

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, March 9, 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 Jane Vetto as county counsel and Brenda Koenig as recorder.

ABSENT: Jan Fritz, chief administrative officer

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

(Video Time 00:00:54)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

(Video Time 00:01:01)

CONSENT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Board Committee Appointments – Marion County Planning Commission

1. Approve an order reappointing Richard Massey to the Marion County Planning Commission with a term ending February 26, 2026.

HUMAN RESOURCES

2. Approve a recommendation to adjust upward the pay grade for classification #118, County Building Official.

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

(Video Time 00:01:50)

ACTION

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

3. Consider approval of Amendment #1 to the incoming funds Grant Agreement with the Oregon Business Development Department to add \$100,000 for a new agreement total of \$400,800 and extend the date to June 30, 2023, for the Santiam Canyon Wildfire Recovery program.

–Chris Eppley

Summary of presentation:

- The original contract with Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD) was approved in May 2021:
 - The original contract amount was for \$300,000.
- The contract funds wildfire recovery expenses through a grant;
- The county requested that \$100,000 be added to the grant and that the term date be extended through June 30, 2023;
- The types of expenditures that are covered by the grant include:
 - Staff time;
 - Financial services for the affected communities;
 - Engineering; and
 - Other activities.
- Staff recommends accepting the additional funding for wildfire recovery.

Board discussion:

None.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve Amendment #1 to the incoming funds Grant Agreement with the Oregon Business Development Department to add \$100,000 for a new agreement total of \$400,800 and extend the date to June 30, 2023, for the Santiam Canyon Wildfire Recovery program. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:03:53)

COMMUNITY SERVICES

4. Consider approval of a collaborative Memorandum of Understanding with internal Marion County departments and external partner agencies for support of the Marion County Reentry Initiative through June 30, 2026. –Tamra Goettsch, Director, Marion County Community Services; Commander Kevin Karvandi, Marion County Sheriff's Office; April Cox, Director of Reentry Services, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency; and Jessica Howard, President, Chemeketa Community College

Summary of presentation:

Tamra Goettsch:

- This is a renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding between the county and its partners who provide support and services to individuals reentering the community after being incarcerated;
- If approved, the agreement will become active upon signing and extend through June 30, 2026;
- The types of support services provided to individuals reentering the community include:
 - Recovery services;
 - Parenting supports;
 - Education;
 - Employment; and
 - Removal of barriers as needed.
- Organizations that are a part of the Memorandum of Understanding include:
 - Bridgeway Recovery Services;
 - The Center for Hope and Safety;
 - Chemeketa Community College;
 - Family Building Blocks;
 - The Oregon Department of Corrections;
 - Liberty House;
 - The Marion County District Attorney's Office;
 - Marion County Health and Human Services;
 - The Marion County Housing Authority;
 - The Marion County Public Defender's Office;
 - The Marion County Sheriff's Office;
 - The Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, De Muniz Resource Center;
 - The Marion County Community Services Department;
 - The Pathways Network;
 - The Union Gospel Mission of Salem; and
 - Willamette Workforce Partnership.
- The organizations listed above are actively participating in the community by performing the work that is required to make the Marion County Reentry Initiative (MCRI) successful; and
- The county invites any interested organization to become a partner in this effort.

Commander Kevin Karvandi:

- The MCRI's success is due to understanding of the importance of relationships, and a strict adherence to evidence-based practices;
- There are more diversion and reentry programs and services currently being offered in Marion County than in the past;
- Oregon Senate Bill 267 requires correctional programs to use evidence-based practices when working with the client population;

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- The MCRI was created in 2005:
 - Recidivism rates were high;
 - The prison population was steadily rising; and
 - Assistance options were being considered for individuals leaving institutions:
 - Helping the individuals to become successful;
 - Breaking down barriers;
 - Developing relationships; and
 - Developing programs and services guided by best practices.
- Prior to 2010 there were no prison reentry or prison diversion programs in the county;
- Following are some of the county's reentry programs:
 - Student Opportunities for Achieving Results (SOAR);
 - Link-Up;
 - The Transition from Jail to Community (TJC) Program;
 - The Reentry Program; and
 - The Resilience and Recovery Project Peer Mentor Program.
- The county's first prison diversion program was launched in 2012 with Senate Bill 416;
- In 2016 the Family Sentencing Alternative Program was launched;
- In addition to reentry and diversion programs, justice diversion works to prevent individuals from ever getting involved in the criminal justice system;
- The county's main justice diversion programs are:
 - The Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program (LEAD);
 - The Sheriff's Office Community Crisis Outreach Services (CCOS); and
 - The Sheriff's Office Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT).
- The collaboration between Marion County and its partners has been the key to the success of the programs; and
- There has been a continual decline in recidivism and the prison population within the county.

Jessica Howard, President, Chemeketa Community College:

- Ms. Howard does not know of any other program similar to SOAR within the community college sector;
- SOAR was established in 2010, and has been proven to decrease recidivism rates;
- The program entails some of the following:
 - Academic planning;
 - Employment assistance;
 - Job searching;
 - Career exploration;
 - Cognitive restructuring; and
 - Evidence based curriculum.
- SOAR is a 90-day program that also includes substance abuse treatment;
- The program is located on the main campus of Chemeketa Community College; and

- The program is for individuals who have been incarcerated that are seeking a positive change in their lives.

April Cox, Director of Reentry Services, De Muniz Resource Center, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency:

- The De Muniz Resource Center is part of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency;
- The De Muniz Resource Center has been operating since 2011, and it has served over 15,000 individuals;
- The center serves individuals who have a criminal background:
 - Most of the clients are on supervision.
- The center is located on the Marion County Sheriff's Office campus;
- There are currently seven staff members employed by the De Muniz Resource Center including:
 - Four navigators:
 - Two housing navigators:
 - One housing navigator is bilingual.
 - One education navigator; and
 - One employment navigator.
 - Three support staff.
- The center has a specialized employment grant from Willamette Workforce Partnership that has helped provide the following:
 - Assistance with resumes;
 - Practice mock interviews;
 - Preparation for employment;
 - Obtaining and purchasing identification; and
 - Purchasing work gear and specialized tools.
- The center's housing programs are new, and they have successfully housed 15 individuals;
- The center refers clients to other community resources;
- The De Muniz Resource Center also serves the Marion County Transition Center's adults-in-custody;
- Every Friday clients can sign up for the Oregon Health Plan; and
- The center holds legal clinics for clients with civil matters that need to be addressed:
 - The individuals can meet with an attorney; and
 - There is no charge for this service.

Board discussion:

- The De Muniz Resource Center has had a positive impact on the community:
 - The programs can change an individual's life.
- The vision of the MCRI is to work together to:
 - Rebuild lives;

- Promote community safety; and
- Save taxpayer dollars by breaking the cycle of criminal activity.
- Participating individuals learn that their lives are valued, and that change is possible;
- Marion County recidivism rates have been cut in half since the inception of the program;
- The county holds individuals accountable for their actions, while also supporting their reentry and success back into communities;
- The county and all its community partners are working to help people change their lives for the better;
- The community is welcome to attend the reentry breakfast in the City of Keizer on April 28, 2022, to learn about the program and how it is making a difference in people's lives; and
- A SOAR program for women may be an option in the future.

MOTION: Commissioner Cameron moved to approve a collaborative Memorandum of Understanding with internal Marion County departments and external partner agencies for support of the Marion County Reentry Initiative through June 30, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:28:11)

BUSINESS SERVICES

5. Consider approval of an order adopting revised Marion County Administrative Policy #502 and Procedure #502-A, Driving on County Business. –Justine Flora and Kyle Wonderly

Summary of presentation:

- Policy #502 and Procedure #502-A, Driving on County Business, was originally established in 1986;
- The policy and the procedure were last updated in August 2013;
- Revisions for approval today include:
 - Format updates;
 - Grammar updates;
 - Clarifications:
 - A definition section was added to the document.
 - Language was moved from the policy document into the procedure document;
 - Language was added to the policy to distinguish between jobs that require driving as a function and those that simply allow driving for convenience purposes; and
 - Updates to the point scoring requirements:
 - Examples were added for clarification purposes.
- Numerous jobs within Marion County require driving to get the work done;
- Policy #502 establishes expectations and responsibilities intended to:
 - Minimize the county's exposure to loss; and
 - Maximize safety for the following:
 - County drivers;

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- Passengers;
 - Clients; and
 - The public.
- Procedure #502-A establishes the procedures that are followed when an employee is driving on county business, and the methods used to ensure county drivers are qualified;
- A review of a driver's history is one way that the county assesses the safety of a driver:
 - The assessment entails contacting the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles; and
 - Driving infractions are assigned points relative to the severity of the infraction:
 - The allowable number of points to qualify has been updated.
- A tiered approach has been added for reviewing a driver's history:
 - In the past, a five-year driving history was required; and
 - The new tiered approach allows individuals with less than five years of driving history to still be considered for a job position that requires driving.

Board discussion:

- The changes to Policy #502 and Procedure #502-A, Driving on County Business were discussed in detail at a prior meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve an order adopting revised Marion County Administrative Policy #502 and Procedure #502-A, Driving on County Business. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:32:20)

HUMAN RESOURCES

6. Consider approval of an order adopting revised Marion County Administrative Policy #305 and Procedure #305-A, Protected Leave. –Leslie Martin

Summary of presentation:

- Marion County Human Resources is recommending updating the county's protected leave policy to encompass updates that were made by the Oregon Legislature through House Bill 2474;
- The changes were previously brought to a Management Update meeting; and
- The biggest impact is that during a public health emergency, as declared by the governor, some new eligibility rules will take affect under the Oregon Family Leave Act:
 - The current 180-day employment requirement to be eligible for protective leave will change to 30 days;
 - If an employee leaves service and returns within 180 days their former eligibility will remain in place; and
 - If an employee is gone for more than 180 days and returns, they start over with their eligibility.

Board discussion:

- The changes to Policy #305 and Procedure #305-A, Protected Leave were discussed in detail at a prior meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner Cameron moved to approve an order adopting revised Marion County Administrative Policy #305 and Procedure #305-A, Protected Leave. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:34:19)

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

7. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Youth Authority in the amount of \$270,056.50 for the processing of expunctions of juvenile records retroactive to January 2, 2022, through January 1, 2024. –Troy Gregg

Summary of presentation:

- A bill was passed during an Oregon legislative session that made expunctions automatic for juveniles in certain circumstances:
 - The Juvenile Department is notified of the expunction; and
 - Staff processes the expunction:
 - The process increases the workload of county staff;
 - Staff will receive a fee for the service;
 - The complete workload for the expunction process is still unknown; and
 - The fee is based off an average of expunctions performed throughout all the counties.
- In the past expunctions had to be requested by the individual;
- Currently the county will receive a flat rate of approximately \$206 per expunction to provide the following:
 - Sending the information out;
 - Making sure that all the entities with a juvenile's record are submitted back through; and
 - Invoices for completed expunctions will be sent to the Oregon Youth Authority.
- The Juvenile Department processed approximately 25 expunctions in January and February of 2022;
- It is estimated that the county will eventually process approximately 600 expunctions per year:
 - Currently the Juvenile Department can manage the workload; and
 - Additional staff may be needed in the future as expunctions increase.
- The funds are reimbursement for services provided.

Board discussion:

- Ms. Vetto explained the expunctions process:
 - The records for youths that are arrested but not charged go away;

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- The state is asking the counties to go through and clear a juvenile's record; and
- The state will pay the counties for their time to perform the expunction.
- The Juvenile Department sends information to the various agencies that need to execute record expunction;
- A juvenile whose records are being expunged have not been convicted of a crime:
 - They may have been arrested, but not charged with a crime.
- The words expunction and expungement are interchangeable and mean the same thing.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Youth Authority in the amount of \$270,056.50 for the processing of expunctions of juvenile records retroactive to January 2, 2022, through January 1, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:42:40)

PUBLIC HEARINGS
9:30 A.M.

None.

Commissioner Cameron read the calendar;
Commissioner Bethell adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

CHAIR

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

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