



OREGON

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Minutes

Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 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, Chad Ball, Jessica Stanton, Jon Heynen, Tanisha Bush, Matt Lawyer, Kelli Weese, Scott Norris, Erinn Miller, Anna Alms, Ann-Marie Bandfield, Ryan Matthews, Kevin Karvandi, Matt Meyer, Kathleen Silva, Tamra Goettsch, Sherry Lintner, Leslie Martin, Brian Nicholas, Brandon Reich, and Robert Manier as recorder.

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

INFORMATIONAL

Notice area for Urban Comprehensive Plan/Zone Changes

-Brandon Reich

Summary of presentation:

- The Board previously asked Public Works to look at the notice area for when there is a comprehensive plan change on a property;
- A notice is sent out of upcoming public hearings so surrounding property owners have a chance to participate in the process;
- Staff is looking for feedback from the Board on what they think is an appropriate notice area:
 - 100 feet:
 - State required minimum; and
 - The county's current practice.
 - 200 feet; or
 - 300 feet.
- The Commissioners were given a report that shows the cost to mail the notices, the time required to mail, and the planners' time interacting with property owners in the notice area.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Bethell would like the notice area to be 300 feet;
- Commissioner Cameron suggested having two standards, a rural standard and an urban standard;
- The current standard on rural farmland is 750 feet;
- Public Works can go beyond the standard to ensure that an adequate number of property owners are being notified of a project; and
- A larger notice area is often needed on rural projects.

Recommendation to re-appoint Richard Massey to the Marion County Planning Commission

-Brandon Reich, Sherry Lintner

Summary of presentation:

- The appointment would be for a four-year term, with a term ending date of February 26, 2026;
- If the Board approves, this will be brought to the March 9, 2022, Board Session;
- The Planning Commission performs the following tasks:
 - Reviews subdivisions;
 - Reviews amendments to the comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances; and
 - Assists the Board of Commissioners in developing long range land use plans for Marion County.
- Members serve without pay, and they meet six to seven times per year;
- The Commissioners were given a package that includes the composition of current members, and the commission's governing document;
- The commission can have nine members, with only two members allowed to earn an income from buying, selling, or developing property:
 - Mr. Massey is one of the two members.
- Mr. Massey lives outside of Salem city limits, and outside of the Urban Growth boundary;
- One of the goals of the Planning Commission is to have a broad geographical representation; and
- There is one vacancy on the commission due to a member resigning.

Board discussion:

- Public Works attempts to get the broadest geographical representation possible with the applications that are received for open positions;
- There is no limit to the number of terms that a member can serve:
 - It has been difficult getting individuals interested.
- It would be nice to have a member from the canyon:
 - The Commissioners will give Ms. Lintner some recommendations.
- Mr. Massey has been an active member of the commission.

Volunteer Recognition - CERT

-Brian Nicholas, Sherry Lintner

Summary of presentation:

None.

Board discussion:

- The Board was asked to develop a proclamation for two volunteers who died;
- Staff is looking for feedback from the Commissioners on what they would like to do to recognize volunteers who die:
 - Should there be a memorializing award;
 - How long should the individual have volunteered; and
 - Should the award apply only to emergency management volunteers.

- Volunteer Services recognizes all Marion County volunteers, awards are not program specific;
- Some programs do their own recognition:
 - Emergency Management has their own awards and recognition banquet.
- Commissioners Bethell and Willis are okay with reading a letter during Board Session recognizing the service of volunteers who have died:
 - Emergency Management would like only active volunteers who have died to be recognized.
- Commissioner Cameron suggested that deceased volunteers be recognized once a year at the annual awards ceremony:
 - A program coordinator could organize additional recognition if they choose to; and
 - Commissioners Bethell and Willis support this idea.

Aid & Assist Request for Proposal

-Ryan Matthews, Ann-Marie Bandfield

Summary of presentation:

- The county has an opportunity to receive additional funding for the aid and assist program element in the Behavioral Health contract with the Oregon Health Authority (OHA);
- OHA is opening a request for proposals on March 15, 2022:
 - The goal is to assist moving individuals out of the Oregon State Hospital if they do not need to be there:
 - These individuals could benefit from community restoration.
- Community restoration has been shown to reduce recidivism rates;
- There are individuals in the State Hospital who struggle with some of the parameters of the release agreement;
- Behavioral Health does not provide monitoring or supervision of individuals they are providing treatment to:
 - The new funding would provide an opportunity for the county to provide more monitoring; and
 - Behavioral Health met with the Parole and Probation Office to discuss the possibility of a Probation Officer providing pre-trial monitoring, including GPS and electronic monitoring.
- Behavioral Health has empty transitional treatment beds:
 - There is a struggle with the courts when trying to get individuals released into the community.
- Behavioral Health has not yet put together a proposal.

Board discussion:

- Behavioral Health is proposing asking for funding for one Probation Officer for two years, which will be over \$300,000;
- Commissioner Bethell has concerns with getting anyone out of the State Hospital;
- There are currently 46 Marion County residents in the State Hospital:
 - Ten do not need to be there.

- The courts are concerned with monitoring, how and if an individual is being monitored:
 - The courts are concerned with community safety.
- The county is currently doing community restoration with approximately 70 individuals per year:
 - There are monitoring systems in place;
 - The individuals are still under the court's direction; and
 - The individuals are under a release agreement.
- If someone is moved out of the State Hospital under the proposed program and they need to be re-admitted, they would be put at the top of the list for the next available bed.

Marion County Protected Leave Policy #305 updates

-Leslie Martin

Summary of presentation:

- There are statutory changes required by the newly passed House Bill 2474;
- The changes have been incorporated into the county policy;
- If the Board approves, the policy updates will be brought to the March 9, 2022, Board Session;
- The changes are specific to public health emergencies as declared by the governor or OHA;
- The language for the policy updates were taken directly from the bill and include the following:
 - The legislature's definition of a public health emergency;
 - If an employee has worked for the county for 180 days or more and separates:
 - If the employee returns to work for the county within 180 days of separation:
 - They maintain their eligibility for protective leave under the Oregon Family Leave Act.
 - If the employee returns to work for the county, but not within 180 days:
 - They do not maintain their eligibility, but they do get credit for hours worked.
 - During a public health emergency employees who have completed at least 30 days of employment, and have worked an average of at least 25 hours per week for the 30 days before they would like leave to commence, are eligible to apply for protective leave.
- The personnel rules on accrual utilization have not changed.

Board discussion:

- If the county chooses not to implement statutory changes enacted by the legislature the state could sue the county;
- Human Resources will provide the 15-day courtesy notice to the unions; and
- This will be presented to the Board on March 9, 2022.

Marion County Reentry Initiative (MCRI) Statement of Commitment and MOU

-Tamra Goettsch, Kevin Karvandi

Summary of presentation:

- Community Services is involved with MCRI due to their role in managing resources that come in through community donations, and by providing resources to individuals reentering the community after being incarcerated;
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a non-funded agreement between local community partners and the county:
 - It outlines how the partners will collaboratively participate in helping individuals served by MCRI.
- This will be brought to a Board Session;
- The MOU helps to guide how services and supports are provided to the community;
- The MCRI has been in place since 2005;
- It took years to get all the community partners in place;
- This is the third MOU;
- The county's first reentry program was launched in 2010;
- In the beginning the focus was on reentry, and now the focus is on reentry and justice diversion;
- The county has a great group of partners; and
- The agreement does not come with any funding, but it helps when the county applies for grants:
 - The MOU documents the commitment the county has with its network of providers.

Board discussion:

None.

Noncommercial Education Radio Upgrades for KYAC

-Tamra Goettsch

Summary of presentation:

- The Board expressed interest in helping KYAC radio with their antenna expansion;
- The expansion would help bring radio services all the way to Idanha;
- The radio station has completely funded phase one:
 - There are three phases.
- Funding for phases two and three will be \$49,700; and
- The Commissioners are visiting the radio station on Thursday.

Board discussion:

- The funding would come out of lottery funds; and
- The upgrade would serve the communities that were impacted by the wildfires.

2022 Fair Update

-Tamra Goettsch

Summary of presentation:

- The county has been notified by the fair carnival that they have accepted another opportunity, and they will only be able to provide a 3-day carnival:
 - The carnival will set up on Thursday and be active Friday through Sunday.

Board discussion:

- The Commissioners do not want to have a Board Session at the fair this year; and
- The Commissioners would like to have the annual volunteer recognition done at the fair.

Brooks-HopmERE Water & Wastewater Feasibility Studies Update

-Kelli Weese

Summary of presentation:

- The following items are being worked on by the consultant firm:
 - Community outreach;
 - Analysis of land use requirements related to the infrastructure;
 - Feasibility study for the water infrastructure; and
 - Feasibility study for the wastewater infrastructure.
- The contract was signed in November and the project started in December;
- Work is being done on community outreach and data gathering for the two infrastructure projects;
- The community outreach has been targeted towards the businesses, non-profits, and other entities in the Brooks-HopmERE area that are using or anticipate using the systems:
 - The county wants to understand what the current needs are and what future needs may be.
- The project website is being kept up to date so that interested parties can get information;
- The consulting firm is working on the following:
 - Determining what the 20-year capacity should be;
 - Potential sources of groundwater contamination;
 - Where all the existing wells are, permitted and non-permitted;
 - Groundwater quality; and
 - Potential yields.
- The project is interrelated with the Marion County Water Resources Plan;
- The next steps for the project include:
 - Looking at alternatives for improvements to the water system:
 - What are water storage options if the county chooses to have its own system;
 - Is there any potential for connecting to an existing municipal system; and
 - What are the consequences if no major improvements are made.
 - Looking at alternatives for improvements to the wastewater system:

- How is a gravity system implemented; and
 - What are the consequences if nothing is done.
- A work session could be held with the Board in June or July.

Board discussion:

- The project submitted for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was for a new commercial well with storage and distribution:
 - This currently looks like the least expensive option; and
 - The county still needs to understand if the Salem or Keizer water supply is a feasible option, and what the costs would be.
- The ARPA funding request was due within a short time frame;
- The feasibility study will determine what makes the most sense for the residents and businesses in the area;
- Another option is a hybrid system where a county municipal system is developed, and then it is connected to the Keizer municipal system:
 - This would provide redundancy in a crisis.
- It is anticipated that the feasibility studies will be completed in November.

Request for Letter of Support for a USDA Rural Business Development Grant on behalf of Elderberry Wisdom Farm

-Kelli Weese

Summary of presentation:

- The North Santiam Watershed Council contacted the county to see if the county would be interested in signing a letter of support for a United States Department of Agriculture rural business development grant for Elderberry Wisdom Farm:
 - They are trying to fund a cohort of businesses that are looking to develop around horticultural businesses and agricultural restoration.
- The farm is located in south Salem outside of the city limits.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Cameron would like to know if there are other competitors for the grant;
- Commissioner Bethell is concerned with some of the partners:
 - She does not have enough information to be able to support this.
- The grant application deadline is this Friday;
- The funding would go towards training; and
- The Commissioners would like more information before deciding if they will sign the letter of support.

Legislative Update

-Tanisha Bush

Summary of presentation:

- The Wildfire committee announced what they are going to ask the legislature for:
 - Several requests from Marion County are included.
- The Commissioners were provided a list of all bills up for public hearings and work sessions this week.

Board discussion:

- The county requested funding for the gas line through the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery funds.

Communications Update

-Jon Heynen

Summary of presentation:

- A meeting was held last week to discuss infrastructure changes;
- Mr. Heynen is working on the following:
 - Building out the blog that was previously discussed;
 - Getting the county's Twitter account back online; and
 - Getting the fair's Twitter account back online.
- Public Health is interested in starting a YouTube channel, and having a Facebook page for a specific initiative;
- Mr. Heynen met with the new Public Health communications coordinator;
- The District Attorney's Office is interested in a more collaborative relationship with the Board's Office for future communications;
- Mr. Heynen is planning a meeting with all employees involved in department communications:
 - There will be bi-weekly meetings going forward.
- Upcoming events include:
 - March 3, 2022, affordable housing town hall;
 - March 9, 2022, State of the County; and
 - April 28, 2022, reentry breakfast.

Board discussion:

- Mr. Heynen will provide the Commissioners with the list from SEDCOR by tomorrow.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATES:

Danielle Bethell:

- Commissioner Bethell toured Applegate Landing in Lebanon:
 - It is a community for unsheltered Veterans and low-income families;
 - They are interested in building in Marion County;
 - It is a well-done community; and
 - She recommended that the other two Commissioners tour the community.
- Met with Teri Morgan to learn more about the programs being offered by the Behavioral Health Department including Her Place, His Place, and Our Place;
- Met with the Oregon Office of Emergency Management:
 - They coordinate a monthly statewide meeting with fire recovery communities:
 - Matt Lawyer or Commissioner Bethell will attend.
- Commissioner Bethell has been working with leaders of the Association of Oregon Counties to determine what their future goals will be;
- Commissioner Bethell will be presenting next month at Breaking Bread, Breaking Barriers; and

- OHA is giving the authority to make decisions regarding masks in schools to the school districts and the local public health authority:
 - Commissioner Bethell would like school districts to be able to make their own decisions regarding masks without involvement from the local public health authority;
 - She has asked Ms. Vetto to review the rule change and determine what the local public health authority's role would be;
 - Commissioner Willis spoke with Ms. Rothenberger and Marion County Health and Human Services is not giving local schools guidance on masking, and they have no plans to do so; and
 - Commissioner Cameron suggested that Health and Human Services provide the school districts with written direction stating the county's position that it is the school district's responsibility to make decisions on masking.

Kevin Cameron:

- Attended a reentry breakfast planning meeting;
- While in Washington, D.C. he attended several breakout sessions:
 - Final grant rules will be coming out March 16, 2022.
- What is needed within the Association of Oregon Counties are individuals with expertise who can follow available grants and help Oregon cities and small counties obtain funding:
 - Cities and small counties do not have the resources to focus on grants; and
 - A lot of the current grant funding will flow through the state.
- Senator Merkley's office is going to try to fund \$2 million for Opal Creek Wilderness economic development every year.

Colm Willis:

- Met with Brian May to discuss garbage:
 - Mr. May is scheduling a tour of the Georgia-Pacific plant in Toledo.

Meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Betsy Young**

Reviewed by: Shawnnell Fuentes