

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, July 21, 2021  
9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room  
555 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

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

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Colm Willis

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*(Video Time 00:01:20)*

David Beem:

- Mr. Beem requested more services for homeless youth:
  - There is no access to mental health services after 5:00 p.m.

*(Video Time 00:03:50)*

Tina Herman:

- Ms. Herman lives in the Macleay area;
- She spoke in opposition to the Auburn Conversion Project:
  - Converting an old landfill into a community park; and
  - The land was purchased with Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) money.
- The project would have to be approved by the LWCF and other government organizations due to it once being a landfill:
  - These approvals could take years.
- There have been no environmental impact surveys, well water samples, or soil samples collected since 1991;
- The town hall scheduled for March 2020 was cancelled due to COVID, and has not been rescheduled:
  - Macleay residents would like an opportunity to express their opinions on the project.

- Ms. Herman was told by Marion County Environmental Services that the county cannot apply for funding to restore parks destroyed by the fires until the Auburn Conversion Project is satisfied:
  - She feels that funds would be better spent restoring Santiam Canyon parks, and that these projects could be completed in a timelier manner.
- Ms. Herman asked the commissioners to vote against the Auburn Conversion Project.

*(Video Time 00:07:20)*

Duane F. Marks:

- Mr. Marks spoke in opposition to the Auburn Conversion Project;
- He feels the money should be directed to maintaining existing Marion County parks;
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have strict regulations that would have to be followed:
  - This would cost a lot of money.
- Marion County taxpayers do not want to fund the project; and
- Mr. Marks feels the project is going to be very expensive.

*(Video Time 00:11:23)*

Heather Croser:

- Ms. Croser spoke in opposition to the Auburn Conversion Project;
- A large natural gas pipeline runs under the center of the old landfill;
- Landfills emit methane gas which is odorless and colorless, and also highly flammable;
- Ms. Croser is concerned that if the land is turned into a park there is a high potential for an explosion or a fire; and
- Flammable items were left on the property and they have not been completely removed.

*(Video Time 00:14:10)*

Sheryl Derting:

- Ms. Derting lives adjacent to the landfill;
- She has serious concerns with turning the landfill into a park:
  - She feels there are hazardous conditions present at the landfill; and
  - She is worried about fires being started by park users:
    - There is no fire station in close proximity to the landfill.
- Ms. Derting feels turning the land into a wildlife refuge would be a better use of the land as it is already home to the following wildlife:
  - Deer;
  - Foxes;
  - Birds;
  - Coyotes; and

- Cougars.
- These animals are quickly losing available land to live on.

*(Video Time 00:17:25)*

John Drzal:

- Mr. Drzal spoke in opposition to the Auburn Conversion Project;
- He feels a community park is inappropriate for the site:
  - A community park would see large numbers of people coming into the neighborhood; and
  - Property values would go down.
- Mr. Drzal feels the land should be designated a natural area or open space;
- The county's Parks Master Plan states that the landfill property should be managed as a permanent, undeveloped green space with low level recreational use; and
- The board should not force a park on a neighborhood that does not want it.

*(Video Time 00:20:30)*

Phyllis Bond:

- Ms. Bond lives approximately a half mile from the proposed park site;
- She is concerned about the Auburn Conversion Project;
- Public Works held a meeting on the project on July 15, 2021;
- A survey was sent out to the neighborhood asking for input on the project:
  - Most residents within one mile of the project did not receive the survey; and
  - Residents were told that they could not add input to the survey results.
- The local community does not support the project;
- At the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, Public Works stated that this is the only site they will be recommending to the Parks Commission:
  - Ms. Bond feels there has to be other areas within Marion County that can serve as a park.
- Ms. Bond asked the board to stop the project.

*(Video Time 00:23:44)*

Lars Schroeder:

- Mr. Schroeder lives approximately a quarter mile from the proposed park site;
- He visited Bonesteele Park:
  - Illicit activity occurs at Bonesteele Park.
- The proposed park site is very isolated:
  - Mr. Schroeder feels it will be a magnet for illicit activity.
- Mr. Schroeder is concerned with what his neighborhood would turn into if the proposed park was developed; and

- New parks should not be developed when existing Marion County parks are not properly maintained.

*(Video Time 00:28:15)*

Stacey Crowell:

- Ms. Crowell lives next door to the proposed park site;
- She is concerned with neighborhood safety if the park is developed:
  - Concerned with potential drug activity;
  - Concerned with children potentially being harmed by park users;
  - It will be hard for park users to tell where the park land stops and her land starts;
  - The proposed park land is very isolated:
    - She is concerned there will not be enough resources for the park to be patrolled for safety.
  - She is concerned homeless individuals will be allowed to camp at the park.
- Ms. Crowell is concerned about the safety of her children if the park is developed.

*(Video Time 00:30:51)*

Patricia Parks:

- Ms. Parks lives across the street from the proposed park site;
- Residents in the area do not want a community park in their neighborhood:
  - It would dramatically change the lifestyle of the area.
- Neighbors all know each other;
- Gene Johnson was not able to attend so Ms. Parks read some comments on his behalf:
  - Mr. Johnson's family has lived in the area for a long time;
  - He is concerned with the maintenance of the proposed park:
    - Concerned with the increased fire risk of an unmaintained park.
  - He is concerned with methane pockets and the gas pipeline already at the site.
- There is a large amount of concern over the project.

*(Video Time 00:35:30)*

Tom Parks:

- Mr. Parks has heard there are two potential uses being proposed for the park:
  - Frisbee golf; and
  - A bike park:
    - Neighborhood children would ride bikes to the park;
    - Macleay Road is a 55-m.p.h. road with no bike lane; and
    - It is very dangerous to ride a bike down Macleay Road, and it would be the only road that would have access to the proposed park.

*(Video Time 00:36:55)*

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Sharon Schaberg:

- Ms. Schaberg has lived near the proposed park site for almost 40 years;
- The Macleay area is a great community;
- Individuals within the community walk and bike regularly, and they would be negatively affected by traffic headed to the proposed park;
- The community does not want a park:
  - A park would not benefit the community surrounding the proposed site.
- It would be a good idea to turn the site into a wildlife area; and
- Ms. Schaberg asked the board to not put a park at the proposed site.

*(Video Time 00:38:59)*

Jennifer Tinseth:

- Ms. Tinseth is concerned with the safety of the roads in the area if the Auburn Conversion Project is approved:
  - Traffic would increase; and
  - The roads are already unsafe:
    - There are many blind spots in the area;
    - Drivers unfamiliar with the roads run stop signs;
    - There are no bike lanes; and
    - Some stretches of road have no shoulder.
- She can hear sound from activities in the area at her property; and
- Ms. Tinseth asked the board that if the park does get built, that they please make the roads in the area safer.

*(Video Time 00:42:57)*

Jerry Magee:

- The neighborhood held a town hall last night with over 75 residents in attendance:
  - Neighbors who don't live right next to the proposed park site are also concerned with the project.
- Mr. Magee agrees with everything that has been said by neighbors who spoke before him;
- He is concerned with homeless individuals residing in the proposed park:
  - Parks have been opened up before for homeless individuals to camp in;
  - Potential for drug and alcohol use; and
  - Potential for fires.
- Mr. Magee is concerned for his community, and would like to see the park put somewhere else.

*(Video Time 00:45:59)*

Tina Herman:

- Ms. Herman spoke for a second time;
- She lives one property away from the proposed park site;
- She has not received a firm answer from the county on how House Bill 3115 will affect the properties around the proposed park;
- There is a gun club that does target practice on property right next to the proposed park site;
- The project could be tied up for years with DEQ; and
- The community asks the board to look for a different property to develop.

**Board discussion:**

- The board thanked everyone for attending, and for their input;
- The board has received many emails from Macleay area residents;
- Community members are invited to attend the board's Work Session tomorrow:
  - Staff from the parks department will be attendance.
- The board suggested that Ms. Tinseth reach out to the county's engineering division manager, Lani Radtke, to discuss the safety concerns she has;
- Commissioner Cameron explained the process being followed:
  - The money allocated for the Auburn Conversion Project has to be spent on a conversion of land to a park;
  - Currently the board is in the information gathering process;
  - No decisions have been made:
    - No decision will be made until the board has the opportunity to visit the community with the parks department.
  - Tomorrow is a work session where staff will provide the board with input and recommendations:
    - Work sessions are public meetings where the public may attend, but public comment is not accepted.
- Marion County Fire District #1 is not run by the county.

**PRESENTATION**

*(Video Time 00:56:23)*

Wildfire recovery update. –Scott McClure

- Mr. McClure presented a Santiam Canyon Disaster Recovery Report that details the wildfire recovery efforts in the Santiam Canyon as of July 21, 2021:
  - It has been 10 months since the Santiam Canyon wildfires;
  - An estimated 27 percent of homes requiring repair or replacement have received building permits;
  - An estimated 38 percent of homes requiring repair or replacement have received septic permits;

- Almost half of the home sites have been cleaned up;
- An estimated 37% of hazardous trees have been removed;
- County led recovery projects update:
  - All contractors are in place;
  - By next week all projects will have begun;
  - Financial needs analysis:
    - Ongoing, making progress.
  - Communications and outreach:
    - An overall communications and outreach plan is being developed:
      - Where is information coming from and how should it be distributed.
    - Funding was received to develop a website similar to the existing Santiam Recovery website:
      - Working on how to partner with the existing site so efforts are not duplicated.
    - The City of Gates does not have a website:
      - Working with Gates to determine the scope of the project and what the website could potentially look like.
  - Economic impact and opportunities analysis:
    - The company ECONorthwest will be starting this work next week.
  - Health impact assessment:
    - This work will start next week.
  - Community visioning and strategic plans:
    - The company Better City received the contract and initiated work;
    - Working on getting a compilation of people that will be contacted directly;
    - Working on a survey that will be distributed; and
    - Canyon site visit next week.
- The after-action report will be tomorrow, July 22nd at 6:30 p.m. at Santiam High School:
  - What went well and what improvements could be made in the response to the wildfires.
- Mr. McClure met with the Mill City city recorder to discuss recovery efforts;
- The housing team developed a proposed list of projects for State funding; and
- There is a dust control issue in Detroit due to the loss of trees and vegetation.

***Board discussion:***

- Experienced city managers have been hired to work with the City of Detroit and the City of Gates;
- Marion County has hired a contractor that will apply dust control measures tomorrow and Friday in Detroit:
  - Dust control will be applied on specific streets.

- The wind pattern in Detroit has changed due to the loss of trees and vegetation;
- Residents are suffering from sinus infections and other health problems due to the dust;
- The dust will potentially be a three to four-year problem until vegetation grows back; and
- Commissioner Bethell commented on Mr. McClure's housing report:
  - Five proposals have been submitted to the State:
    - One is for permanent housing; and
    - Four are for temporary housing for use as people rebuild.

## CONSENT

*(Video Time 01:06:44)*

### JUSTICE COURT

Approve an order appointing Jan Zyryanoff as Justice of the Peace pro tempore for the Marion County Justice of the Peace District with a term ending December 31, 2021.

Approve an order reappointing Todd C. McCann as Justice of the Peace pro tempore for the Marion County Justice of the Peace District with a term ending July 31, 2022.

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

## ACTION

*(Video Time 01:07:20)*

### BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Consider approval of a Lease Agreement with 2755 Partners, LLC in the amount of \$649,563.59 for leased building space for the Health and Human Services Department through July 31, 2023. –Ryan Matthews

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

- During the past year and a half, the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) has had unprecedented growth:
  - A lot of the growth has been in the Public Health Division in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
  - Several other programs have also seen significant growth.
- More leased space is needed to safely accommodate HHS workforce and those served;
- HHS is working on a long-term solution:
  - Building a new facility on the grounds of the Center Street campus:
    - Current projections show completion in two to three years.
- The leased office space would be a temporary location for use while the new facility is being built:

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- The leased space does not require any improvements;
- The building is in an ideal location; and
- The space has an Information Technology training room that will be very useful in training HHS staff.

***Board discussion:***

- Schedule A lists operating expense exclusions, items the county will not be paying for that are the landlord's responsibility;
- The lease has an escalation clause;
- There are currently no other tenants in the building;
- The cost of janitorial services will be paid for by the county to the landlord:
  - It is cost effective to have janitorial services provided by the landlord.
- The leased space will be utilized for administrative services, not for services accessed by the public; and
- Ms. Vetto clarified that in addition to rent the county is agreeing to pay certain operating expenses:
  - Schedule A lists items that the county does not consider to be operating expense; and
  - There is a cap on operating expense.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve a Lease Agreement with 2755 Partners, LLC in the amount of \$649,563.59 for leased building space for the Health and Human Services Department through July 31, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 01:16:12)*

**SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

2. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intragovernmental Agreement with the Oregon State Marine Board in the amount of \$299,528 to provide law enforcement services related to recreational boating through June 30, 2023.

–Commander Jeff Stutrud

***Summary of presentation:***

- This is typically a one-year agreement;
- The Marine Board asked the Sheriff's Office for a longer agreement:
  - The Sheriff's Office supports a longer agreement.
- The agreement funds a marine deputy, a percentage of a lieutenant, and two seasonal positions;
- The agreement provides law enforcement services on the waterways of Marion County including the following:
  - Boat inspections;
  - Enforcement of boating laws and regulations;

- Educating school age students and adults on the importance of using safety devices; and
- Search and rescue efforts.
- The agreement pays for 3,411 hours; and
- The Marine Board provides funding for boats and equipment.

***Board discussion:***

- The Sheriff's Office is receiving a new boat this year;
- The Marine Board funds all boat purchases and then provides the equipment to the Sheriff's Office;
- Last year the Marine Board provided funding for two jet skis; and
- Commander Stutrud will get with the Marine Board to try and have other equipment updated:
  - Aging buoys that are not staying upright.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve the incoming funds Intragovernmental Agreement with the Oregon State Marine Board in the amount of \$299,528 to provide law enforcement services related to recreational boating through June 30, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 01:22:33)*

***Recess as Board of Commissioners.  
Convene as Contract Review Board.***

**CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD  
ACTION**

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

1. Consider approval of an order for a Class Special Procurement to contract with mental health, alcohol, and drug counselors for adults and adolescents to support court mandated participants in the Marion County Circuit Court Specialty Programs. –Ryan Matthews and Justin Ford

***Summary of presentation:***

- Health and Human Services (HHS) serves as the third-party administrator for grants associated with the criminal justice commission for the five specialty courts:
  - HHS is not a provider;
  - HHS provides grant management:
    - Administrative support and fiscal oversight.
  - The grants identify specific vendors and providers for the county to partner with.
- The Marion County Circuit Court will approve invoices and payments.

***Board discussion:***

- In the past the county was one of the service providers.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve an order for a Class Special Procurement to contract with mental health, alcohol, and drug counselors for adults and adolescents to support court mandated participants in the Marion County Circuit Court Specialty Programs. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 01:26:44)*

2. Consider approval of an order for a Special Procurement to contract WorkSAFE Service, Inc. to provide urinalysis collection services for Marion County's five specialty courts. –Ryan Matthews and Justin Ford

***Summary of presentation:***

- No presentation was given as the action item was related to the previous action item.

***Board discussion:***

None.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve an order for a Special Procurement to contract WorkSAFE Service, Inc. to provide urinalysis collection services for Marion County's five specialty courts. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

***Adjourn as Contract Review Board.***


***Reconvene as Board of Commissioners.***


*(Video Time 01:27:13)*

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

None.

Commissioner Cameron read the calendar;  
Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

  
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CHAIR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COMMISSIONER

Not Present At Meeting  
\_\_\_\_\_  
COMMISSIONER

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