

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD SESSION – To Fill the Vacancy for Oregon House District 19

Wednesday, January 24, 2018
9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97305

PRESENT: Commissioner Sam Brentano, Commissioner Janet Carlson, and Commissioner Kevin Cameron. Also present were Bruce Armstrong as county counsel, and Kristy Witherell as recorder.

Commissioner Carlson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

(Video Time 00:00:54)

WELCOME AND OVERVIEW OF PROCESS – Commissioner Janet Carlson

Summary:

- The commissioners are operating under the auspices of the Secretary of State;
- There are very specific requirements for filling a legislative vacancy, which the commissioners have done 7-8 times;
- Appreciates the staff's help making sure the commissioners are following the letter of the law as they move through the process;
- Process:
 - The commissioners will be taking opening statements from each candidate:
 - Each candidate has three minutes.
 - The commissioners will be asking each candidate questions:
 - Each candidate will have two minutes to answer; and
 - The commissioners will rotate the order of the candidates.
 - The commissioners will allow three minutes for closing statements;
 - Will take a break; and
 - Deliberate and vote.

Board discussion:

- Filling legislative vacancies is taken very seriously by the commissioners;
- Every decision that the commissioners make is a direct representation of the people of Marion County;
- The commissioners have been pleased with the candidates they have put forward in the past;
- All correspondence from constituents is in the record:
 - Commissioner Brentano had a voicemail from Lois Anderson from Oregon Right to Life:
 - She is supporting Denyc Boles.

- The commissioners have a very thick packet of letters of support sent by email and mail that have been entered into the record.
- The commissioners appreciate the candidates' willingness to go through the process; and
- Would like to encourage the candidates to continue to stay encouraged and stay plugged into the community.

(Video Time 00:05:49)

NOMINEE'S OPENING STATEMENTS

Denyc Boles:

- Would like to thank the commissioners for their service to the community;
- Appreciates the consideration and wisdom the commissioners bring to the process;
- Marion County is well served;
- Ms. Boles is more nervous of the process this time around than she was last time;
- Ms. Boles has a clearer picture of the commitment of filling the House District 19 seat;
- Ms. Boles' brief service before did not require her to vote on the house floor;
- Ms. Boles' service to the community was strong and community members would echo the same sentiment;
- Took her relationships and knowledge of the process and was able to advocate for the community and make some changes at the state;
- Ms. Boles is here today partially because of the previous experience and understanding the role that a representative has in the community;
- Marion County has a lot of serious issues that are not easily solved;
- Government has become increasingly distant from the community;
- Ms. Boles has been in District 19 for nearly her entire life;
- Attended college in Seattle, WA:
 - Lived all over the country and parts of the world; and
 - Those experiences have solidified how special District 19 is.
- Regardless of the decision today, Ms. Boles will continue to serve the community and advocate for the things that are important and for the people who are important; and
- Appreciates the commissioners' time today.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- Consider this opportunity to serve as a great honor and privilege;
- As a community physician and psychiatrist, Dr. Chandragiri has been in public service for 30 years:
 - 17 of those years have been served in Oregon.
- The reason for considering the House District 19 position is to be the voice of those he serves;
- For too long the voice of suffering and cry has gone unheard;
- Feels doing the same thing again and again is never going to get different results;
- For too long Oregon has been running in circles;
- Today, Mental Health America survey found Oregon is 51st in the nation in 2016;
- This is a unique opportunity to have a psychiatrist in the position as state legislator;

- Dr. Chandragiri has worked in the trenches;
- In a position to steer Oregon in the right direction;
- Has extensive experience servicing veterans as a psychiatrist in the Salem Veterans Affairs Clinic:
 - More veterans die by suicide than enemy bullet.
- A house divided cannot stand;
- There is an urgent need in the legislature for someone who really embodies diversity;
- Has been married for 25 years, speaks nine languages, and has lived in many countries; and
- Will be filing for the primary election on January 31st.

Michael Hunter:

- Has been in Oregon since 1976;
- Came from Montana;
- Has a degree in criminology;
- Has been a police officer and detective in Montana;
- Has attended the FBI Academy;
- Came to Oregon as a State Parole and Probation Officer;
- Went into private business for 20 years, retired in 2002, and became a licensed state insurance adjuster investigator;
- Is a very good detective;
- The last four years, has been at the State Capitol as a registered citizen lobbyist:
 - Helped draft bills;
 - Helped with the language in bills;
 - Part of the Oregon Citizen Lobby; and
 - Knows how dysfunctional the state level is.
- Need to get Republican power back in the House;
- Tired of hearing that Portland has too much influence in speaking for the whole state of Oregon;
- Speaks for the rural Oregonians;
- In 1976, Oregon had viable rural economic based on natural resources:
 - Mr. Hunter's expertise is in natural resources and fisheries; and
 - Has been lobbying for it at the State Capitol.
- Oregon can return to that type of economic basis again;
- Rural Oregon needs to make a living;
- Needs to be in the legislature to get initiated; and
- Is motivated and knows how to get the job done.

(Video Time 00:15:30)

COMMISSIONERS' QUESTIONS

Commissioner Carlson:

1. We have a legislature that is controlled by the Democratic Party, both in the Senate and the House. We have Governor Kate Brown, who is also part of the Democratic Party, so each of you will be part of the minority when you are in the legislature. In order to get something done, you

will need to work across the aisle with others. How do you find the balance between your principles and compromise in order to work across the aisle?

Denyc Boles:

- It is no small task being a Republican in the legislature today;
- It is very close to a super majority;
- The house has gotten increasingly divisive;
- One of the piece of the legislature the average citizen may not know is there is quite a bit that is agreed upon;
- There are a lot of areas where Republicans and Democrats work well together;
- Relationships are key;
- Finding areas where both sides can agree upon;
- When it comes to principles, it is important as a legislature to go in with a strong set of beliefs that will represent the community well;
- Give every effort to try to find common ground, but there will definitely be times where common ground is not found and it is important to be a strong vocal opposition;
- Make sure all opinions are represented and reflected in the process; and
- It takes wisdom to figure out where you're going to "die on the hill".

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- In the last 17 years, Dr. Chandragiri has consistently maintained the certain areas where he is not going to compromise in;
- Not going to compromise on beliefs;
- Had to network with 21 counties in Eastern Oregon;
 - Was the new kid on the block; and
 - Found areas where there was a good working relationship.
- Has seen what needs to be done to maintain conservative principles; pro-life and pro-family principles;
- Not going to budge on wasting resources or fiscal responsibility;
- Will always ask if this is a family first, child first guiding principle before voting on an issue;
- There are areas that will need compromise:
 - Certain areas may be taxed.
- Would ask if funded programs are adding value to the investment;
- There are a lot of programs that do not need to continue because they have run their natural course, or they fail to produce the result for which it was originally designed;
- Was able to triple productivity in Eastern Oregon Blue Mountain Recovery Center;
- Created the finest community mental health programs in Harney County, where there were 5-7 hospitalizations per year using the limited resources available;
- This track record is the example of how Dr. Chandragiri will be operating in the house; and
- Not going to compromise his basic values.

Michael Hunter:

- This question is the reason why Mr. Hunter is sitting in the seat;

- The Democrats have run Oregon to the point where it is unrecognizable as the same state Mr. Hunter moved to 40 years ago;
- Republicans are using defeatist attitudes;
- Republicans are a minority in the House;
- No one seems to have a plan to correct the injustice, Mr. Hunter does;
- Oregon can have one senator per county:
 - There are naysayers that say it cannot be done, but they are wrong.
 - There is an invitation from the federal government to address Reynolds vs. Sims (1964), which is a problem the citizens have in this state:
 - Should not have a demographic controlled senate;
 - That is against the constitution, Section 4 Article 4; and
 - This can be changed and Oregon can have a Senate that represents the 30 Republican counties.
- Multnomah County has nine of the 30 senators;
 - 14 counties in Eastern Oregon only have two.
- No happy being in the same rut and not doing anything productive.

(Video Time 00:22:50)

Commissioner Cameron:

2. Have you reached out to your neighborhood association or other large constituency groups within House District 19? Name three community leaders or other organizations that are actively supporting your nomination.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- As soon as Dr. Chandragiri became a nominee, he reached out to a lot of organizations:
 - A lot of his medical colleagues;
 - People from India and United States Friendship Association;
 - Oregon Medical Association;
 - Oregon Psychiatric Association;
 - Reached out to the Sheriff of Harney County; and
 - Harney County Commissioners;
 - A host of people have shown consistently their willingness to support;
 - Mental health organizations;
 - Mental health patients and their advocate group;
 - Veterans and their families;
 - A lot have written letters of support, which is included in the packets; and
 - Registered Democrats have written letters of support:
 - They feel like it's not a partisan issue;
 - Not a red or a blue brain;
 - Everyone suffers the same way, whether they're in the midst of suicidal crisis, psychosis, or an opioid crisis that kills the children;
 - There is no health without mental health; and
 - Elderly with dementia or brain injuries that will sink the healthcare system.
 - Dr. Bud Pierce, who was a gubernatorial candidate;

- Attorney Harris Matasazzo, who represents patients in Psychiatric Security Review Board; and
- Sheriff Dave Ward from Harney County.

Commissioner Cameron:

- Looking for House District 19 neighborhood associations, large organizations, etc.... that the candidates have reached out to.

Michael Hunter:

- Reached out to the Southeast Mill Creek Neighborhood Association Meeting;
 - Ms. Boles was in attendance;
 - Well represented meeting; and
 - Spoke with the individuals and introduced himself.
- Meeting with Aumsville Police Department;
- Turner Police Department;
- Aumsville City Administration;
- Working with state corrections officers;
- Is a strong public safety advocate;
- Members from the Capitol City Republicans Women;
- Oregon Republican Women's Forum;
- Just recently attended Senator Huckabee's forum on pro-life, and is a strong supporter of; and
- A lot of contact with individuals living in the outlying areas of House District 19.

Denyc Boles:

- Spent significant time over the last months going to a variety of meetings in the community;
- Morningside Neighborhood Association;
- Southeast Mill Creek Neighborhood Association;
- Aumsville City Council meetings;
- East Salem Suburban Neighborhood Association;
- Meeting with Dan Peterson at the Turner Elementary School;
- Attending Turner City Council on January 25th;
- Continue to make the connections with community members;
- State representatives should be very accessible to the community;
- Three community leaders that support Ms. Boles:
 - Representative Jodi Hack;
 - Stuart Olson, Olson Family Farms;
 - Sam Skillern, Salem Leadership Foundation; and
 - Brad Nanke, Salem City Council.

(Video Time 00:28:52)

Commissioner Brentano:

3. What is the biggest challenge facing the residents of House District 19 today?

Michael Hunter:

- Attended the Aumsville City Council Meeting, Turner City Council Meeting and Salem City Council Meeting:
 - All three addressed affordable housing; and
 - City of Salem is concerned with homelessness.
- Working at the state level is easier than working on a city council; and
- The number one issue in the area is public safety and housing.

Denyc Boles:

- One of the major themes of the neighborhood associations attended had to do with public safety on a variety of capacities:
 - This bleeds into homelessness; and
 - Mental health issues.
- Aumsville is having quite a discussion about their water bill and the \$12 month fee that is being assessed:
 - When government continues to grow their budget, it gets passed onto the citizens;
 - This is not a statement on Aumsville, there are great conversations on both sides;
 - It is a broader perspective of the cost of living in Oregon;
 - Wants citizen to get a good return on their investment; and
 - As a legislative leader, it's a reminder that every vote that is taken on budget issues gets trickled down to the citizens of the community.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- A couple of issues that House District 19 faces, in addition to what has already been mentioned, mental health care or access to care is a huge problem, which is complex:
 - Interferes with law enforcement.
- Challenges to access to care:
 - Salem has one of the biggest emergency rooms in the country:
 - Means that the rest of the system is failing.
- Do not have enough decent paying jobs:
 - Unable to retain businesses;
 - Challenge with access to public transportation;
 - Individuals with mental illness and those who enter the cycle into transitional institutionalization and those falling through the cracks is a huge issue;
- I-5 is a huge sex trafficking corridor:
 - Children are escaping abuse;
- Huge domestic violence problem;
- A lot of hunger in the community;
- A lot of children are coming to school hungry;
- Educational system is not satisfactory:
 - Want to compete at a global level.
- Global economy will not be based on reading, writing, or arithmetic;
- A lot of young people are disillusioned and not able to know which career path to take:
 - This is a big challenge.

(Video Time 00:33:53)

Commissioner Carlson:

4. Tell us about a time when you successfully resolved a citizen's problem or issue with a government organization, non-profit, or other organization.

Denyc Boles:

- When Ms. Boles was appointed previously to House District 19, an individual came into the office who had a serious situation with video voyeurism:
 - It was a very emotional time for the family;
 - There was a case before the Marion County Courts and it was fairly fresh;
 - Sat down with the family and talked through and identified some of the problems;
 - The voyeurism was pretty extreme in the family's home:
 - Bathroom; and
 - Personal areas.
 - Misdemeanor charge, which was less than a six-month jail time;
 - There were other similar situations throughout Oregon;
 - Ms. Boles used her relationships within the Capitol building in order to extend the charges into a felony;
 - Not only was Ms. Boles able to work with the family to change a law that had not kept up with technology, she worked with Marion County District Attorney's Office:
 - Made sure the law that was written was able to be used to prosecute.
 - Broad citizen group collaborative:
 - Followed the bill until it was signed into law by Governor Brown.
 - One of the most satisfying moments in Ms. Boles' life to actually make a difference in the community and the safety for kids and family members.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- Was the superintendent at the State Hospital in Pendleton;
- When September 11, 2011 happened, the federal government closed the program to shift funds to manage the USDA:
 - 12 doctors in Eastern Oregon were in danger of losing their jobs;
 - Identified an alternative program and contacts in Salem;
 - Was a board member of the American Association of Community Psychiatry;
 - Contacted the APA and congressmen;
 - Researched a program called Conrad 30, which changes the rules; and
 - Conrad 30 has a huge impact in the state health professional shortage.

Michael Hunter:

- Currently a member of the Oregon Department of State Lands Rules Advisory Committee;
- Working on permitting in stream activities;
- Provides natural resource information to the legislature;
- Been in private business for 20 years:
 - Ran sport charter boat fishing out of Newport;
 - Over 17,000 hours operating in the ocean;
 - Very knowledgeable about salmon and salmon fisheries;
 - Very knowledgeable about natural resources; and
 - Spoke with the Mayor of Salem regarding the Detroit Dam project.

(Video Time 00:39:53)

Commissioner Cameron:

5. Working to improve Marion County's economy is a board priority. How would you use your appointment to help us with this effort?

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- Would take a four-pronged approach:
 - Would have to simplify and reduce the business burden so that Marion County not only attracts, but retains businesses;
 - Really revamp and have a solid direction in the educational system, starting from elementary school and on:
 1. Cannot be satisfied with the Three R's;
 2. Need to start thinking in terms of what other cutting edge global needs and how to make the kids competitive;
 3. In some countries, the computer science education starts from second grade; and
 4. The future is information technology.
 - Needs to work with the Bureau of Labor and Industries;
 - Needs to partner with universities; and
 - Dr. Chandragiri's daughter is teaching English in Shang-hai, China.

Michael Hunter:

- Lives in Aumsville;
- Lives in the rural and agricultural area of Marion County;
- Have a thriving tech and industrial area around Salem;
- Still ignoring Aumsville and Turner:
 - Aumsville would like to comply, but the urban boundaries are restricted by regulations directed at the City of Portland and large areas;
 - Too much regulation for towns outside of the city limits;
 - Needs to be addressed;
 - A little town cannot match what Portland's requirements are;
- Believes in reasonable regulations and reasonable permitting.

Denyc Boles:

- Expects to have strong partnerships with Marion County;
- Increase government regulation, permitting problems, government does a lot of things to get in the way of businesses and entrepreneurial spirit;
- Major roles of government should be to get out of the way of the entrepreneurial spirit;
 - Example:
 - Rulemaking at Salem Hospital that was going to require an additional full time employee just to comply with the paperwork for the rules.
 - Should not have to add another full time employee just to comply with state government.
- Need to get out of the way of people wanting to create businesses to provide jobs and a living for people in the community.

(Video Time 00:45:09)

Commissioner Brentano:

6. Have you ever publicly said or written something that you regret? Briefly describe the situation and the impact it had.

Michael Hunter:

- Doesn't believe he's said anything he has regretted;
- Have been very firm in what he believes will correct the issue in the state legislature:
 - One senator per county.
 - Two months ago at the Marion County Republican meeting, Kevin Mannix made the statement that it could not be done:
 - Asked Sen. Mannix if he was up to speed on the federal level stuff; and
 - Sen. Mannix stated he knows about Hillsdale College and Judge Gorsuch and saw where Mr. Hunter was coming from.
- Took a firm stance on Measure 101 and any kind of sales tax; and
- Believes he is a very solid Republican.

Denyc Boles:

- Spent most of her life disciplining herself to pause before she speaks;
- When Ms. Boles was younger, she was impolite and said things that were hurtful:
 - Something she does not want to be known as.
- In regards to social media, she is very careful about what is said publicly;
- Nothing currently comes to mind of saying something that she now regrets;
- Going into the legislative process is a whole new game;
- Approaching statements thoughtfully and considerately:
 - Try not to respond in the emotion of the moment is how Ms. Boles has defined the last 15 years of her life; and
 - Will take that discipline in the legislature to make sure her message doesn't get diluted by her method.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- When Dr. Chandragiri started working at the Oregon State Hospital, he was a fierce advocate for his patients;
- These are patients who are in Psychiatric Security Review Board;
- After a hearing where he really advocated for patient discharge, it didn't happen the way Dr. Chandragiri felt like it should go;
- Was very angry at the director of the Psychiatric Security Review Board and spoke with her regarding the decision:
 - The director, who is a lawyer, stated that the standard of care was not defined or proved.
- The institution had never identified a standard of care and when to release;
- Cannot ask a lawyer how to treat a heart attack;
- Spending \$22,000 per person per month and holding them for years;
- Spending nearly 46 percent of a biennial budget;

- Oregon needs a sequential intercept model and alternative ways like the prison diversion program;
- Squandering away resources;
- 98 percent of the people in the community have to live with whatever dollars that are left;
- Spending 1.6 percent of the budget for addiction prevention;
- It's not going to get us anywhere;
- Very hard working people;
- Humbling experience;
- Whenever Dr. Chandragiri has written anything, he reads it, waits three days, meditates on it, and sends the email; and
- Carefully watches his words.

(Video Time 00:50:56)

Commissioner Carlson:

7. If appointed, how will you approach working with Marion County?

Denyc Boles:

- Feel like she works with Marion County in her current role;
- Have worked with the county throughout the years;
- Very important partnership;
- Marion County government is the government that affects the day-to-day life of the residents;
- Currently services on the Marion County Budget Committee, which she is planning to continue to serve;
- When making decisions on bills, Ms. Boles will be very aware on how it will affect the county;
- Important to have a two-way conversation;
- The commissioners are not hesitant or shy to share their opinions on issues; and
- Look forward to have these conversations.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- If selected as a representative, he will attend Marion County board meetings;
- Will personally sit down speaking individually with each commissioner;
- Will be speaking with all of the mayors;
- Will be a liaison between the community and the legislature;
- Will be working across the aisle;
- Listens to challenges citizens face;
- Will not come to the commissioners with a problem without knowing the answer beforehand:
 - Will come with three different answers and ask for consideration.
- Very compassionate person;
- A great listener; and
- At the end of the day, Dr. Chandragiri is a physician, not a politician.

Michael Hunter:

- Has been attending city council meetings all over the county, but has not attended board session;
- Want to educate himself on what the current issues are;
- Marion County is a successful Republican entity;
- The county is very strong;
- The disconnect is back at the state level where Republicans are outnumbered; and
- Has been focusing on the state level.

(Video Time 00:56:25)

Commissioner Cameron:

8. Agriculture is Marion County's #1 industry. What strategies do you support to continue protection of Oregon's farmland?

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- Working in Eastern Oregon gave Dr. Chandragiri the first-hand experience of what farm, agriculture, and rural America is;
- There is a disconnect between rural Oregon and the big cities;
- Will not find anyone else who can bridge the divide better than Dr. Chandragiri because he lived in Eastern Oregon;
- Has supporters in Harney County;
- Need to keep in mind to protect the land use for the farmers;
- Need to protect the wine industry;
- Connect with the global market;
- Have to collaborate with universities;
- Live in the most fertile land in the world;
- Seen hunger in other countries;
- Need to support farmers; and
- Putting too many rules and regulations and thwarting farm businesses.

Michael Hunter:

- At a Senate committee hearing it was stated that there were 1,286 dairies in Oregon in 1996, today there are only 106;
- Regulation is driving agricultural businesses out of existence;
- Involved with water rights and agriculture has distinct water rights that need protected;
- Have intrusion on air qualities that can eventually affect the grass seed farmers;
- Need to find out the compromise between clean air and putting people out of business;
- The Aumsville city administrator was talking about the urban growth boundary and Mr. Hunter does not like the encroachment of house taking up valuable farmlands; and
- Need to identify affordable housing without diminishing farmland.

Denyc Boles:

- This is a big issue in the community;

- The agriculture community, including nurseries, farms, and timber are battling on a lot of fronts;
- Ms. Boles husband works for Oregon Cherry Growers, who have been around for over 75 years and now are part of a co-op out of Northern California;
 - Oregon forgets that they are competing in an international market;
 - The more that Oregon is the poster child for every extreme environmentalist legislation that comes through, it drives the cost of doing business; and
 - Can buy cherries out of Italy cheaper than Oregon cherries.
- Has great relationships with the agriculture community and will continue to have them;
- Knows who to call and ask for input; and
- Family comes from North Dakota, which are farmers.

(Video Time 01:02:18)

Commissioner Brentano:

9. (Original Version) Cap and Trade is proposed legislation for the 2018 Legislative Session. What efforts will you make to ensure the specific needs of Marion County are met?
 (Commissioner Brentano's Version) Cap and Swindle is proposed legislation for the 2018 Legislative Session. What efforts will you make to see that this expensive, non-performing, manipulative, purely symbolic legislation is defeated?

Michael Hunter:

- Will distinctly oppose Cap and Trade;
- Thinks it is a big expenditure that is being pushed radically by the liberals;
- Received a letter from Senator Alan Olson where he is also opposed;
- Marion County's industries would be affected; and
- Make sure that the needs of the Marion County industries are not being abused.

Denyc Boles:

- Cap and Trade should not even be an issue discussed and contemplated during a short session;
- This is a really big deal and the short session was originally put into law due to dealing with economic issues;
- Agriculture is affected by the air quality portion;
- The continued cost, regulation, and extreme levels of requirements will literally put people out of business;
- Will increase the cost of goods and services to the consumer;
- Supports the commissioners' position;
- This is a battle; and
- Is very concerned.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- The government is good at picking up issues that aren't really an issue;
- It is a distraction;
- There are so many other pressing issues;
- No one looks at the downstream effect of the proposal;

- Will hurt the farmers;
- Legislative “fence” will kill the crop for which it is designed;
- Need some amendments;
- Need to stand up and talk about important priorities without killing off agriculture; and
- This is not a priority by the way it is framed.

(Video Time 01:07:47)

CLOSING STATEMENTS

Denyc Boles:

- Believes her qualities, experience, and relationships will give House District 19 an effective leader from day one;
- Intention is not only to be a leader within House District 19, but also within the legislature;
- Look forward to the opportunity to serve the community;
- Ms. Boles has an open door policy at her office;
- Wants people to have faith in their government again;
- Have been standing up for people her whole life; and
- Excited for the opportunity to take this to a new level and advocate for the people of House District 19.

Satyanarayana Chandragiri:

- In 1996, Dr. Chandragiri came to the country with a cashier’s check of \$300, his wife and child and two suitcases;
- Today, Eastern Oregon has helped his family;
- Who he is has been shaped by grace of so many;
- It was with a lot of gratitude that he rolled up his sleeve and jumped into politics;
- Made the toughest decision in his whole career and sent in his letter of resignation from the VA Hospital effective January 30, 2018;
- Plans to file for state legislature on January 31st;
- Realized this is the only way he can address the people’s voice;
- Have been doing the same thing again and again in state government;
- Dr. Chandragiri is not satisfied with the results;
- Would kindly like consideration for his background in training, experience, and motivation;
- Dr. Chandragiri is grateful for what he has experienced in this country;
- This is the America that he wants his son, grandchildren, and great grandchildren to grow up in;
- All hands on deck have to be involved in putting “Humpty Dumpty” back together; and
- Cannot keep doing the same thing over again.

Michael Hunter:

- Bringing forward four years of heavy legislative experience;

- Have been a part of the Oregon Citizen's Lobby analyzing bills, rating bills, ranking bills, and tracking the vote on legislatures that are Republicans in the current legislature;
- Is a full time Republican, does not jump the fence;
- Trying to correct the problem;
- Not content with being in second place all of the time;
- There is a route that he thinks he can get done;
- It will not be overnight, but needs to make sure he is in the right position and the legislative seat is the only place to do that;
- Has a plan to correct things, no one else has offered anything except to do the same old rut;
- The disconnect between rural Republicans and valley Republicans can be amended if rural Oregon can see the light that they can have someone helping them out;
- Can start the process to unite Republicans statewide;
- Want to empower the voters;
- Want every voter in the state to have a great turnout during general elections, not special election scams so that during major turnouts, the voter can actually decide on measures;
- Want to empower the counties by them having a senator; and
- By the citizens seeing a future, we will unite the Republican Party in Oregon.

Discussion:

- The board appreciates the answers;
- All candidates did a fabulous job;
- It is not easy being in the hot seat;
- Blessed to have three really well-qualified candidates that were brought forward for consideration; and
- The commissioners appreciate all of the candidates for their willingness to serve.

The commissioners convened at 10:15 a.m.

The commissioners reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

ACTION

(Video Time 01:15:39)

DELIBERATION AND VOTE

Summary:

Commissioner Cameron:

- Appreciates everything the candidates have done within the community and the state;
- Great to have people who are so involved, passionate, and willing to step up and serve;
- Someone who has sat in the candidates chair twice, knows how nerve-racking it is;
- Going over to the Capitol is a very honorable thing;
- Would like to encourage the candidates to continue to stay plugged in no matter what the results are; and
- Commissioner Cameron's vote is for Denyc Boles.

Commissioner Brentano:

- Appreciates all of the candidates for stepping up;
- Is a kindred spirit with Mr. Hunter regarding natural resources:
 - Can't lock them up and wonder why we don't have success in Oregon; and
 - Agrees with needing a stronger Republican Party and not be strong armed by liberals out of Portland.
- Mental health is a big issue and it affects Commissioner Brentano's family;
- Appreciates Dr. Chandragiri's passion for his work:
 - Feels like Dr. Chandragiri can do the job, but is looking for someone that has a broader scope of work.
- Years ago, the board appointed Ms. Boles to House District 19:
 - Every appointment Commissioner Brentano has made, he's been happy with;
 - Ms. Boles did a good job then and knows she can do a good job in the future; and
 - Commissioner Brentano knows that Ms. Boles knows what is important to Marion County.
- Commissioner Brentano's vote is for Denyc Boles.

Commissioner Carlson:

- All candidates did an excellent job;
- So pleased that the Republican Central Committee sent the commissioners three such strong nominees;
- Thinks Mr. Hunter's principles are very strong:
 - Great experience with rural issues;
 - Been a citizen lobbyist;
 - Has experience at the Capitol;
 - Primarily focuses in the state level and not so much on the local level;
 - Would like to see more experience on the local level and connect with local constituencies;
 - All politics is local and in order to become elected to a position, there is a need to have the connections; and
 - Would encourage Mr. Hunter to continue the work he is doing at the political level.
- Received many letters of support for Dr. Chandragiri that talked about work ethic, the passion he has, and many things that he has done to support people in the community:
 - Has a deep knowledge of mental health;
 - Expressed a breadth of knowledge in other things:
 - Education;
 - Agriculture;
 - Economic Development; and
 - Was impressed with the answers.
 - Opening statement was powerful;
 - The piece that is lacking is local constituencies;
 - When Commissioner Carlson ran for State Representative, she knocked on 12,875 doors and met people at their doorstep:
 - Went to neighborhood meetings; and

- Was able to hear people's concerns and got a sense of what House District 19 was.
- Ms. Boles excels at meeting with constituents;
 - Has experience working in the Capitol for many years and has relationships within it;
 - Has served in the position already;
 - Ms. Boles undersells herself:
 - She has so much experience; and
 - Worked under Commissioner Cameron for nine years.
 - Knows the people of House District 19;
 - Worked on campaigns;
 - Connected with Representative Hack to get up to speed with issues regarding House District 19;
 - Knows the lobby system;
 - Knows the political system;
 - Running for office isn't just about principles and policy:
 - It's about the politics and how people get elected;
 - How they stay elected; and
 - Ms. Boles knows all aspects inside and out.
 - Worked at the grass roots level for many years;
 - Has demonstrated her strength in sticking to principles, yet being able to find common ground in order to get things done;
- Commissioner Carlson's vote is for Denyc Boles; and
- Would like to thank all candidates today for their commitment to the process.

Commissioner Carlson adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.


 CHAIR


 COMMISSIONER


 COMMISSIONER

Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYF8Y6U7178>.

