



O R E G O N

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Summary Minutes

December 17, 2024. 9:30 AM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Kevin Cameron, Danielle Bethell, and Colm Willis.

Board's Office: Jan Fritz, Matt Lawyer, Alvin Klausen, Shawnnell Fuentes, Gary White, Toni Whitler, Chris Eppley, Trevor Lane, and Chad Ball.

Legal Counsel: Steve Elzinga.

Sheriff's Office: Mark Ferron, and Anna Jefferson.

Public Works: Brian Nicholas, Dennis Mansfield, Kevin Thompson, Ryan Crowther, Brandon Reich, and Jon Speckman.

Health and Human Services: Karin Perkins, and Ryan Matthews.

Community Services: Kellie Weese, and Steve Dickey.

Human Resources: Sherry Linter.

Marion County Planning Commissioner: George Grabenhorst.

Home Builders Association: Mike Bergman.

Jan Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL:

1. RESTORE Court - HB 4002

-Lieutenant Anna Jefferson

Summary of Presentation:

- House Bill 4002 was passed, overturning measure 110 and creating a way for restitution to victims through the RESTORE court.
- Participants will work with the sheriff's office work groups, and the funds gained through that agreement will be paid to the Oregon judicial department for use in paying restitution.
- The contract shall not exceed \$145,000, and no participants have signed up yet.

2. Contract Amendment #3 to the Oxford House Subsidy Services Price Agreement

-Lieutenant Anna Jefferson

Summary of Presentation:

- The Marion County Sheriff's Office has a contract with Oxford houses to help clients with stable housing.
- They are asking for an additional \$52,000 to get through June 2025, as the original purchase order was \$100,000 for the 2023-2025 fiscal year, but they are going over that due to increased rents and more people needing housing.
- Questions on the annual cost of the contract, why it is being extended, and whether they are adding more beds.

3. Towing Cars Outside Right-of-Way

-Commissioner Willis, Sergeant Mark Ferron

Summary of Presentation:

- The current ordinance does not allow towing vehicles involved in crashes that don't present a hazard to the roadway, as defined in Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS 819).
- The proposal is to explore expanding the towing ordinance, similar to what other municipalities and counties in the state have done, to allow towing of vehicles in the right-of-way or on adjacent private properties.
- The funding for the towing would come from the tow companies, who can put a lien on the vehicle, and the owner would have to pay to retrieve their vehicle.

4. Scotts Mills Rd. NE: Butte Creek Bridge Right-of-Way Services Agreement

-Ryan Crowther

Summary of Presentation:

- The right of way services agreement with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is required before starting the right of way acquisition process for the Scotts Mills Road Northeast Butte Creek Bridge project.
- The agreement will be finalized after environmental permitting.
- Temporary easements will be purchased.
- The project spans into Clackamas County, so there will be an agreement with Clackamas County.

5. Marion County Planning Commission Reappointments & Direction on Cases Heard

-John Speckman

Summary of Presentation:

- Three Planning Commission volunteers' terms are coming up: Gary Monders, Mike Long, and Stanley Birch.
- Two new applications were received: Nick Harville and Daisy Goebel.
- One current volunteer, Carla Mikkelsen, decided to step down early, creating space for both new volunteers.
- There is a proposal to increase the types of cases heard by the Planning Commission, including non-farm and lot of record dwellings with cumulative impact analysis, home occupations, and potentially variances and adjustments.
- The goal is for the Planning Commission to hear cases first, as their local knowledge is valuable, and can help resolve appeals before they reach the board.

6. Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (ORPD) Local Government Grant Program Agreement

-Kevin Thompson

Summary of Presentation:

- ORPD grant of \$355,823 was awarded for funding half of the Parkdale Park development project.
- The grant requires a 50% match, which will come from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

7. Request for Information Technology (IT) Review of Trial Service Agreement with eHawk Solutions

-Julie Miller

Summary of Presentation:

- Removed from the agenda.

8. Contract with Santiam Memorial Hospital for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding for the Santiam Resiliency Center

-Steve Dickey

Summary of Presentation:

- The initial scope of the project was too small to support community interest, so the project has grown to include a larger property on Washington Street in Stayton.
- The budget includes \$1.5 million in committed funds and an additional \$610,000 from United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Concerns about the project's scope, funding gaps, and transparency of the administrative fees and expenses were raised.
- Remove item from the board session agenda.

9. Contract Amendment #1 with School Health Corporation for Critical Care and Emergency Medical Equipment

-Karin Perkins

Summary of Presentation:

- Oregon Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS) made ARPA funds available for emergency supplies, and they have approximately \$314,000 remaining to offer power equipment in the form of portable generators and power stations.
- The vendor, School Health, will deliver the equipment and a user safety video with confirmation of delivery.
- There were discussions about the need for training residents on how to use the portable generators and the equipment, such as extension cords, to connect the generators to their homes.

10. Fair Board Member Re-Appointments, Dana Castano, Shannon Gubbels, and Amy Goulter-Allen

-Kelli Weese

Summary of Presentation:

- Three Fair Board members are being reappointed, and their applications were considered by the Fair Board:
 - Dana Castano, Amy Goulter-Allen, and Shannon Gubbels.
- The Fair Board is working well and is proud of their recent accomplishments.
- Added to the consent calendar for board session.

11. Personal Credit Card Policy

-Trevor Lane

Summary of Presentation:

- Discussed a personal credit card policy, including options for dealing with credit card rewards, such as defining as fringe benefit, taxable income, or part of compensation.
- The issue was raised during an ethics training, it was determined that getting credit card rewards for reimbursed expenses could be a misuse of office.
- The board is considering looking into other counties' policies and potentially a per diem system.

12. Update and Review of Veteran Services Office

-Gary White

Summary of Presentation:

- The Veteran Service Office provider had 14,124 in-office interviews in the first quarter, a 10% increase from the previous year, and 27 out-of-office interviews, a 30% increase.
- The total awards for the quarter were \$210,034.79, a 12% decrease from the previous year, retroactive awards were up by \$40,000.
- There are concerns about the transparency and documentation of the administrative fees and expenses, as the provider does not provide the level of detail expected.

13. Meeting Minutes Review System

-Shawnnell Fuentes

Summary of Presentation:

- Removed from the agenda.

14. Board Session Agenda

-Commissioner Cameron

- Remove item number seven from the agenda

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATE

Commissioner Danielle Bethell

- N/A

Commissioner Kevin Cameron

- Will email Commissioners Bethell and Willis the ONC meeting recap.
- Need to discuss canyon sewer, NW Natural, and housing funds for infrastructure.

Commissioner Colm Willis

- N/A

OTHER

Brian Nicholas – East Park Estate

- Regarding agreement for phase five.
- The developer indicated they are likely to ask for relief on the new agreement, as they know the signal equipment is not going to arrive on time.
- The developer communicated that most of the money they will get paid is tied up in Plat 6.
- The main question is how to ensure the county gets paid for Plat 6 if the signal is not built.
- There was a discussion around not wanting the county to be in an unsecured position if the developer runs into financial issues.
- The goal was to give more time to try to resolve the issue around the signal equipment and ensure the county gets paid for Plat 6.

Brian Nicholas – Reworld Marion County

- Potential interested buyer meeting.
- Will discuss further at a later time.

Commissioner Danielle Bethell – Judge Broyles Community Meetings

- There is no need for Mr. Klausen to continue attending the meetings as they are off-topic, unproductive and outside the court's jurisdiction.
- Mr. Matthews to inform staff that they will not attend the meetings
- Commissioner Bethell will let the Judge know of the decision.

Commissioner Danielle Bethell – Oregon Health Authority Pilot Project

- Initiated without proper communication or consent from local public authority.
- It is not appropriate for them or any partners to list Marion County as a partner without the county's consent or understanding the scope of the project.
- Per Mr. Matthews the Health Department's participation was based on staff attending a meeting, not an agreed-upon pilot project, and they will clarify and extract themselves from the project.

Commissioner Danielle Bethell – Board of Commissioner's Office Communications

- Work session in January that will have actionable steps to the communication plan that was presented two years ago.
- Interact, talk, and be more transparent with employees.

Commissioner Danielle Bethell – United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Letter

- Concerns regarding the letter.
- Letter discussed an endangered bumblebee and the Endangered Species Act?
- Marion County should be at the table during the work.
- The opening was in November and the comment period was missed.
- Mr. Klausen to monitor the situation regarding risks and challenges to Marion County:
 - Will reach out to Oregon Farm Bureau to see their thoughts.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron & Brian Nicholas – North Fork Wi-Fi Repeater Petition

- Petition regarding the North Fork Wi-Fi repeater and the need for emergency management to engage with the community on this issue.
- Copper wire running up to the Elkhorn area that is used for the emergency phones, but it was damaged during ditching work:
 - Emergency phones did not work.
- Fiber optic is the source of Wi-Fi service, and if damaged, Wi-Fi is unavailable.
- The county has not provided community Wi-Fi in other areas.
- Mr. Nicholas does not support the county providing or maintaining the Wi-Fi service, as someone needs to pay for the ongoing account.
- Potentially mount equipment for the canyon alert system on new utility poles, which can provide a way to mount community Wi-Fi:
 - The challenge is who would pay for maintenance of the canyon alert system.
- The internet provider likely has responsibility for repairing the damaged infrastructure, as they were doing the work.
- The board suggested drafting a response email to the community members who submitted the petition.

Alvin Klausen – Various Topics

- Jefferson High School Sidewalk Project:
 - A letter of support for the city of Jefferson's ODOT application for a grant to build sidewalks from Jefferson High School down Highway 99.
 - The project involves the county right-of-way, so the county is being asked to provide a letter of support.
- Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments Legislative Committee Call:
 - Discussion on the county's stance on Measure 5150, which was brought up during a call.
 - Noted that local cities and county are opposed to changes to Measure 5150, and this is included in the legislative agenda.
 - The board discussed the need for unanimous consent to carry this position forward on the legislative agenda, rather than just a majority.
- Presentation of Federal Legislative Agenda
 - Proposal to have Kirby, lobbyist, provide a presentation.
 - Discussion on whether the board needs to formally vote to approve the agenda or if a presentation and discussion is sufficient.
 - The board agreed to schedule a work session in January to review the federal legislative agenda with Kirby.

Jon Heynen – Video Production and Interview Plans

- The board discussed plans for video production, including a New Employee Orientation (NEO) video featuring all three commissioners to present a united front.
- Suggest including historical context and interviews with local experts, such as those involved with the natural resources in the canyon area.

Adjourned – time: 11:02 a.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary White