

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, September 1, 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 00:01:25)

David Beem:

- Mr. Beem is a spokesman for people with disabilities; and
- He would like emergency plans to be put in place for individuals with disabilities who are suicidal:
 - All foster homes within Marion County should be educated; and
 - The police and sheriff's departments should be involved.

PRESENTATION

(Video Time 00:03:10)

Wildfire recovery update. –Scott McClure

Summary of presentation:

- Mr. McClure presented a Santiam Canyon Disaster Recovery Report that details the wildfire recovery efforts in the Santiam Canyon as of September 1, 2021:
 - It has been almost one year since the Santiam Canyon wildfires;
 - An estimated 33 percent of homes requiring repair or replacement have received building permits;
 - An estimated 46 percent of homes requiring repair or replacement have received septic permits;
 - An estimated 50 percent of the affected properties have been cleaned up;
 - An estimated 53 percent of hazardous trees have been removed;

- For individuals who want to have the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) clean up their property the right of entry permits must be submitted by September 15, 2021:
 - For properties where entry permission is granted ODOT will do the property clean up including ash debris removal, concrete removal, and the cutting down of hazardous trees.
- The following are updates on recovery projects being led by Marion County:
 - Financial needs analysis:
 - The City of Gates is updating their 2020 and 2021 financial numbers in a software system.
 - Communications and outreach:
 - Content is being added to the draft website that was developed for the City of Gates;
 - The santiamrecovery.org website is being updated; and
 - The framework is being developed for a fire recovery newsletter.
 - Economic impact and opportunities analysis:
 - Work is being done on developing a pre-fire economic baseline; and
 - A flowchart has been developed to help coordinate the economic analysis with the community visioning project.
 - Housing:
 - The county is working with the state to fulfill information requests in regards to three temporary and long-term housing projects; and
 - The Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments is applying for a state grant to complete the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Letter of Map Amendment process so that specific properties in the City of Gates and the City of Detroit can be removed from the floodplain program:
 - Approximately 55 homes are affected.
 - Health impact assessment:
 - The current focus is on data collection and confirming data sources; and
 - Work is being done to look at how housing instability affects individuals.
 - Community visioning and strategic plans:
 - A community survey is being edited; and
 - Community meetings are scheduled in the City of Gates and the City of Detroit for the end of September:
 - Meetings will most likely be held on September 23rd and September 24, 2021.
- FEMA has assigned an individual to give general advice on consulting projects and to provide a narrative of what has happened since the fire;

- The long-term recovery group has received several grants from the Ford Family Foundation that will fund the recovery manager position, website management, and unmet needs;
- A formal housing committee has been established:
 - The committee is going to work on developing a resource guide for rebuilding homes.
- The volunteer committee has projects planned through September:
 - They are working on recruiting more partners to help with future projects.
- The following wildfire memorial events are scheduled:
 - The City of Mill City's event is scheduled on September 5, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Kimmel Park;
 - The City of Detroit's event is scheduled on September 5, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Detroit city park; and
 - The City of Idanha's event is scheduled for 1:30 p.m., on September 6, 2021, at the Idanha city park.

Board discussion:

- The deadline for the property and hazard tree cleanup right-of-entry permits is September 15, 2021:
 - The commissioners encourage everyone to get their permits submitted by the deadline.
- There is a volunteer appreciation event at the Oregon State Fair for wildfire volunteers:
 - If you volunteered during the wildfires and did not get notified of this event contact the Board of Commissioners office.
- The following law enforcement resources are the best place to find current information on active fires for individuals that live in or have property in the Santiam Canyon:
 - The Marion County Sheriff's Office Facebook page;
 - Marion County's Facebook page; and
 - Everbridge alerts:
 - Individuals must sign up to receive Everbridge alerts.
- Smoke from the current wildfires is negatively impacting the air quality in the canyon; and
- Citizens need to be prepared for emergencies.

PROCLAMATION

(Video Time 00:16:41)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES – ACTION

1. Consider approval of a proclamation designating the month of September 2021 as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Marion County. –Phillip Blea, Laura Sprouse, and Scott Vu

Summary of presentation:

- The intent of the proclamation is to bring more awareness to suicide prevention and mental health;
- One crucial component of mental health is preventing suicide within our communities;
- Preliminary 2020 data shows 63 deaths by suicide in Marion County and 828 deaths by suicide in Oregon;
- Everyone has a role to play in suicide prevention;
- The National Alliance on Mental Illness's theme for September is "Together for Mental Health";
- No one should feel alone or without the resources, support, and help they need amidst a suicidal crisis;
- Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) is committed to providing care and support to individuals struggling in the community;
- During the past 19 months all Marion County residents have faced great challenges:
 - MCHHS staff has remained dedicated to the maintenance and improvement of the emotional and mental well-being of the community throughout these challenges.
- The community is encouraged to join in local and national suicide prevention events:
 - The Mid-Valley Suicide Prevention Coalition's website has information on upcoming suicide prevention training;
 - The MCHHS social media page has information on wellness activities; and
 - The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's "Out of the Darkness Walk" will be held at Riverfront Park on Saturday, October 9, 2021.
- Community involvement in suicide prevention efforts validates individuals' experiences and encourages individuals to seek support.

Board discussion:

- The commissioners thanked the MCHHS staff for their hard work on this issue;
- There are efforts at local high schools to focus on suicide prevention:
 - Many of the 63 deaths were youth.
- The board's office was invited to participate in suicide prevention training; and
- Every life matters.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve a proclamation designating the month of September 2021 as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Marion County. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

The commissioners read the proclamation.

CONSENT

(Video Time 00:29:59)

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PUBLIC WORKS

Approve an order for the revised bylaws for the Marion County Parks Commission.

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

(Video Time 00:31:30)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

9:30 A.M.

None.

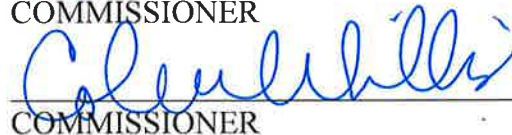
Commissioner Cameron read the calendar;
Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 9:45 a.m.



CHAIR



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at

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