



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Minutes

O R E G O N

Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

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

NOTE: The audio file for this meeting starts after the first presentation.

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Danielle Bethell, Colm Willis, and Kevin Cameron, Jan Fritz, Chad Ball, Matt Lawyer, Jessica Stanton, Tanisha Bush, and Shawnnell Fuentes as recorder.

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

INFORMATIONAL:

Behavioral Health Resource Network Grant Update

-Ryan Matthews

Summary of presentation:

- Mr. Matthews provided updates on how the funding will be allocated in the region.

Board discussion:

- The Commissioners asked Mr. Matthews to set up a meeting with an Oregon Health Authority (OHA) representative.

Board of Property Tax Appeals Reappointments and Vacancy

-Sherry Lintner, Cailey Moe

Summary of presentation:

- The Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) currently has five members:
 - One of the members has moved out of the area and will not be reappointed; and
 - The other four members would like to serve another term.
- The formal appointments will come to a Board Session meeting sometime before October:
 - The board order is being reviewed by legal; and
 - Appointments need to be completed by October 15th of every year.
- There is no limit to the size of the pool of volunteers:
 - A larger pool of volunteers is desirable so that all board members do not have to attend every appeal hearing.
- The Commissioners were provided with a packet that includes membership requirements and applications of the four members who are seeking reappointment; and

- Members serve a one-year term that ends on June 30th.

Board discussion:

- An open recruitment will be done for all available positions;
- It is helpful to have some members with experience with the board, and experience with how property values are determined;
- BOPTA does not represent the county or the petitioners; and
- Last year there were 52 petitions:
 - Some were defective and not heard, and some were not within the county's jurisdiction; and
 - 44 petitions were heard:
 - 27 were sustained;
 - 4 had their assessed value reduced; and
 - 13 were dismissed:
 - These are usually settled before the hearing.

Direction Regarding Foreclosed Farmland in Jefferson Oregon

-Jeff White, John Carlson, Scott Norris

Summary of presentation:

- The property is located at 2020 Talbot Road; and
- Gabrielle Whittaker of J3 Farms has requested to lease the property for five years:
 - Previous guidance from the Board was to lease it for five years for the amount of the property taxes:
 - J3 Farms is interested in leasing the property for five years for the amount of the property taxes.

Board discussion:

- J3 Farms has been informed that there are hazardous buildings on the property that are their liability;
- The Commissioners would like to sell the property at the end of the five years;
- Per the lease, J3 Farms will be obligated to maintain the property in its current state:
 - The county can include a hold harmless clause in the lease so that J3 Farms agrees to hold the county harmless for any damages.
- If the existing buildings are demolished it may affect a future property owner's ability to obtain a replacement dwelling;
- Commissioner Willis is concerned with the property becoming a potential hazard to the nearby school:
 - He would like language included in the lease around expectations and remedies for any nuisances that occur on the property; and
 - He would also like language included in the lease that retains the county's right to terminate the lease if the property becomes a nuisance.
- The lease requires J3 Farms to maintain property insurance:
 - The county can be listed as an additional named insured.

Dog Services Grant

-Tamra Goettsch

Summary of presentation:

- This item was added to the agenda by Ms. Fritz;
- The BISSELL Pet Foundation hosts national Empty the Shelters events each year with the goal of helping shelter dogs and other animals get into long-term homes:
 - For every adoption during the event the foundation would pay the shelter \$100; and
 - During the event adoption fees cannot be more than \$25:
 - Licensing and microchip fees can be charged in addition to the \$25.
- If the county participates there are the following requirements:
 - The dogs must be spayed or neutered, and they must be microchipped; and
 - The county must promote the BISSELL Pet Foundation on its social media pages.
- Ms. Goettsch is looking for Board approval to participate in the event, and she is also looking for approval to participate in additional BISSELL Pet Foundation events that may be held this year.

Board discussion:

- The county has promoted the BISSELL Pet Foundation during past events; and
- The Commissioners are okay with the county participating in these events.

Communications Update

-Jon Heynen

Summary of presentation:

- *Marion County Today* is done except for the edits to the Spanish version of the Commissioners' letter; and
- Using the video with the goats to promote the Marion County Fair.

Board discussion:

- The Commissioners would like to do a graphic and a video for the 4th of July:
 - For the video the Commissioners could talk about events that are occurring around the county; and
 - The Commissioners are available Thursday to record the video.
- Commissioner Bethell would like to see more consistency among county departments' social media pages:
 - She would like the Commissioners to discuss what holidays and events will be promoted or acknowledged.

OTHER:

Jessica Stanton:

- Ms. Stanton provided the Commissioners with an update on the city, county, lunch, and breakfast meetings that are being held; and

- She is looking for feedback from the Commissioners on the frequency and locations of the meetings.

Board discussion:

- The Commissioners would like to reduce the number of meetings being held;
- Commissioner Willis suggested stopping the meetings where there is little participation;
- Commissioner Cameron suggested combining Salem and Keizer into one meeting;
- Commissioner Bethell suggested doing a quarterly meeting for each region; and
- Commissioner Willis stated that pre-COVID they had a lot of success with the offsite Board Session meetings:
 - Some of the meetings could be combined with an offsite Board Session; and
 - There are logistics with CCTV if a Board Session is held offsite.

Tanisha Bush:

- Ms. Bush attended the Community Action Agency board meeting.

Board discussion:

- The Commissioners would like to see the data behind the Community Action Agency's claims that there has been an increase in homeless individuals due to evictions.

Matt Lawyer:

- Update on the Taylor's Grove community well in unincorporated Marion County:
 - All of the well's distribution lines were damaged by the fires;
 - 17 households use the well:
 - 13 are primary homeowners:
 - 3 have dug their own well.
 - 4 are renters.
 - 14 households do not have access to water:
 - They are receiving daily deliveries of potable water from the Department of Human Services.
 - A cost estimate is being developed by a contractor:
 - The current best estimate is \$340,000 to \$350,000.
 - The project needs to be funded:
 - Commissioner Bethell would like to see if Oregon Housing and Community Services would adjust their policy for this one project, so that disaster recovery dollars can be used;
 - The homeowners are covering the engineering costs of approximately \$35,000;
 - Commissioner Willis would like to know why the Santiam Canyon Wildfire Relief Fund is not helping to fund this project; and

- There is a United States Department of Agriculture grant that the homeowners can apply for:
 - It is a long process.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATES:

Kevin Cameron:

- The Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council has memberships expiring on July 31, 2022:
 - All of these members have said that they would like to continue to serve; and
 - The Commissioners would like to do an open recruitment.

Danielle Bethell:

- Toured the Santiam Hospital with Commissioner Willis:
 - They are getting ready to expand their emergency room;
 - They relocated their lab;
 - They have a need for infrastructure funds; and
 - They are the ambulance service provider for the area, but they have not participated in Ambulance Service Area advisory committee discussions.

Colm Willis:

- Met with Josh Graves and others to discuss behavioral health providers in the area whom the county could potentially partner with:
 - They recommended a Church at the Park board member who is also a mental health professional; and
 - They suggested that the county partner with Church at the Park to provide onsite behavioral health services at the micro shelters.

Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Betsy Orr**
Reviewed by: Shawnnell Fuentse