

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, March 3, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

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

ABSENT: Jan Fritz, chief administrative officer

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

(Video time unknown. Technical difficulties.)

PRESENTATION

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) update. –Katrina Rothenberger

- Ms. Rothenberger reported the following updates for the COVID-19 pandemic as of 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 3, 2021:
 - There have been an estimated 18,541 cumulative cases within the county from the start of the pandemic;
 - An estimated 285 individuals have died from symptoms related to COVID-19; and
 - An estimated 23 county residents are currently being hospitalized for symptoms related to COVID-19:
 - This is a decrease from last week’s estimate of 29 residents.
- For the week of February 21st through February 27th, there were an estimated 286 cases and a 4.4 percent positivity rate;
- The positivity rate has averaged 9.1 percent since the beginning of the pandemic:
 - This rate has decreased dramatically in the last few weeks.
- For the two-week period beginning February 14th through February 27th, there was a slight increase in cases over the previous two-week period:
 - This could be contributed to the lack of testing during the Ice Storm;
 - An estimated 4,387 tests were conducted during the week of February 14th through February 20th;
 - An estimated 8,843 tests were conducted during the week of February 21st through February 27th; and
 - The percent positivity rate for this time period was 4.7 percent:
 - This is still under the threshold of 200 per 100,000 cases, which keeps the county in the high-risk category; and
 - To move to the moderate risk category, the county needs to have 100 cases per 100,000, or an estimated 348 cases in a two-week period.

- The bulk of the cases are coming from Central Salem, Northeast Salem, and the City of Brooks area zip codes;
- During the week of February 25th, the state received the following vaccines:
 - An estimated 200,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine; and
 - An estimated 210 doses of the Moderna vaccine.
- This week the state will receive an estimated 34,000 of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine;
- Marion County will be receiving approximately 7,300 doses, and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) may allocate more based on supply and availability:
 - An estimated 5,000 doses will be provided to Salem Health at the Oregon State Fairgrounds; and
 - An estimated 1,700 doses will be provided to Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) along with an estimated 600 doses of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.
- MCHHS is prioritizing high case count areas for vaccine distribution;
- Ms. Rothenberger stated individuals wishing to receive the Johnson and Johnson vaccine may wish to wait until supplies are more readily available:
 - It is an experimental viral vector vaccine that uses a weakened live pathogen as the delivery method, as opposed to the Messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccine;
 - It is 66 to 72 percent effective at preventing moderate to severe disease from COVID-19; and
 - It is 85 percent effective in preventing severe disease.
- Almost one million Oregonians have either taken their first or second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine:
 - Approximately 65,000 doses have been administered in Marion County; and
 - An estimated 55,000 to 60,000 doses were administered to Marion County residents.
- Governor Brown announced that beginning no later than March 29th, adults 45 to 64 years of age, with underlying medical conditions, will be eligible to receive the vaccine, along with some of the following:
 - Migrant farm workers;
 - Seafood workers;
 - Agricultural workers;
 - Individuals living in senior or low-income housing;
 - Individuals in senior congregate or independent living facilities;
 - Persons experiencing homelessness;
 - Individuals who have been displaced by the 2020 wildfires; and
 - Wildland firefighters.
- It is anticipated that all Oregonians over the age of 16 years will be eligible to receive the vaccine by July 1st;
- Individuals should schedule an appointment to receive their second dose with the same provider that administered their first dose:
 - Individuals may need to wait a few weeks to ensure vaccinations are available.
- Ms. Rothenberger stated that it has been over a year since the pandemic began, and she expressed that everyone has been impacted in one way or another by COVID-19;
- Ms. Rothenberger thanked the following:
 - Everyone who has worked on the COVID-19 response; and

- Individuals who have taken the following precautions to keep their friends, family and community safe:
 - Wearing a face mask;
 - Washing hands frequently; and
 - Social distancing.
- Ms. Rothenberger expressed there is a little light at the end of the tunnel with the vaccine and MCHHS continues to work hard to get COVID-19 vaccine doses out the door.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Cameron expressed the following:
 - It is encouraging to see restaurants opening up;
 - He encouraged everyone to continue to be safe in public; and
 - He thanked MCHHS and everyone who has been working on vaccine distribution.

CONSENT

(Video Time 00:07:55)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OLCC Applications – Recommended Approval

Antique Powerland Museum Association, Inc., dba Powerland Heritage Park –Salem, OR
 Vitae Springs Vineyard, LLC, dba Vitae Springs –Salem, OR

Approve an order recommending renewal of the Oregon Liquor Control Commission Licenses.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Approve an order reappointing Shawn Baird, Mark Bjorklund, and Loren Hall to the Marion County Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee with terms ending January 31, 2024.

Approve Amendment #2 to the Purchase Order Contract with Robert Half International, Inc., to add \$75,000 for a new contract total of \$262,000 for temporary account staffing to track COVID-19 funding and extend the term date to June 30, 2021.

PUBLIC WORKS

Receive notice of hearings officer’s decision denying Adjustment (ADJ) Case #20-006/Mendoza and Rangel.

TAX OFFICE

Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$22,943.56 to Amazon.com, account #346785.

Board discussion:

- Ryan Matthews, Marion County Health and Human Services Administrator, provided an update on the contract with Robert Half International, Inc., as requested by Commissioner Willis:

- The county lacked sufficient administrative resources that were needed to provide support for the numerous COVID-19 incoming funding sources that were being received;
- The county contracted with Robert Half International, Inc., to provide an employee to perform the following services in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic:
 - Track and monitor expenditures;
 - Review and verify that emergency response employees are coding their time appropriately on time sheets; and
 - Assist with identifying COVID-19 funding sources.
- MCHHS anticipates contracting with Robert Half International, Inc., through the 2021 fiscal year;
- The contracted employee ensures the following:
 - That the county is spending all COVID-19 funding correctly; and
 - That everything is documented.
- The contracted employee has prior experience with FEMA reimbursements and emergency disaster recovery.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Video Time 00:12:53)

Mark Bjorklund, Marion County Fire Battalion Chief:

- Chief Bjorklund thanked the commissioners for his reappointment and expressed he is looking forward to serving another three years on the Marion County Ambulance Service Area Advisory Committee; and
- He believes the committee has come a long way with some of the issues that previous commissioners have had.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Bethell stated she has previously worked with Chief Bjorklund and that he is an asset to any team:
 - He has a lot of integrity;
 - He is really good at his job;
 - She learned a lot about the county and customer service from him; and
 - She watched him save a lot of lives.

ACTION

(Video Time 00:15:50)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1. Consider entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Detroit and the City of Gates to provide Community Development Block Grant supported wildfire recovery program services. –Lisa Trauernicht

Summary of presentation:

- These are two separate agreements, one for each city;
- The IGA supports the Santiam Canyon Wildfire Recovery Program;
- Staff has been working on developing this program for the past several months;
- One of the requirements for funding through the Community Development Block Grant is to have an IGA with the cities that will benefit from these funds;
- These funds will directly support the cities of Gates and Detroit; and
- The cities are on board and are excited about the program.

Board discussion:

- The cities have not signed the agreements yet:
 - Cities are currently working on getting the item on their agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Detroit and the City of Gates to provide Community Development Block Grant supported wildfire recovery program services. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:18:41)

PUBLIC WORKS

2. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the Delaney Road, Battle Creek Bridge project estimated at \$685,000, which ODOT will provide \$614,650.50 in federal funding, with the remaining estimate of \$70,349.50 to be funded by the county. –Ryan Crowther and Steve Preszler

Summary of presentation:

- The project is located just west of the City of Turner and south of the City of Salem:
 - Construction will occur at the intersection of Delaney Road and Battle Creek Road.
- The existing structure is an old timber structure that requires extra maintenance:
 - The road crew maintains it fairly well; and
 - There is a lot of truck traffic.
- The intersection is confusing;
- The bridge does not qualify for funding through the local bridge program because of its high sufficiency rating;
- The project scope entails the following:
 - Realign Delaney Road;
 - Replace the existing bridge with a new structure; and
 - Reconfigure the intersections with Battle Creek Road and Parrish Gap Road:

- There may be some impact to adjacent properties that would require constructing a retaining wall.
- Outreach will be done with area residents before a final plan is adopted:
 - All property owners that will be directly impacted will be contacted;
 - Public meetings will be held, and signs posted at the intersections;
 - The information will be posted on the Marion County Public Works (MCPW) website;
 - Letters will be mailed; and
 - The website lists all current projects.
- The right-of-way will need to be updated:
 - MCPW will follow ODOT process to acquire; and
 - MCPW will work with land owners on the acquisition.
- The road will be wider in the area and widen out leading up to the approach roadway;
- There will be a safe crossing;
- There is a lot of truck traffic in the area;
- The project is currently only funded through preliminary engineering and right-of-way acquisition:
 - Construction funding is anticipated to be awarded in the next cycle;
 - The federal share is estimated at \$614,650.50;
 - The county share is estimated at \$70,349.50; and
 - The total cost of the project is estimated at \$685,500.
- The preliminary schedule is as follows:
 - Preliminary design in 2021-2023;
 - The right-of-way acquisition in 2023; and
 - Construction to begin in 2025.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Bethell had concerns regarding the right-of-way process;
- Ms. Vetto, county counsel, explained the right-of-way and Eminent Domain process;
- If the project does not proceed then the county may need to return the funding to ODOT; and
- The remaining project will be funded at a later date and the estimate for construction is approximately \$3.9 million.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the Delaney Road, Battle Creek Bridge project estimated at \$685,000, which ODOT will provide \$614,650.50 in federal funding, with the remaining estimate of \$70,349.50 to be funded by the county. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:33:58)

3. Consider approval of the Public Improvement Agreement with Legacy Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,390,678.75 for Phase 3 of the Marion County Ferry Boat Program through September 30, 2023. –Ryan Crowther and Steve Preszler

Summary of presentation:

- There are two ferry locations:
 - Wheatland Ferry is north of the City of Keizer; and
 - Buena Vista Ferry is south of the City of Independence.
- The scope of the project entails some of the following:
 - Construct a platform and install a generator above the 100-year flood elevation;
 - Widen and resurface existing concrete ramps;
 - Replace existing tie-off dolphins (pilings) with new ones built to current standards; and
 - Construct off-site stormwater treatment to offset added impervious area.
- Generators will be purchased through a separate contract; and
- Five bids were received for the contract:
 - Legacy submitted the lowest bid at \$1,390,678.75;
 - Federal funding will cover 80 percent of the cost at \$1,112,543;
 - The county will cover 20 percent of the cost at \$278,135.75; and
 - Construction is anticipated between May 2021 and September 2021.

Board discussion:

- Polk and Yamhill counties share in the cost of operation, but not in the improvement expenses;
- The average number of cars per day is estimated to be 100; and
- Commissioner Bethell asked for clarification regarding the county's portion of funding, which comes out of the county's Road Fund.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve the Public Improvement Agreement with Legacy Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$1,390,678.75 for Phase 3 of the Marion County Ferry Boat Program through September 30, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

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

None.

Commissioner Bethell read the calendar.

Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

CHAIR

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at

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