

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, January 19, 2022
9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Video Time 01:02:17)

Vasily Snegirev:

- Mr. Snegirev wonders why masks are required;
- He expressed that the public is tired of wearing masks; and
- Mr. Snegirev expressed personal political views.

(Video Time 00:01:06)

The Marion County Board of Commissioners presented a clock to Jan Fritz, Marion County Chief Administrative Officer honoring her leadership and dedication to the people of Marion County through the three declared disasters of 2020 and 2021.

(Video Time 00:09:28)

CONSENT

TAX OFFICE

1. Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$26,804.84 for Arleta Properties, LLC.

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

(Video Time 00:10:01)

ACTION

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

2. Consider approval of the 2022 Federal Agenda. –Tanisha Bush, Kirby Garrett and Michael Skipper, CFM Advocates

Summary of presentation:

Tanisha Bush:

- The Federal Agenda includes policy and grant initiatives beneficial to the county and its community partners;
- The county has engaged the services of CFM Advocates for multiple years;
- CFM Advocates has helped the county develop the Federal Agenda; and
- They will represent Marion County in Washington, D.C.

Kirby Garrett and Michael Skipper, CFM Advocates:

- The Federal Agenda shapes CFM’s efforts on behalf of the county in Washington, D.C.:
 - It outlines the county’s range of federal interests and priorities for some of the following:
 - Projects that the county is seeking funding for; and
 - The county’s position on legislation or administrative policy.
- CFM Advocates and Marion County have enjoyed a long successful partnership over multiple years:
 - There has been a wide variety of legislative and policy victories;
 - CFM Advocates has helped secure over \$27 million in competitive federal funding for county projects since 2007; and
 - The \$27 million in funding has helped implement a wide variety of projects in some of the following areas:
 - Public safety;
 - Mental health; and
 - Transportation.
- The following is an update on the work CFM Advocates has been doing for Marion County during 2021:
 - Projects have been included in House or Senate bills that are anticipated to be voted on in 2022 include;
 - An estimated \$4.6 million for Congressionally Directed Spending funded projects includes:
 - An estimated \$1.44 million for North Fork Road improvements;
 - An estimated \$1.2 million for public safety radio equipment; and
 - An estimated \$2 million for Opal Creek wilderness economic development:
 - Funding for the three projects is still tentative and has not been finalized yet.
 - Projects also submitted to the appropriations committee that were not selected include:
 - Detroit Marina project:

- Outstanding permit and review issues exist that still need to be addressed.
 - Safety corridor project:
 - The project competed for the same competitive funding that was slotted to be utilized for the North Fork Road project.
 - Projects submitted as part of the House Infrastructure Legislation include:
 - The Donald Aurora Interchange project:
 - An estimated \$20 million was awarded for this project.
 - Silverton Howell Prairie Road Intersection Improvements; and
 - North Fork Road Improvements.
 - Marion County received an estimated \$68 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding; and
 - The infrastructure bill provided an additional two years of Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding totaling an estimated \$2.3 million for Marion County:
 - The funding is for Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022.
- Congress passed an Infrastructure bill at the end of 2021;
- The Infrastructure bill entails some of the following:
 - The bill includes an estimated \$550 billion in new spending over the next 5 years in the following areas:
 - Transportation;
 - Water infrastructure;
 - Broadband;
 - Energy and power;
 - Environmental remediation;
 - Western water; and
 - Resiliency.
 - CFM Advocates is working to identify opportunities in the bill for funding county projects and the process will be ongoing;
 - The following competitive grant programs are included in the bill and overseen by the Department of Transportation:
 - Following are a few of the existing competitive grant programs included in the bill:
 - Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program; and
 - Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program for regional transportation projects.
 - The two programs may be an option for the Aurora Donald Interchange project.
 - Following are a few of the new competitive grant programs included in the bill:
 - Rural Surface Transportation Program:
 - Eligibility is restricted to rural projects.
 - Bridge Replacement grant programs:

- Bridge replacement or improvement is a county wide concern.
 - Safe Streets for All grant program:
 - May assist with funding for the safety corridor.
- Included in the bill are increases for formula dollars:
 - The Oregon Department of Transportation will receive a 30 percent increase in highway funding; and
 - There will be an increase of 46 percent in funding in water and wastewater infrastructure which can be utilized for some of the following:
 - The states revolving fund for drinking water;
 - The states revolving fund for clean water; and
 - The county may consider this option for the Santiam Canyon sewer project.
- An estimated \$45 billion is included in the bill for broadband deployment;
- Following are the 2022 Federal Agenda funding requests:
 - North Santiam Canyon Economic Distress Relief Plan:
 - An estimated \$2 to \$15 million for Opal Creek economic development;
 - An estimated \$5 million for wastewater infrastructure improvements in the cities of Mill City and Gates;
 - An estimated \$11 million for Santiam Canyon housing recovery;
 - An estimated \$3 million for broadband deployment in the Santiam Canyon;
 - An estimated \$2.5 million for the Detroit Lake Marina excavation;
 - An estimated \$2.8 million for North Fork Road improvements; and
 - An estimated \$1.2 million for a public safety radio system.
 - An estimated \$3.7 million for the Wintel Road Reconstruction and Bridge Replacement project;
 - An estimated \$3 million for the McKay/Yergen/Ehlen Roads Safety Corridor project; and
 - An estimated \$32 million for the I-5 Aurora-Donald Interchange Reconstruction project.
- Following are the 2022 Federal Agenda policy and legislative priorities:
 - Coronavirus state and local fiscal recovery fund flexibility;
 - The Aurora Airport runway expansion;
 - The City of Detroit fish passage;
 - The Secure Rural Schools reauthorization;
 - Responsible, sustainable solutions for federal forest management of Oregon and California railroad revested rands (O&C Lands), and United States Forest Service (USFS) lands located within Marion County;
 - Funding to address the opioid and methamphetamine crisis;
 - Repeal inmate and juvenile corrections exception for federal health benefits;
 - Protect funding levels for the following programs that support Marion County projects and priorities:

- The Economic Development Administration (EDA);
- The Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP);
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield;
- Infrastructure For Rebuilding America (INFRA);
- Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD); and
- The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program:
 - This grant provides funds for criminal justice programs.
- A waste-to-energy facilities policy that would continue to recognize this type of energy as clean energy; and
- Wild and Scenic River designations:
 - Advocating against any designations that would hurt local economies.
- For the first time there will be six Oregon representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives due to the newly created sixth congressional district:
 - The district includes a large portion of Marion County.

Board discussion:

- If Congress does not pass the budget but does pass the continuous resolution, then the county's projects will not be included;
- Congress is currently working on appropriations for the current fiscal year which ends in September 2022:
 - The current Congress oversees the passing of legislation to provide appropriations for the current fiscal year;
 - The 2022 elections will not have an impact on bills that are passed for the current fiscal year ending in September 2022; and
 - If Congress is unable to reach an agreement on a year-long new Appropriations bill, then a continuing resolution extending existing funding levels may be implemented:
 - This would not include any new spending.
- The commissioners expressed their appreciation to CFM Advocates for their work on behalf of Marion County.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the 2022 Federal Agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:49:10)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

3. Consider approval of Amendment #2 to the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to add \$10,866,279.32 for a new contract total of \$14,122,893.32 for the operation of public health services through June 30, 2023.

–Ryan Matthews

Summary of presentation:

- Following are details of the allocation of funds provided by the amendment:
 - There are two Program Elements (PE) in the agreement where the county has only received funding for the first quarter of the fiscal year:
 - The county is now receiving the last three quarters of funding for the following:
 - An estimated \$310,000 for the state’s general fund Support for Public Health;
 - Funding for PE51, public health modernization:
 - An estimated \$1,065,267 is anticipated for the local effort.
 - An estimated \$500,000 for the county’s regional partnership with Polk County:
 - These three elements are the continuation of funding through the remainder of the fiscal year.
 - Carryover of unspent COVID-19 funds from the last contract period for the following two program elements for Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC):
 - An estimated \$1.9 million for PE01-07, related to contract tracing; and
 - An estimated \$5.5 million for PE01-09, related to COVID-19 Active Monitoring:
 - The funds were provided to local health authorities statewide to ensure that there was enough funding to maintain COVID-19 operations; and
 - The funds expire at the end of 2024.
 - An estimated \$1.4 million for carryover of unspent PE01-10 funds related to COVID-19 operations:
 - The funds expire at the end of the current fiscal year; and
 - Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) anticipates utilizing the funds in the current year for some of the following:
 - Building testing capacity in communities;
 - Continuing education for the COVID-19 vaccine; and
 - Have resources available for individuals that are impacted by COVID-19.
 - The public health system has historically been significantly underfunded; and
 - The value of local public health is starting to be recognized.

Board discussion:

- The state is flexible with how the funds may be utilized:
 - MCHHS may determine the best option to devote the resources to; and
 - The options can be presented to the board, who serves as the local public health authority, to discuss the county’s priorities:
 - Determine community needs; and

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- Decide where to direct the funds to.
- Modernization funds may also be utilized for COVID-19:
 - MCHHS would like to limit these funds; and
 - Only utilize funding that is specific to COVID-19 operations.
- MCHHS would like to maintain funds that may have flexibility and direct them in a direction that is good for the county.

MOTION: Commissioner Cameron moved to approve Amendment #2 to the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to add \$10,866,279.32 for a new contract total of \$14,122,893.32 for the operation of public health services through June 30, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:56:50)

Commissioner Bethell requested and received unanimous consent to return to public comment.

(Video Time 01:02:17)

4. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Military Department, Office of Emergency Management in the amount of \$207,470 for the Emergency Management Performance Grant retroactive from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. –Kathleen Silva

Summary of presentation:

- The funding source supports some of the following:
 - Personnel;
 - Materials and supplies; and
 - Administrative services.
- The dollar amount reflects an increase over previous years' allocations:
 - The increase is due to Oregon Emergency Management not utilizing their portion of the funds from the prior year:
 - The unused funds were set aside for projects and payroll;
 - The unused funds were rolled into county allocations;
 - The counties were allotted more funds than originally anticipated; and
 - Marion County generally receives an estimated \$158,000 to 160,000.

Board discussion:

None.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Military Department, Office of Emergency Management in the amount of \$207,470 for the Emergency Management Performance Grant retroactive from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:05:19)

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

None.

(Video Time 01:07:02)

Commissioner Willis read the calendar;
Commissioner Bethell adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

CHAIR

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

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