



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:

October 2, 2019

Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse Annex
94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach, Oregon

www.co.curry.or.us

WEEKLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Paasch at 9:01 a.m. Present were Chair Christopher Paasch, Vice-Chair Court Boice, Commissioner Sue Gold.

Also present: Legal Counsel John Huttli, Director of Operations Julie Schmelzer, Administrative Assistant John Jezuit.

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. LINE OF DUTY CASUALTY REPORT

Commissioner Boice gave the report.

3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Schmelzer - Remove Agenda Item 6J

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice to approve agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Barnes spoke about yesterday's (September 17, 2019) power outage and praised Coos-Curry Electric Coop for keeping the lights on.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve: Minutes of BOC (Board of Commissioners) Business Meeting September 4, 2019
- B. Approve: District Attorney's Office Changing Status of Two (2) Employees from Full Time to Irregular Due to Grant Changes
- C. Approve: District Attorney's Office Promotion
- D. Approve: Two (2) STP (Surface Transportation Program) Fund Exchange Agreements for 2020 Oil Distributor Truck and 2019 Etnyer Chip Spreader - Richard Christensen, Roadmaster

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve consent agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Strategic Planning: Moss Adams – Julie Schmelzer, Director of County Operations
Schmelzer spoke about the beginning steps of the process starting during the 1st week of October with interviews with members of the community.

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

B. Microenterprise Assistance Program – Summer Matteson, Economic Development Coordinator

Matteson introduced Brian Sykes Accounting Manager/Assistant Director, CCD (Coos Curry Douglas). Sykes stated he was approached by Business Oregon about applying for a microenterprises pass through grant (which is in the application process) to deliver basic business education, specifically, he would be providing a six (6) week course in Coos and Curry Counties to low to moderate income range business owners with the City of Roseburg as the project owner, and he had asked Matteson to propose an IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) to allow Curry County to take part. Sykes also stated CCD would handle marketing. Gold asked once the grant is in place would businesses need to apply. Schmelzer wants the Board to support the process and suggested the grant could be used to help with a commercial kitchen, to be used as a business incubator, at the Fairgrounds.

By consensus the Board approved participation and the IGA.

C. Suicide Prevention and Awareness Council - Julie Schmelzer, DOC

Schmelzer proposed an ordinance to create the council. Citizen Gordon Clay detailed local, state and national suicide statistics and spoke of the impact suicide has on families.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve a draft ordinance to establish a suicide prevention council, and, to forward it for its first reading. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Docia Sweet Hall Re-Roofing Project - Commissioner Paasch

Rob Chibante, Fair Board Chair, stated leaks in the roof have been occurring for the past several years, the City of Gold Beach has provided some funding, stressed the importance of getting the roof done, and stated the Fair Board wants to make sure the project is done right. Boice asked about a project coordinator because it's a huge project. Paasch stated our building inspector will inspect project as it goes on, and, noted some dry rot has been identified already as well, as has a beam which needs to be replaced.

Motion by Boice seconded by Gold to approve the planning and engineering documents submitted for repair of the Docia Sweet Hall roof. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Contract Extension: Beyerlin/Lost Creek Lake Project Mitigation – Commissioner Paasch
Paasch introduced Steve Beyerlin, summarized the contract with Beyerlin and asked him to comment on complaints about fish hatcheries. Beyerlin spoke about the Lost Creek Dam, its impact on all wildlife on the Rogue River, the history of working with the USACE (United States Army Corp of Engineers) and the difficulty obtaining prior agreements with USACE. Beyerlin, citing entomologists, pointed out the dam's effect on the food chain, specifically; there are no little bugs for the small fish to eat. Beyerlin noted the ODFW (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) hatcheries raise trout, salmon and steelhead and ODFW does not want to lose trout production. Beyerlin stated the goal right now is to invite USACE and ODFW to a roundtable public meeting with Jackson, Josephine, and Curry counties. Gold asked if all wildlife or just fish were impacted, asked about any past complaints about USACE, and the role of ODFW. Paasch praised Beyerlin's work and research showing how the declining number of fish affects every part of the economy of Curry County. Boice spoke about his pursuing Jackson County to join us in this action, Representative David Brock Smith's efforts, and the upcoming short legislative session.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve contract extension for Steve Beyerlin. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Special Districts: Request Contribution from Chetco Library District – Commissioner Paasch
Paasch introduced Richard Thode, Budget Committee member. Thode stated the County collects taxes for 48 taxing districts, cannot pass on the cost of collecting these funds to the taxing districts, and observed two (2) taxing districts, SWOCC (Southwestern Oregon Community College) and Chetco Public Library, have over \$2,000,000 each in projected reserve funds. Paasch, stating our job is to look at the finances of the County, spoke about the disparity of funds between what SWOCC and Library have compared to what the County general fund has. Paasch stated his major concern is SWOCC and Chetco Public Library taxing districts were created several years ago, things change over time, and the area has grown immensely due to population increase. Paasch suggested a reduced tax rate or the district could make a donation to the County. Paasch strongly emphasized he is not here as an adversary, stated he has invited the Chetco Public Library Board to speak to this issue, and said this is the beginning stages before making a formal offer. Gold handed out written comments, observed if library tax rate is lower, it does not mean the County gets the money, and stated she is not in favor of going around to special districts asking for money as she believes it is up to the voters or the state legislature to act. Julie Rutherford, Chetco Library Board Chair, stating she is not speaking on behalf of the Chetco Public Library Board, said while she appreciates the need for funds for the county, she does not think it should come from the library as the Chetco Public Library Board cannot take taxpayer money dedicated to the library to give to the county. Rutherford also stated the projected funds are for ongoing projects, noting that if the funds the County seeks are appropriate to library services, the conversation will change. Huttel stated in general, it is not illegal for Library funds to go the county; however, the details of the proposal are critical in determining legality. Schmelzer, like Thode, observed the County does not charge any taxing district to collect and disburse imposed taxes, but does incur the costs of providing those services. Boice stated he is proud of the Library, his job is to move legislation forward by testifying before the committees, he would prefer to spend money on natural resources, and stated in a worst case scenario, if South Coast Lumber, which is incredibly well managed, were to close their doors, then, no need for a library.

G. Special Districts: When There Is No Quorum – Julie Schmelzer, DOC
Schmelzer expressed concern about county resources being used to fill the vacancies of taxing districts with not enough members for a quorum (or no members at all) observing if the district cannot get a board, perhaps the County needs to dissolve the district. Paasch stated it is time for the Board to reassess the way districts are set up, evaluate the need for a district, and observed the majority of citizens do not know how districts operate. Paasch also suggested consolidating school tax districts and cited specific ORS (Oregon Revised Statutes) sections addressing dissolving tax districts. Gold stated we have to give sufficient time to get a taxing district board together, stressed the importance of going through the right process, agrees with Paasch public needs to be educated, and concluded there are ways to lower rates and/or get rid of a district. Gold emphasized if a tax district is dissolved the money goes back to the taxpayers not to the county, and the Board will have to go to the voters on these issues. Boice stated he thinks the answer is with State legislature. Huttel feels the BOC must wait until a district fails to perform a function over 3 years or until they fail to elect a board. Huttel also pointed out he understood if a district is dissolved, the Curry County Board of Commissioners become trustees.

Schmelzer asked if there was BOC consensus to continue this discussion at a workshop. By consensus, the Board agreed to bring this topic back at a workshop.

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

H. Credit Card Policy – Sharlyn Harvey, Finance Director

Harvey spoke about the draft of the credit card policy, the process used to develop the policy, and noted the new policy added responsibility for individuals.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to accept the credit policy as written by Sharlyn Harvey. Motion carried unanimously.

I. New Job Description and Program: Office Assistant-Work Experience/Extra Help – Sharlyn Harvey

Harvey introduced Corin Gibson, JOBS (Job Opportunities and Basic Skills) Career Coach, SWOCC and Bryan Hutchison, TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Engagement Specialist DHS (Department of Human Services). Gibson explained the JOBS Plus program and described the advantages to the employee and the employer. Gold asked about number of individuals enrolled in the program and the success rate of becoming self-sufficient. Hutchison spoke about how the program works in building skills, the number of participants, the low net cost for the County as the work comp costs are reimbursed as well some of the wage the County pays, and explained poverty is lack of income, employment will cure that. Schmelzer stated she took advantage of this type program in a different county and had very good results. Schmelzer also observed we have a difficult time getting people in using the County's on call program and feels this program is a win-win all the way around.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice to approve job description and program for Office Assistant-Work Experience/Extra Help as proposed by Harvey. Motion carried unanimously.

~~J. Road Fund and Funding Community Projects – Julie Schmelzer, DOC PULLED~~

K. Code Enforcement: Continued Discussion (Harbor Case) – Dave Fortman Code Enforcement Officer

Dave Fortman stated the property owner resolved their issues with Harbor Sanitary District on Thursday, September 12, 2019, with the only thing remaining is payment of fees. Boice mentioned Richard Wise is a good friend of his. Boice is disturbed by the conduct of the Board, specifically the Agenda Item came through without any supporting commissioner, the Board made some assumptions, believes Harbor Sanitary Board members were misled as Wise made six (6) meetings. Boice concluded he does not ever want the Board to take a citizen like that and say we do not even know what we're doing and keeping his name secret. Boice stated this is really unacceptable to him. Paasch praised Fortman's diligence. Schmelzer stated she put it on the agenda based on Harbor Sanitary District reaching out to Gold about code enforcement issues.

L. Housing Coordinator Position – Julie Schmelzer, DOC

Schmelzer stated Boice has been a vocal advocate for a housing coordinator, stated this will not be a position paid through the General Fund, but a grant funded position. Schmelzer stated the position will be discussed at the next County Leadership meeting, spoke about the impact housing issues have on the community, and commented on different ways other localities work with housing coordinators. Paasch stated he doesn't know if we need a housing coordinator, feels it is definitely worth looking into, asked if we can expect support from the Cities for the administration fees, and would like to move forward. Gold, agreeing with Paasch, asked how effective is housing coordinator and how many counties having a housing coordinator. David Barnes stated the county does not belong in the housing business and hiring a housing coordinator is premature as the county does not have a current housing plan. Boice stated there is no intention

of county going into property management business, said the primary goals are to find housing developments, noted there are many dedicated people ready to help us, and the housing coordinator will develop a plan. Boice also spoke about Representative David Brock Smith's comments on funding for a local fire training center. Schmelzer stated she will bring it back to the Board.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Schmelzer spoke about

- The TLT (Transient Lodging Tax) and business license activities of our Economic Development Assistant
- Harvey's work on copier costs- in two years cost went from \$10,000 to \$25,000.
- Her concerns about space needs
- Upcoming meetings

8. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Paasch spoke about

- Emergency Room in Brookings state funding.
- Getting information on special taxing districts

B. Commissioner Boice spoke about

- Housing is most important issue and the tremendous resources available to us on housing
- The meetings he will be attending
- His lack of time today to report on Governor's Council meeting
- Tremendous opportunities in the county and challenges
- Senator Heard and Representative Smith looking at new projects
- Sediment study as the Pistol River was tremendously damaged by the Chetco Bar Fire.
- Importance of water rights as water will be a big issue in the State

Boice leaves meeting at 11:26AM to attend a State Parks Meeting in Brookings

C. Commissioner Gold spoke about

- SWOCC seminars and conversation with Matteson about them.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. ORS 192.660(2) (a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent
- B. ORS 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection. & (h) To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Chair Paasch entered Executive Session at 11:39 a.m. and exited at Noon.

Staff to proceed as directed.

10. HIRE ORDERS

- A. Maintenance and Construction Worker I – Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve hire order for Construction Worker I. Motion carried 2-0 (Paasch, Yes; Gold, Yes; Boice, Absent.)

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

B. Assistant Facilities Director - Eric Hanson, Facilities Director
Paasch expressed concern Board did not interview applicant for Assistant Facilities Director as the Board is required to interview department head candidates. Hanson stated he was following established personnel procedures. Huttel stated if the Board were to interview someone as a Board, it would require public meeting and executive session.

Motion by Paasch seconded by Gold, to not approve hire order for Assistant Facilities Director.
Motion carried 2-0 (Paasch, Yes; Gold, Yes; Boice, Absent.)

11. OTHER (ORS.192.640(1) ". . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.")

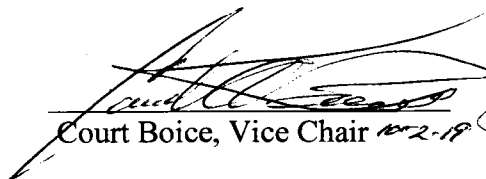
12. ADJOURN

Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at 1:13p.m.

Dated this day 2 of Oct 2019.



Christopher S Paasch, Chair



Court Boice, Vice Chair 10-2-19



Sue Gold, Commissioner

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant