

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, August 25, 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 Jan Fritz, chief administrative officer, Jane Vetto as county counsel, and Brenda Koenig as recorder.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Video Time 00:01:10)

Gerald Turner:

- Mr. Turner feels the commissioners are asking for local control over COVID-19 mandates, but that they have taken no action against the pandemic;
- He feels that throughout the pandemic county level leadership has been absent;
- Mr. Turner is an educator and feels the commissioners' actions to date have not protected his students, his children, and the community;
- He feels there should be a vaccine mandate for county employees;
- He would like the board to clearly and unequivocally state that vaccines work, and that masks work:
 - These are matters of public health.
- Mr. Turner feels the board should do the following:
 - Mandate masks and distancing in places that aren't covered by the governor's order;
 - Limit capacity indoors; and
 - Mandate the vaccine for county employees.

(Video Time 00:15:34)

Commissioner Cameron recommenced public comment.

- Commissioner Bethell read a portion of an email received from Tina Milcarek that was submitted for public comment;

- Commissioner Cameron explained that the resolution was not in opposition of mandates, but that it is in support of local school districts being able to make their own decisions on mask requirements; and
- The county continues to abide by all rules and regulations imposed by the governor.

PRESENTATION

(Video Time 00:04:22)

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

Summary of presentation:

- Ms. Rothenberger reported the following updates for the COVID-19 pandemic as of 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 25, 2021:
 - Case counts have been steadily increasing since the beginning of July;
 - There is an average of 252 new cases per day:
 - Yesterday there were 464 new cases.
 - Current hospital capacity in Region 2 is as follows:
 - There are 97 intensive care unit (ICU) beds:
 - An estimated 88 beds are occupied; and
 - An estimated 9 beds are available.
 - There are 702 non-ICU beds:
 - An estimated 656 beds are occupied; and
 - An estimated 46 beds are available.
 - There are 153 individuals hospitalized for COVID-19 in Region 2.
 - COVID-19 data for the two-week period of August 8 through August 21, 2021, is as follows:
 - There were 2035 cases of COVID-19; and
 - The test positivity rate was 12.8 percent.
 - An estimated 94 patients are currently hospitalized for COVID-19 at Salem Health:
 - An estimated 80 patients are unvaccinated.
 - Getting vaccinated is very important;
 - Vaccines are readily available in pharmacies, provider offices, and mobile clinics;
 - Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) is available to coordinate vaccine clinics for local businesses;
 - Vaccination booster shots become available on September 20, 2021:
 - It is recommended that individuals receive a booster shot eight months after they are fully vaccinated.
 - In Marion County 66.6 percent of residents ages 18 and over have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine;
 - MCHHS is monitoring breakthrough cases, these are cases in which an individual received a positive COVID-19 test result at least 14 days after completing a COVID-19 vaccine series:

- There have been 972 breakthrough cases in the county since the date vaccinations first became available through August 22, 2021:
 - This is less than one percent of all vaccinated individuals; and
 - 45 of these individuals were admitted to the hospital.
- Many individuals with breakthrough cases are experiencing mild symptoms; and
- Vaccinated individuals can still spread the virus.
- MCHHS is encouraging residents to get vaccinated, to wear masks, wash hands, and stay home if sick;
- COVID-19 vaccinations will be available at the Oregon State Fair:
 - The fair is August 27 through September 6, 2021; and
 - Individuals who get vaccinated at the fair will receive a free fair ticket.
- Ms. Rothenberger addressed other health issues the county is facing:
 - The number of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) is on the rise:
 - There has been an increase in syphilis in the past couple of months; and
 - MCHHS has not been focusing on the prevention of STIs, due to their focus being on the pandemic.
 - The county does not have the resources to address every health issue being faced.

Board discussion:

- A number of diseases impact the community:
 - Some of these diseases are deadly; and
 - MCHHS addresses health issues other than COVID-19.
- COVID-19 hospitalization data shows that vaccines work:
 - A very small percentage of hospitalized individuals are vaccinated.
- The county will continue to ensure that COVID-19 vaccines are available; and
- COVID-19 vaccination clinics and testing events are listing on the county's website.

CONSENT

(Video Time 00:17:27)

FINANCE

Approve three quitclaim deeds and four Contracts for Sale for the sale of Tax Foreclosed and Surplus Real Properties sold at a public auction held on August 10, 2021, for Tax ID's #R65544, David Stombaugh; #R88709, Slavic Kotsyubchuk; #R108124, William Lamear; #R108125, William Lamear; #R108126, William Lamear; #R108089, Firas Yacoub; and #R108123, Firas Yacoub.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Approve a recommendation to adjust pay grades upward for classification codes #031, Accounting Clerk; #032, Accounting Specialist; #036, Chief Accountant; #040, Managerial Accountant; and #203, GAP Case Manager.

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

ACTION

(Video Time 00:19:19)

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1. Consider approval of the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) county grant application for ODVA funds in the amount of \$229,437 for fiscal year 2021-22. –Matt Lawyer

Summary of presentation:

- The grant funds support the Marion County Veteran Service Office (MCVSO);
- The MCVSO is contracted through the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency;
- The MCVSO assists qualified Marion County veterans with the following:
 - Preparing and filing claims and applications for government benefits for the veteran's spouse and dependents;
 - Referrals to other social services;
 - Out of office assistance to veterans unable to travel to the office;
 - Assistance with claims for hospitals, nursing homes, and other agencies; and
 - Increase the public awareness of available benefits and services.
- From October 2020 through June 2021 the MCVSO completed the following:
 - Conducted more than 2,500 veteran interviews;
 - Filed 205 applications for disability benefits;
 - Filed 15 applications for healthcare benefits;
 - Filed 59 supplemental claims; and
 - Filed 11 requests for higher level reviews.
- The above work resulted in the following:
 - \$178,145 in new monthly awards for Marion County veterans; and
 - \$905,666 in retroactive awards for benefits.
- The grant allows the MCVSO to continue their mission serving Marion County veterans;
- The MCVSO budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 is \$315,901 and is comprised of the following:
 - \$229,437 in ODVA grant funds;
 - \$35,450 in carry forward funds; and
 - \$51,014 in county funds.
- The carry forward funds will be used for the following:
 - Suicide awareness and prevention;
 - Communication expenses for outreach supplies and advertising;
 - Staff training; and
 - Routine vehicle maintenance and vehicle repairs.

Board discussion:

- The contract with Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency has two more years left on it.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs (ODVA) county grant application for ODVA funds in the amount of \$229,487 for fiscal year 2021-22. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

**** A scrivener's error was discovered while processing the above-mentioned minutes. A motion was made to approve the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs county grant application in the amount of \$229,487. The actual grant amount is for \$229,437.**

(Video Time 00:24:46)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

2. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Human Services in the amount of \$27,271,357 to act as the administrator for the Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP) retroactive from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023. –Ryan Matthews and Corissa Neufeldt

Summary of presentation:

- The county's role in the CDDP includes the following:
 - Case management is provided to over 2,000 individuals who have intellectual and developmental disabilities; and
 - Regulatory and oversight roles including eligibility determination and provider payment authorization.
- Ms. Neufeldt is the CDDP program manager for Marion County;
- The CDDP provides support to 2,400 children and adults; and
- The CDDP provides the following:
 - Support to a large network of providers that support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities:
 - Approximately 800 personal support workers; and
 - Approximately 375 residential and foster care providers.
 - Licensing and certification assistance to the children and adult foster homes; and
 - Protective services and abuse investigations for adults who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities who may be victims of abuse or neglect.

Board discussion:

None.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Human Services in the amount of \$27,271,357 to act as the administrator for the Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP) retroactive from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:30:25)

3. Consider approval of Amendment #1 to the Contract for Services with Woodburn Ambulance Service to add \$150,000 for a new contract total of \$300,000 to provide COVID-19 outreach services including door-to-door vaccine administration and transportation to vaccine sites for vulnerable individuals through December 31, 2021. –Ryan Matthews

Summary of presentation:

- Mr. Matthews combined Action Items #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7 into one presentation;
- All five contracts are in response to funding received by the county, from the state, to address vaccine inequity;
- MCHHS worked with partners on developing a vaccine equity plan that has been approved by the state:
 - The strategies of the five contracts were outlined in the vaccine equity plan;
 - The goal is to reach underserved populations that have had inequities in terms of the distribution of, and access to the vaccine;
 - The intent is to overcome vaccine hesitancy and to provide individuals with the information needed to make informed decisions; and
 - How best to connect with hard to reach populations was looked at when developing the vaccine equity plan strategies:
 - These populations often receive information from trusted community sources that may not be MCHHS.
- These five partners assist the county with communicating information through channels that are trusted by their communities, and to get information to individuals that the county does not have access to;
- Contracts are already in place with Woodburn Ambulance Service and Falck Northwest Corporation:
 - The intent of the two agreements is to overcome transportation barriers that could result in individuals not receiving or pursuing the vaccine.
- The contracts with Interface Network, Inc. and Mano a Mano Family Center are to get information to vulnerable and hard to reach populations; and
- The contract with IZO Public Relations and Marketing is to assist in developing a communication plan that will educate and encourage communities to get vaccinated.

Board discussion:

- These contracts will help get vaccinations to underserved populations in the county;
- The funding is only available to the end of 2021:

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- Funding may be needed beyond this timeframe.
- MCHHS is open to discussing the vaccine equity plan with other partners who may be interested in participating in these efforts; and
- Commissioner Cameron stated that the motions and votes for Action Items #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7 would be done separately.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve Amendment #1 to the Contract for Services with Woodburn Ambulance Service to add \$150,000 for a new contract total of \$300,000 to provide COVID-19 outreach services including door-to-door vaccine administration and transportation to vaccine sites for vulnerable individuals through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:39:16)

4. Consider approval of Amendment #2 to the Contract for Services with Falck Northwest Corporation to add \$125,000 for a new contract total of \$275,000 to provide COVID-19 outreach services including door-to-door vaccine administration and transportation to vaccine sites for vulnerable individuals through December 31, 2021. –Ryan Matthews

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve Amendment #2 to the Contract for Services with Falck Northwest Corporation to add \$125,000 for a new contract total of \$275,000 to provide COVID-19 outreach services including door-to-door vaccine administration and transportation to vaccine sites for vulnerable individuals through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:39:44)

5. Consider approval of Amendment #2 to the Contract for Services with Interface Network, Inc. to add \$265,200 for a new not to exceed contract total of \$425,200 to provide COVID-19 vaccine outreach services through December 31, 2021.
–Ryan Matthews

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve Amendment #2 to the Contract for Services with Interface Network, Inc. to add \$265,200 for a new not to exceed contract total of \$425,200 to provide COVID-19 vaccine outreach services through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:40:07)

6. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with Mano a Mano Family Center in the not to exceed amount of \$200,000 to provide COVID-19 vaccination outreach services to vulnerable populations through December 31, 2021. –Ryan Matthews

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Contract for Services with Mano a Mano Family Center in the not to exceed amount of \$200,000 to provide COVID-19 vaccination outreach services to vulnerable populations through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:40:27)

7. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with IZO Public Relations and Marketing in the not to exceed amount of \$325,750 to expand on COVID-19 communication services by informing, educating, and encouraging the Latino community to obtain vaccinations through December 31, 2021. –Ryan Matthews

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Contract for Services with IZO Public Relations and Marketing in the not to exceed amount of \$325,750 to expand on COVID-19 communication services by informing, educating, and encouraging the Latino community to obtain vaccinations through December 31, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:41:21)

8. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with Health Care Services, LLC in the not to exceed amount of \$150,000 to provide temporary health care personnel for alcohol and drug programs through August 31, 2024. –Ryan Matthews

Summary of presentation:

- Health Care Services, LLC is a temporary staffing company that provides temporary nursing staff;
- There is a statewide behavioral health staffing crisis;
- The county provides critical services that have to be maintained including the following:
 - Dispensing of medications; and
 - Medication training for patients.
- The contract would provide staff for when MCHHS staff is on leave and for unforeseen staffing shortages; and
- The temporary staff hired will be comprised of registered nurses (RN's) and licensed practical nurses (LPN's).

Board discussion:

- The county's Psychiatric Crisis Center provides service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, but other locations have more limited hours;
- The contract is for just in case the need arises, MCHHS wants to be prepared for unknown staffing vacancies as much as possible;
- There are numerous vacant positions across all of Health and Human Services (HHS) programs:
 - Staffing the Psychiatric Crisis Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week has become an enormous burden for HHS; and
 - The county used to rely on a temporary staffing pool to fill temporary staffing needs, but that pool of qualified staff is currently very limited.
- The state legislature is working on incentives to address pay inequities for behavioral health providers;
- There are staffing challenges across a wide range of industries;
- Oregon has the lowest number of hospital beds per capita of any state in the country; and
- More health care resources are needed.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve the Contract for Services with Health Care Services, LLC in the not to exceed amount of \$150,000 to provide temporary health care personnel for alcohol and drug programs through August 31, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:48:52)

PUBLIC WORKS

9. Consider approval of an order appointing Brandon Reich as the Marion County Planning Director and Zoning Administrator effective September 1, 2021. –Brian Nicholas and Brandon Reich

Summary of presentation:

- The current Planning Director and Zoning Administrator is retiring as of August 31, 2021;
- Mr. Reich has worked for the county planning division for 21 years:
 - He has been involved in almost every aspect of the planning division.
- Mr. Reich has been the Planning Division Manager since October 2019:
 - He manages planning and building inspection activities for the county.

Board discussion:

- Mr. Reich has excellent customer service skills;
- The planning division deals with complicated issues; and
- The commissioners thanked the leadership team at Public Works, and their staff, for their commitment to the citizens of Marion County.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve an order appointing Brandon Reich as the Marion County Planning Director and Zoning Administrator effective September 1, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:57:44)

10. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Military Department, Office of Emergency Management to provide fund reimbursement for costs related to the Severe Winter Storm, Ice Event emergency through June 30, 2027. –Brian Nicholas and Kathleen Silva

Summary of presentation:

- The severe winter storm that occurred from February 11 through February 15, 2021 was declared a federal disaster;
- The intergovernmental agreement would reimburse Marion County for emergency work, and for repair or replacement of disaster damaged facilities; and
- The county is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the public assistance program to seek reimbursement of up to 75 percent of county expenditures during the disaster.

Board discussion:

- The contract term duration is standard for this type of contract:
 - It will not take the county that long to receive reimbursement.
- February 11 through February 15, 2021 was the duration of the freezing temperatures:
 - For public assistance FEMA looks at the timing of the actual event; and
 - Some Marion County residents were without power for 16 days.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Military Department, Office of Emergency Management to provide fund reimbursement for costs related to the Severe Winter Storm, Ice Event emergency through June 30, 2027. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:03:14)

***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 obtain mental health, alcohol, and drug counselors for adults and adolescents to support court mandated participants in the Marion County Circuit Court Specialty Court Programs. –Ryan Matthews and Camber Schlag

Summary of presentation:

- The special procurement is a request for Marion County Health and Human Services, on behalf of the Marion County Circuit Court, to contract with the following three known providers:
 - Bridgeway Recovery Services, Inc., Options Counseling, and HYB Counseling.
- The chosen providers specialize in providing dedicated mental health counselors, and alcohol and drug counselors;
- The counselors focus on reducing recidivism for adults and adolescents; and
- The special procurement was posted on August 18, 2021:
 - An additional provider has been asked to submit a proposal for a qualifications review.

Board discussion:

- The courts offer non-violent offenders an alternative to incarceration and teach participants to become productive law-abiding citizens, reducing recidivism and promoting healthier communities.

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

Adjourn as Contract Review Board.


Reconvene as Board of Commissioners.

(Video Time 01:06:40)

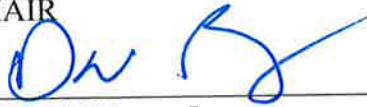
PUBLIC HEARINGS
9:30 A.M.

None.

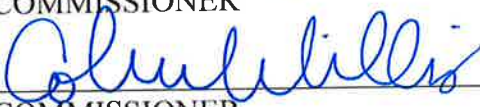
Commissioner Willis read the calendar;
Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.



CHAIR



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

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