retroactive.

Review Marion County Today’s Draft Winter Newsletter

- Jessica Stanton

Summary of presentation:

- Looking for feedback from the commissioners on the draft of *Marion County Today*.

Board discussion:

- The message from the board should be in both English and Spanish; and

- There is enough money in the budget to expand to six pages.

OTHER:

Tamra Goettsch, Melissa Gable:

- The dog shelter is currently full; and
- The shelter would like permission from the board to apply to participate in an Empty the Shelters adoption event sponsored by the BISSELL Pet Foundation:
 - Adoption fee would be reduced to \$25;
 - Adopters would also pay the microchip fee and the licensing fee; and
 - The foundation would reimburse the shelter \$100 for every adopted dog.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners support the shelter participating in an Empty the Shelters adoption event.

Brian Nicholas:

- Potential use of Auburn Conversion Project funds for the purchase of park land in the City of Gates:
 - To use the Auburn Conversion Project funds the project would have to be proposed to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department; and
 - The county is allowed to have a park that resides in another jurisdiction.

Board discussion:

- Would need to have a formal agreement with the City of Gates; and
- Commissioner Willis would like to see the Wilderness Park in Stayton reopened.

COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND UPDATES:

Danielle Bethell:

- Met with a developer who is looking to build a multi-family kit structure in Mill City;
- Mr. White of the Strategic Economic Development Corporation will be making a presentation at a Management Update in January:
 - What he has been working on in Marion County over the last year, and what the upcoming year looks like.
- Toured the Salem navigation center and Redwood Crossings to determine if the county should invest in a second location.

Colm Willis:

- Attended the Salem Chamber Public Policy meeting; and
- There are two areas in Sublimity and Stayton that children use while walking to school that lack adequate sidewalks and crosswalks:
 - The Public Works traffic team is going to explore possible options to make these areas safer.

Meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Kristy Witherell**