



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Management Update Minutes

**Monday, December 02, 2019, 9:00 a.m.**

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem  
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Silverton Conference Room

## ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Kevin Cameron, Sam Brentano, and Colm Willis, Jan Fritz, Jane Vetto, Scott Norris, Jeff White, Justine Flora, Brandon Reich, Joe Fennimore, LeAnne Aurand, Camber Schlag, Lisa Trauernicht, Barb Young, Chad Ball, Jolene Kelley, and Kristy Witherell as recorder.

## GUESTS:

Chris Clark, Open Door Church  
Kathy Rogers, Salem, OR  
Ralph Rodia, Oregon Beekeepers Association

Jan Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

## INFORMATIONAL:

### **United Methodist Church Solar Grant**

- Chris Clark

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

- The commissioners signed a letter of support regarding grants for solar panels on five churches around Salem; and
- Mr. Clark appreciates the support of the commissioners for securing grant money for the project.

### **Discuss Beekeeping in Residential Zones**

- Joe Fennimore

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

- The Marion County Zone Code was amended to allow beekeeping;
- The board ask Mr. Fennimore to come back with options possibly limiting the number of hives based on lot size; and
- Mr. Fennimore brought three options before the board to consider:
  - Align with the City of Salem standards;
  - One colony per 5,000 square foot lot; or
  - One colony up to 5,000 square foot lot, with an extra hive allowed during the budding season:
    - Three colonies between 5,000-20,000 square feet, with an extra hive allowed during the budding season; and
    - Five colonies over 20,000 square feet, with an extra two hives allowed during the budding season.

**Board discussion:**

- The commissioners would like option number three:
  - One colony up to 5,000 square foot lot, with an extra hive allowed during the budding season:
    - Three colonies between 5,000-20,000 square feet, with an extra hive allowed during the budding season; and
    - Five colonies over 20,000 square feet, with an extra two hives allowed during the budding season.
- If the ordinance does not work, then it will be revisited; and
- The beekeepers are welcome to speak about beekeeping at the Town Hall meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> at Chemeketa.

**Discuss Selling Back Tax Foreclosed Properties, Mt. Angel Meat Co., to the Prior Owner of Record and Accept a Deposit Less Than the Required 25 Percent**

- Jeff White, LeAnne Aurand

**Summary of presentation:**

- Mt. Angel Meat Market fell behind paying taxes for five years;
- The owner contacted the Finance Department regarding buying back the property;
- The business struggled for several years and he now believes that he is now in the position to buy his property back, he does not have a 25 percent down payment for the outstanding balance, but has 18 percent:
  - State statute requires 10 percent down, but county policy requires 25 percent down.
- There are risks involved with the county being responsible for the property while the previous property owners continue to operate the business;
- The county foreclosed on the property two years ago and is now the title owner of the property:
  - The tax collector sends a letter to the owner and any lien holders of the property that there is one year left of the redemption period;
  - By statute, 30 days before the end of the redemption period, there is a newspaper publication posted of the end of the redemption period;
  - Before the judgement, the property owner can pay the oldest year owed; and
  - Once the judgement is entered, the lien holder has to pay the total amount, including fees.
- The business owner has turned the operations over to his son; and
- The contract to buy back the property is for 10 years, with more than seven percent interest.

**Board Discussion:**

- The commissioners approved the exception;
- Mr. Norris will look into the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issues related to the property; and
- This issue will go before the board at this Wednesday's board session.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### **Update**

- Jolene Kelley
- Ms. Kelley gave a brief update of upcoming scheduled events.

## COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND UPDATE:

### Sam Brentano:

- The two timber related lawsuits that were won are great news for Marion County; and
- The Bureau of Land Management Plan added everything but logging and timber, which has been deemed invalid.

### Kevin Cameron:

- Commissioner Nyquist met with Senator Sara Gelser regarding lottery bonds paying off timber settlements:
  - Wants the Marion County Commissioners to meet with Senator Courtney.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Kristy Witherell**

*Reviewed by: Joanna Ritchie*