



OREGON

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Management Update Minutes

**Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem  
5th Floor, Suite 5231, Commissioners Boardroom

## ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Kevin Cameron, Danielle Bethell and Colm Willis, Jan Fritz, Jane Vetto, Jeff White, Tamra Goettsch, Ryan Matthews, Camber Schlag, Susan McLaughlin, Katrina Rothenberger, Ann Potter, Lauren Thielke, John Carlson, Barb Young, Lisa Trauernicht, Jolene Kelley, Chad Ball, and Kristy Witherell as recorder.

Jan Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

## INFORMATIONAL:

### **Review the Contract for Services with PAXIS Institute providing PAX Good Behavior Game Kits and Facilitated Training for Schools Located within Marion County**

- Susan McLaughlin

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

- The county has contracted with this group in the past to provide this training on a smaller pilot scale;
- PAX Good Behavior Game is a self-regulation set of strategies that teachers use in the classroom to help kids use social, emotional learning skills;
- Studies show that the more a kid can self-regulate and hold their attention span for longer periods of time, the less they engage in risky behaviors, such as:
  - Alcohol use;
  - School dropout; and
  - Suicidal thoughts.
- The set of strategies are used throughout elementary school;
- Outcomes:
  - Kids are scoring higher on statewide testing;
  - Ability to cope with stress;
  - Better engagement in the classroom;
  - Higher scores in reading and math;
  - Experience a reduced need for special education services; and
  - Higher graduation rates and college entrance rates.
- First graders that had PAX in their class were followed through the age of 21:
  - Tobacco use was lower;
  - Fewer symptoms of depression;
  - Fewer school related injuries;
  - Reduced rates of bullying; and

- Fewer suicide attempts.
- In the 2018-19 school year, Health and Human Services (HHS) partnered with Willamette Education Service District (WESD) to implement a pilot program in the north county school districts, Gervais, Woodburn, Mt. Angel, and Silverton:
  - Hosted six trainings; and
  - In Marion County, there were 55 teachers trained.
- In 2019-20, (HHS) partnered with WESD, Linn and Yamhill Counties to train more teachers:
  - Hosted three large trainings in October 2019;
  - Trained 92 more teachers from Marion County, which included Jefferson School District:
    - Added targeted Salem-Keizer schools.
- HHS looked for additional funding sources to help out with the program;
- This program aligns with Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP);
- Aligns with the practices that HHS is putting in place through modernization, which is the effort taken in public health to do things at the population level:
  - To make decisions based on the social determinates of health and what impacts the long-term outcomes of health for the county's population; and
  - Making sure that the county is targeting different groups.
- HHS's Mental Health Promotion Program is housing the staff that is coordinating the training, which is only a few hours a week;
- The funds to pay for this program are already available and sitting in HHS account:
  - They received a grant award for \$200,000 to pay for the implementation of the program.
- The second level of training sets up PAX partners, which sets the program up for long-term sustainability:
  - Hoping to identify a person within the school districts that has more experience with the program; and
  - That will coordinate trainings within their school or district to help get new teachers trained.
- The total cost to train each teacher and provide them with the necessary materials kit is \$400:
  - Districts will have to pay their teachers staff time.
- Working to target high needs schools first; and
- This program uses positive reinforcement tools.

***Board discussion:***

- The commissioners would like a process in the future for a grant this size to come before the board before they come to Board Session for approval; and
- The commissioners are in support of this program and believe that it will be a fantastic opportunity for the kids of Marion County.

## **Dog Welfare Check Pilot Project Update**

- Ann Potter, Tamra Goettsch

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

- Last year, Dog Services started the process of meeting with stakeholders in the community to discuss dog abuse and neglect:
  - Making the process more streamlined and effective for community members.
- Current process:
  - All dog abuse and neglect cases are run through local law enforcement, which adds more work for local police officers and deputies;
  - They are not as trained to recognize abuse and neglect as dog officers are; and
  - Law enforcement have human priorities over dog-related priorities.
- Came up with a pilot project on September 1, 2020, which is the Dog Welfare Check Program:
  - Dog Shelter now takes the complaint and the dog officer follows up on the complaint;
  - If it is a very serious complaint, it will be forwarded to law enforcement;
  - If it is a neglect case, a dog officer will investigate;
  - This is only within the Marion County Sheriff's Office jurisdiction;
  - There have been 16 calls; and
  - 80 percent of the cases have turned out to be non-issue.
- On March 1, 2021, will come before the board for a full report;
- The chief of police of Gervais is interested in the program:
  - Looking for board direction; and
  - Gervais does have a larger number of dog issues.
- Ms. Potter introduced Ms. Thielke to the commissioners:
  - She is the new Dog Shelter Manager.

### ***Board discussion:***

- The commissioners are concerned with the dog shelter staff getting overwhelmed with the call volume as the program expands;
- The public has a difficult time understanding Dog Services role and adding this program aligns with the community's understanding of the department;
- The funding for this program is being absorbed by the Dog Services budget; and
- The fee schedule has yet to be worked out.

## **Deed of Transfer of Property Tax ID #R100485 to the City of Jefferson Update**

- Camber Schlag, John Carlson

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

- Deed of transfer of the former Jefferson gas station to the City of Jefferson;
- The county received a cashier's check from the city for the full agreed upon amount of \$10,000;
- The quitclaim deed will be at Board Session tomorrow as an action item;

- In January 2000, the gas station was decommissioned:
  - Pulled the tanks and found pollution;
  - In July 2000, The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) removed 263 tons of contaminated soil;
  - In 2018, the property was transferred to Marion County through tax foreclosure;
  - In November 2018, the city wrote a letter to the board requesting that the city buy the property to construct a welcome kiosk;
  - In December 2018, there was a Board Session and public hearing on the matter:
    - The board approved the sale of the property for \$10,000, pending a DEQ contamination assessment of the site.
  - In November 2020, DEQ finished their investigation with a conclusion that no further action or cleanup is required.

#### BEACHIE CREEK FIRE UPDATE:

Tamra Goettsch:

- Slight increase in Marion County sheltering numbers, because of the number of people that are unable to stay in the housing they may have;
- Have 60 rooms rented in the hotels:
  - There are 98 people housed; and
  - In four hotels.
- The Wildfire Fund wants to give everyone that had their homes burned \$1,000, but less than 100 people have signed up for the money:
  - Suggesting mailing application to homeowners:
    - Post to social media sites regarding the wildfire;
    - Place applications at the city halls; and
    - Mentioning the gift at the city council meetings.
  - The home has to be destroyed in order to qualify:
    - Has to be a primary residence.

Wildfire Canyon Open House:

- Possible date is Saturday, February 20, 2021;
- It would be done outside as an open house style with tables;
- The tables will be:
  - Oregon Department of Transportation;
  - Public Works;
  - Community Services;
  - FEMA; and
  - Board of Commissioners.
- If the weather is unfavorable, the Gates School gym can be another option.

#### COVID-19 UPDATE:

- The Oregon Health Authority is redirecting seniors to the county to answer questions regarding where to go to get vaccinated:
  - Mr. Ball has created a response sheet to help mitigate these calls and help direct the seniors to the right place.
- Creating a school tool kit for kids getting back to school.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

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

- Senator Courtney asked for revenues lost up the canyon:
  - The estimate is \$1.14 million over three years.
- SB 464 is up for public hearing on Thursday at 3:15 p.m. in the Senate:
  - Testimony will be done on Microsoft Teams.
- HB 2341 is similar to SB 464, both bills prorate, but are worded a bit differently:
  - SB 464 is added to the statute; and
  - HB 2341 addresses future acts of God.
- SB 465 - Non-Conforming Use:
  - It may be up next Thursday in the Senate Revenue and Recovery Committee.
- SB 405 – Similar to SB 464:
  - Includes cities.
- The education excise tax:
  - If a home building permit is approved before March 1, 2021, then the tax does not have to be paid.
- The House Wildfire Recovery Committee:
  - Rep. Clem put out a notice that they were going to conduct a public hearing:
    - There is a time slot for canyon residents on February 15, 2021, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.:
      - Only impacted residents.
    - February 22, 2021, time slot will be for elected officials for their ask:
      - Ms. Young will put together talking points.
- HB 3090 – low interest septic system loans:
  - Public hearing today.
- HB 3115 – Sit/Lie:
  - Rob Bovett stated that the bill was still moving; and
  - Still trying to get amendments to improve the bill.

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Kristy Witherell**

*Reviewed by: Melissa Rounds*