



**MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BOARD SESSION**

Minutes

Wednesday, July 22, 2026, 9:00 a.m.
Senator Hearing Room
Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301
[CCTV Video streaming link:](#)

PRESENT: Commissioner Colm Willis, Commissioner Kevin Cameron, and Commissioner Danielle Bethell. Also present were Steve Elzinga as county counsel and Brenda Koenig as recorder.

ABSENT: Jan Fritz, chief administrative officer.

Commissioner Willis called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
Commissioner Bethell arrived at 9:07 a.m.

(Video Time 00:00:36)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Two people signed up and provided public comment:
 - One individual donated a painting to Marion County; and
 - Commissioner Cameron expressed the following for the record after one citizen's public comment period:
 - Marion County produces over 300,000 tons of waste every year:
 - The facility was taking approximately 125,000 tons of the county's waste; and
 - An estimated two-thirds of the county's waste was already going to Coffin Butte Landfill and other places.
 - Even if the facility came back, it would only take one-third of what the county produces;
 - There is a lot more to the issue than just that particular facility;

- The issue has been discussed a lot in prior meetings held by the Board of Commissioners;
- Newspapers may be one-sided on the issue with not enough time being provided to give comment;
- There are issues that have impacted the entire state;
- Public safety has been impacted by the cost of the facility being shut down;
- Finding a solution to handle and reduce waste is on-going;
- The state has taken away the county's renewable energy tax credits:
 - Turning waste into energy is one of the federal government's top priorities; and
 - Taking the credits away made it more expensive to keep the facility going.

(Video Time 00:18:24)

CONSENT

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

1. Approve the Contract for Services with Helion Software, Inc. in the amount of \$1,106,142 to provide ongoing support and maintenance of the Oregon Counties Assessment and Taxation System (ORCATS) retroactive to July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2029.

CLERK'S OFFICE

2. Approve Amendment #1 to the Contract for Services with Sendit Direct Mail and Fulfillment to add \$50,000 for a new not-to-exceed contract total of \$140,000 to continue to provide Marion County with addressing, inserting, sorting, storage, and the mailing of election-related materials through December 31, 2026.

PUBLIC WORKS

3. Approve Amendment #5 to the incoming funds Assistance Agreement with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Western Federal Lands Division to add \$1,993,932.72 of which an estimated \$1,789,155.83 will utilize federal funding and an estimated \$204,776.89 will utilize county funding, for a new agreement total of \$8,301,879.72 to support engineering, inspection, and construction activities for the North Fork Road Slide Stabilization project through December 31, 2026.

PUBLIC WORKS

4. Approve the Construction Contract with Oregon State Bridge Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,850,387.00, of which an estimated \$1,660,352.26 will utilize state funding and an estimated \$190,034.74 will utilize county funding, for the French Prairie Road: West Fork Champoeg Creek Bridge Replacement Project through May 1, 2028.

PUBLIC WORKS

5. Approve Amendment #1 to the Construction Contract with Summit Solutions Group, LLC, to extend the term date to September 30, 2026, and add \$68,425.94 for three change orders with a new contract total of \$310,895.94 to provide construction site improvements at up to six existing radio communication sites for the Marion County Radio Project that will be utilized by first responders.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved for approval of the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried with Commissioner Bethell voting aye; Commissioner Cameron voting aye; and Commissioner Willis voting aye.

(Video Time 00:21:03)

ACTION

None.

(Video Time 00:21:05)

PUBLIC HEARING

Starting no earlier than 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC WORKS

A. Public hearing to consider an appeal of the hearings officer's decision denying Administrative Review Case #25-026 / Denise Burnham.

–Austin Barnes

- Commissioner Willis read the public hearing opening statement for the record;
- A series of pictures showing the subject property were entered into the record;
- Marion County Legal Counsel outlined the procedural process for the case; and
- Eight people signed up to provide public comment:
 - Seven people that signed up provided comment; and

- One person that signed up to provide comment did not come forward when their name was called.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis requested a motion to close the public hearing and reverse the hearings officer's decision denying Administrative Review Case #25-026. Commissioner Bethell stated "so moved as presented". Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion; motion carried with Commissioner Bethell voting aye; Commissioner Cameron voting aye; and Commissioner Willis voting aye.

(Video Time 02:44:42)

Commissioner Willis adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.