

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, December 29, 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.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CONSENT**

*(Video Time 00:01:07)*

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

1. Approve an order appointing Danielle Bethell as Chair, Colm Willis as Vice Chair, and Kevin Cameron as Second Vice Chair of the Marion County Board of Commissioners to serve from January 3, 2022, until the first Monday of January 2023.
2. Approve an order establishing the committee and commission appointments for Marion County elected officials for 2022.
3. Approve a resolution appointing Jan Fritz as the county’s representative to the Courthouse Square Condominium Association, and a Memorandum of Action electing Jan Fritz and Allan Pollock as directors effective January 1, 2022.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

4. Approve an order for the temporary closure of Richland Drive NE located in the Brooks area to maintain access to critical wastewater services.

5. Receive notice of hearings officer's decision recommending approval of Zone Change/Comprehensive Plan Amendment (ZC/CP) Case #21-005/Enchanted Ridge Property Owners Association and schedule a public hearing for January 12, 2022.

#### TAX OFFICE

6. Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$15,202.70 to Beverly J. and Shanna R. Reding.

7. Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$20,899.62 to Purlin Mill, LLC.

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

#### **ACTION**

(Video Time 00:03:05)

#### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

8. Consider approval of the Funding Approval Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development for incoming funds in the amount of \$1,561,194 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to provide quality, affordable housing, suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities for individuals with low or moderate incomes through September 1, 2028. –Chris Eppley and Tim Glisson

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

- Mr. Glisson's presentation covered Agenda Items #8 and #9;
- Both grant agreements are with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development:
  - Funding for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is estimated at \$1.5 million; and
  - Funding for the HOME Investment Partnership is estimated at \$625,000.
- The county is working diligently to get the funds where they are most needed;
- It is anticipated that programs will start being implemented in the first year;
- Projects will be lined up during the second year of the program;
- The application is available to view online; and
- Applications are due by February 7, 2022.

#### **Board discussion:**

- The commissioners expressed their appreciation to Mr. Glisson for assisting the county with navigating federal government requirements;
- The contract for CDBG funding has a term date of September 1, 2028; and

- The contract for HOME Investment Partnership funding has a term date of September 1, 2029.

Commissioner Cameron stated that the motions for Action Items #8 and #9 will be moved separately.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Funding Approval Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development for incoming funds in the amount of \$1,561,194 for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program to provide quality, affordable housing, suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities for individuals with low or moderate incomes through September 1, 2028. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 00:06:39)*

9. Consider approval of the Funding Approval and HOME Investment Partnership Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development for incoming funds in the amount of \$621,125 to provide quality, affordable housing, suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities for individuals with low or moderate incomes through September 1, 2029. –Chris Eppley and Tim Glisson

**MOTION:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Funding Approval and HOME Investment Partnership Agreement with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development for incoming funds in the amount of \$621,125 to provide quality, affordable housing, suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities for individuals with low or moderate incomes through September 1, 2029. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 00:07:25)*

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

10. Consider approval of a resolution amending the criteria for the Good Neighbor program. –Kelli Weese

***Summary of presentation:***

- The Good Neighbor grant program was established in 2007;
- The grant program is a small-scale program used to fund county led projects that have no other funding source;
- The following was implemented when the program was established:

- The county set aside \$20,000 each fiscal year to fund the program; and
- Criteria was established which included some of the following:
  - The project needs to be located within Marion County;
  - The property where the project will be completed needs to be current on property taxes;
  - Situations must present the following:
    - A risk to public health or safety; and
    - A risk by threatening property values or livability.
  - Projects must cost less than \$5,000 to complete.
- Spending and projects come before the Board of Commissioners for consideration;
- Under consideration is the request to amend the original 2007 criteria that required projects to cost less than \$5,000 to complete:
  - Currently most projects that are intended for the program cost more than \$5,000.
- The program as a whole and the criteria was discussed at a Management Update meeting held on December 7, 2022:
  - During the meeting the board directed staff to prepare a resolution that would consider allowing for projects that are larger than \$5,000.
- Community Services would like to amend the cost limitation criteria to the following:
  - Grant applicants can apply for up to \$10,000;
  - There would be no limit on total project cost; but
  - Only \$10,000 in grant funding will be allowed for a project.
- Staff recommends approval of the resolution to amend this specific program criteria; and
- No other criteria or processes will change.

***Board discussion:***

- Over the years the program has served the needs of the county's communities; and
- It is a good program that has been utilized to do good things.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve a resolution amending the criteria for the Good Neighbor program. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 00:12:28)*

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

11. Consider approval of Amendment #6 to the incoming funds Participating Provider Service Agreement with PacificSource Community Solutions to add \$19,000,000 for a new contract total of \$38,000,000 for the Coordinated Care Organization serving Oregon Health Plan Medicaid members through December 31, 2023. –Ryan Matthews

***Summary of presentation:***

- PacificSource was selected by the Oregon Health Authority in January 2020 to be the coordinated care organization for Marion County and Polk County;
- The current contract expires at the end of the calendar year;

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- Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHSS) is requesting to extend the term date beyond 2021;
- The contract primarily funds the following:
  - The county's Medicaid population;
  - Behavioral health and addiction treatment services; and
  - Public health.
- The agreement's structure is a fee for service component or a grant component:
  - The fee for service component has an approved fee schedule;
  - Services provided under the fee schedule are reimbursed based on the schedule and on the volume of services that are provided;
  - A large percentage of the contract is a per member, per month allocation:
    - It fluctuates based on the population of members within PacificSource:
      - Currently there are an estimated 127,000 members.
    - Approximately \$14 million of the \$19 million is for the per member, per month allocation:
      - This is a fixed allocation that the county receives every month.
    - Approximately \$5 million is a fee for service based on service volume.
- There were a few changes to clean-up contract language;
- Changes also included modifications to the payment mechanism for the county's wrap-around program and the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) program;
- The contract moved to a case rate where the county will only get paid for services provided to a member;
- The total amount of funding that is received will not be impacted; and
- The quality incentive metrics that apply to the county was updated for 2022:
  - Timely assessments to children in Department of Human Services (DHS) custody was the only change.

***Board discussion:***

- There are 127,000 total PacificSource members for both Marion County and Polk County combined;
- The county's Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program receives some funding along with other programs:
  - There is a specific dollar amount allocated for each program; and
  - The amount per member per month can fluctuate in each category:
    - One category may require more funding if the need is higher; and
    - The county has the flexibility to spend funds where the needs are greatest.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve Amendment #6 to the incoming funds Participating Provider Service Agreement with PacificSource Community Solutions to add \$19,000,000 for a new contract total of \$38,000,000 for the Coordinated Care Organization serving Oregon Health Plan Medicaid members through December 31, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:18:10)

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

12. Consider approval of the Purchase Order with CVE Technologies Group, Inc. in the amount of \$107,333.49 for the purchase of the Cisco SmartNet Hardware and Software Maintenance renewal through December 31, 2022. –Gary Christofferson

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

- The contract is to pay the annual support needed for the county’s network infrastructure;
- The manufacturer requires the county to have maintenance agreements, or the hardware may cease to function:
  - Computers will stop functioning; and
  - Employee jobs will be impacted.
- The maintenance agreement allows the county to maintain, improve, and access the most recent version of the manufacturer’s software;
- Information Technology (IT) budgets for the annual expense;
- In prior years the support payment has been below the contract dollar threshold that requires board approval;
- The cost increases as the network and infrastructure grows:
  - Annual maintenance contracts increase when new services are provided for new buildings and offices; and
  - The expense increases for the maintenance and the support are normal.
- The county’s network increased:
  - The hardware needed to expand contributed to the increased expense.

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

- The contract has not come before the board in prior years because it was under the dollar threshold that requires board approval;
- The county has been paying the annual fee for an estimated 20 years;
- Future annual payments are anticipated to be above the maximum contract threshold and may require board approval unless the county’s network size decreases; and
- Inflation will also impact contracts.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Purchase Order with CVE Technologies Group, Inc. in the amount of \$107,333.49 for the purchase of the Cisco SmartNet Hardware and Software Maintenance renewal through December 31, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:21:13)

## SHERIFF'S OFFICE

13. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with Bridgeway Recovery Services, Inc. in the amount of \$105,000 to provide mentoring services that support re-entry for justice involved individuals with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders through June 30, 2023. –Commander Kevin Karvandi

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

- The contract is funded through a justice reinvestment grant;
- The contract supports the Link Up program:
  - The program is one of nine justice reinvestment programs approved by the Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC).
- Link Up is a peer support and mentor program with the following objectives:
  - To reduce recidivism; and
  - Provide mentoring services that support successful reentry for justice involved individuals that have been incarcerated.
- Link Up supports justice involved individuals who have co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders;
- The contract funds one certified recovery mentor who provides the following supports before and after an individual's release from custody:
  - Transition planning prior to release;
  - Enhancing motivation and engagement;
  - Substance abuse and mental health pre-screening assessments while in custody;
  - Assists with enrolling and engaging individuals in treatment services with Bridgeway Recovery Services following release from incarceration; and
  - Navigation assistance which includes some of the following:
    - Providing housing needs;
    - Employment searches;
    - Coaching and life skills; and
    - Facilitating recovery focus groups.
- The primary goals of the Link Up program entails some of the following:
  - Enhance community safety;
  - Reduce criminal activity; and
  - Motivate justice involved individuals to embrace an alcohol and drug free lifestyle.
- The contract's term date is January 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023.

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

- None.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Contract for Services with Bridgeway Recovery Services, Inc. in the amount of \$105,000 to provide mentoring services that support re-entry for justice involved individuals with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders through June 30, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:25:07)

Commissioner Cameron read the calendar.

The commissioners recessed at 9:28 a.m.  
The commissioners reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

(Video Time 00:29:37)

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

A. Second public hearing to receive and consider Marion County's project completion report for Community Development Block Grant Funds from Business Oregon. –Chris Eppley

***Summary of presentation:***

- The merging of the Beachie Creek and Lionshead wildfires in 2020 was a catastrophic event in the Santiam Canyon;
- The wildfire caused damage to the following communities:
  - The City of Detroit;
  - The City of Gates; and
  - Several other locations within the canyon.
- The county assisted communities with the recovery efforts;
- The county applied for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through Business Oregon to assist with funding wildfire recovery activities;
- The first public hearing was held prior to receiving the grant;
- A second, follow-up public hearing is required for the following:
  - Allow for further public comment:
    - No public comment has been received to date; and
    - Documents have been posted on the county's website since the prior week.
  - To report on what the grant funding was utilized for; and
  - To close the grant out.
- The original grant request through Business Oregon was for \$410,000;
- Following are items funded by the grant:
  - A long-term wildfire recovery manager was hired;



- Activities were performed relating to housing individuals displaced by the wildfires;
- A financial consultant was hired to provide fiscal reconstruction and technical services to the cities of Detroit and Gates; and
- Consultants were hired to produce studies on the following topics:
  - Developing visioning and strategic plans for the cities of Detroit and Gates;
  - Perform an economic opportunities analysis for the upper Santiam Canyon communities;
  - Develop fiscal recovery strategies;
  - Prepare a community health impact study that focuses on the following issues:
    - Physical health; and
    - Mental health.
  - Create a communications and outreach strategy.
- Several outreach activities were conducted both in person and via Zoom to connect with communities impacted by the wildfires:
  - Assisted communities with a visioning process for multiple years into the future;
  - Helped communities create a vision to determine what they should be recovering; and
  - Helped communities identify how to pivot following the wildfires.
- The following are recommendations from the visioning and strategic plans that the City of Detroit may focus on for the future:
  - Focus on multi-season, full year tourism which may include some of the following:
    - Snowmobiling and snowshoeing in the winter months; and
    - Mountain biking in shorter seasons.
  - Develop affordable workforce housing:
    - This is a critical issue for businesses to reopen; and
    - Housing and property in the area have become very expensive.
  - Rebuild downtown possibly with temporary pop-up shops to start business moving again while working towards recovery; and
  - Improve the sanitary sewer system:
    - Currently there are septic systems;
    - There was severe damage to the septic systems; and
    - Rebuilding the system may be difficult and expensive.
- Sanitary sewer is the most critical component throughout the Santiam Canyon that will determine how communities will develop:
  - With sanitary sewers in-place communities may have the opportunity to develop the following:
    - Growth; and
    - Vertical development:

- Work is on-going to find a way to make this option available to individuals residing in the canyon.
    - Without sanitary sewers in-place communities may develop in a different manner:
      - Septic systems may hinder growth and development.
- The following are recommendations from the visioning and strategic plans that the City of Gates may focus on in the future:
  - Recognize that the demand for homes in the city may increase as the price of housing in the City of Detroit increases and potentially becomes unaffordable;
  - Focus on becoming an attractive location for family-based workforce housing to be built:
    - Single-family housing may be more affordable in the City of Gates community; and
    - The city's location may be more favorable to individuals commuting to larger cities to the west including the City of Salem.
  - Create a mixed-use downtown area; and
  - Create a project on Highway 22 that will attract individuals traveling through the canyon to stop and potentially draw tourism and day visitors into the community.
- The economic impact analysis and strategies team studied the pre and post fire economic situations in the canyon communities and provided the following recommendations to minimize the length for economic recovery:
  - Focus on sewer investment:
    - Sewer is critical for communities to recover in the future:
      - It is an expensive and complex project;
      - It may take multiple years to establish; and
      - Intermediary solutions will need to be developed.
  - Enhance and diversify recreation infrastructure to attract more visitors to the area:
    - Plan retail centers that capture more visitor spending; and
    - Focus on recreation and tourism verses simply focusing on individuals residing in the communities:
      - Import visitor dollars into the community verses recycling the dollars that they already have from individuals residing in the area.
  - Plan housing that can meet multiple needs:
    - Seasonal workforce housing is critical; and
    - Non-traditional housing options also need to be considered:
      - Tiny homes may play a role in a community's rebuilding process.
  - Invest in economic and social connectivity:
    - Develop and build social and business connection capacity; and
    - Engage in place making.
- Cities located in the Santiam Canyon have an opportunity to rebuild and rethink who they are and what they can become:
  - The work that they do now will carry through into their long-term future.

- The Community Health Impact Assessment identified the following four areas that need to be addressed:
  - Environmental health:
    - Soil testing;
    - Understanding contaminants and chemicals that are found in the soil following the wildfires; and
    - Soil treatment knowledge.
  - Removing barriers for rebuilding:
    - Determine how government agencies can assist wildfire survivors with reclaiming their lives.
  - Mental and behavioral health:
    - Survivors have been traumatized by wildfires;
    - Multiple individual's loss everything; and
    - Emotional stability will take time.
  - Understanding and knowing what some of the physical dangers in the canyon are:
    - Falling trees; and
    - Mud slides:
      - Events can happen over the next three to seven years or longer as the following begin to heal:
        - The watershed; and
        - Vegetation.
- The demographics of an estimated 2,250 individuals were served by the grant:
  - Some of the following nationalities benefitted from the funding:
    - White;
    - American Indian; and
    - Alaskan Natives.
  - An estimated 950 individuals have low to moderate incomes.
- The original grant was for \$410,000;
- The final expenditures are estimated to be \$334,788;
- The housing development analysis, originally budgeted at \$65,000, was not applied;
- The county worked towards reclaiming expenses that had been utilized for some of the following:
  - Developing housing in the following locations:
    - Mill City;
    - The City of Gates; and
    - The North Santiam Park.
  - Expenses incurred by the following:
    - Marion County Public Works;
    - Engineering expenses; and
    - Internal staff costs.

- The expense numbers are current but are not completely finalized:
  - The county is still trying to capture some additional cost prior to the grant closing.
- Additional cost associated with housing development expenditures include some of the following:
  - The printing and mailing of surveys to canyon residents;
  - The county is leasing a property in the City of Gates for an estimated three months;
  - The county is renting a modular for the Christian Ministries to build homes for survivors:
    - The organization is stationed in the canyon to directly work with the recipients of the homes.
  - Cover fees associated with preliminary work for septic systems in the area.
- The public hearing is meant to provide an opportunity for the public to contribute input; and
- No public comment has been received prior to the meeting.

***Board discussion:***

- No one has signed up to testify during the public hearing;
- The commissioners previously attended a joint work session with Linn County pertaining to the grant:
  - The two counties continue to communicate and work jointly in the recovery process.
- Commissioner Willis expressed for the record that there is small business owners and entrepreneurship in the canyon that is making the canyon strong;
- The county has been working on bringing high-speed broadband to the communities located in the canyon to encourage entrepreneurialism;
- Individuals traveling through the Santiam Canyon need to remain alert for the possibility of fallen trees;
- Only hazard trees next to roadways are currently being cut down:
  - Trees not located near roadways may still be dangerous for multiple years into the future;
  - Individuals that may be hiking or mountain biking in the area need to remain alert and cautious.
- Recreation opportunities are available for every season throughout the year; and
- The commissioners expressed their appreciation to all the organizations and county staff that have assisted with the canyon's recovery efforts.

Commissioner Cameron closed the public hearing.  
Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

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CHAIR

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COMMISSIONER

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COMMISSIONER

**Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at**

**<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSUQ1gg6M78UsBE3q6w4rdf59Z5rXkEi5>**