



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:

September 23, 2020

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

www.co.curry.or.us

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 2020

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 Huttl and Administrative Assistant John Jezuit.

Absent: Director of Operations Julie Schmelzer.

The Pledge was recited by all.

Boice gave an update on COVID-19 pandemic risks in Douglas County and read a letter about the COVID-19 pandemic cases in Douglas County.

2. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Boice – Add, as Agenda Item 5H, Boice Cope Park Public Safety and Overcrowding Issues

Boice – Add, after Agenda Item 5H, Non Congregate Housing Grant

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Rowe objected to the consumption tax ballot measure, specifically, the cost to put the measure on the ballot, the difficulty to enforce, and the hardship to businesses. Mary Rowe also stated she does not support the special tax district and the library district consolidation ballot measures. Beth Barker-Hidalgo spoke about the impact substance disorder has on the suicide statistics in the country and the county. Diana Cooper spoke about impact a suicide from over a decade ago had on her and stated she wants to see treatment and support systems in Curry County. Jeremy Skinner, Curry Public Library Director, presented a handout to the Board about the library district consolidation ballot measure, read page 1, and encouraged the Board to vote no. Denise Willms, Port Orford Public Library Director, read page 2 of Skinner's hand out and gave several reasons why she does not support the consolidation. Julie Retherford, Chetco Library District Director, disputed statements made by Paasch, specifically, about the tax rate. Nancy Sue Rose supports previous speakers Skinner, Willms, and Retherford. David Barnes gave the Board pictures of proposed no overnight parking signage at Rainbow Rock viewpoint on Hwy 101 and asked the Board for a letter of support to ODOT (Oregon Department Of Transportation) for his proposal. David Barnes also spoke about the consumption tax and fuel tax ballot measures and stated the consumption tax was defeated in May, 2019. Gordon Clay commented on liquor and smoking statistics

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for juveniles; suicide statistics for white suburban men ages 45 – 54; and spoke about overdoses and increase in suicide statistics as August is overdose awareness month.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes Business Meeting July 1, 2020 BRING BACK TO THE NEXT MEETING AS BOICE'S COMMISSIONER COMMENTS WERE ATTRIBUTED TO PAASCH
- B. Safety Committee Appointments Order CHANGE NAME ON ORDER FROM LARSEN TO PLAGGE
- C. Accepting Grant from Curry Community Health
- D. Authorizing Contract Legal Services Carleton Law Firm 2020-2021

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

5. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

- A. Columbia Care MH (Mental Health) Screening Services MOU (Memo of Understanding) with Curry County Jail – Sheriff Ward
Lieutenant Joel Hensley summarized the MOU. Boice wanted the public to know what the Sheriff's Department is up against. Captain Phil McDonald addressed Boice's comment.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve MOU. Motion carried unanimously.

MOVED AGENDA ITEM 5G TO AFTER AGENDA ITEM 5A

G. Letter of Objection LC (Legislative Concept) 743 Regarding Officer Uniforms – Commissioner Paasch read the letter he has written, asked Capt. McDonald to address details involved with proposed requirements, and questioned Governor Brown's authority in the matter. Capt. McDonald commented on the purpose and reasons for uniform color; noted the practical benefits of wearing vests, specifically, in reducing back pain for long time law enforcement officers; stated he is strongly opposed to LC 743; and recommended the Board send the Letter of Objection to all State legislators. Lt Hensley agrees with Capt. McDonald on the need for local uniform color. Gold asked if the State has any legal standing regarding local law enforcement uniforms and questioned if the State will pay for new uniforms. Boice stated the letter is timely and recommended sending the letter to the State Sheriff's Association.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve the letter of objection to LC 743. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM 5E DISCUSSED BEFORE AGENDA ITEMS 5B, 5C, AND 5D.

E. Ballot Measure Discussion No. 4: Advisory Question Library District Consolidation–
Commissioner Paasch

Paasch spoke about the number of library districts in the county compared to the State; commented it is time to re-evaluate library districts; summarized the advantages of consolidation; strongly emphasized he is not opposed to libraries as they are an essential service, stated citizens have contacted him supporting consolidation; noted the Sheriff's department is underfunded; stated he is asking the Board to approve an advisory ballot measure for library district consolidation; and observed, due to the tight time frame for November, 2020, ballot inclusion, he is willing to delay the request to next year to allow input from libraries. Gold stated she has received a number of e-mails from individuals who are adamantly opposed to consolidation, handed out a report on the library

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districts, observed Chetco Public Library has lowered their tax rate several times, and noted she appreciates what Paasch is doing. Boice stated he will support the library district consolidation ballot measure if there is support from all five (5) library districts, encouraged bringing in library directors to build a dialogue, and observed he wanted the public to know he is bird-dogging unacceptable waste of money. Skinner asked where will the money go. Huttel stated he did not know where money would go. Retherford emphasized she cannot speak for the Chetco Public Library board, observed she is not opposed to working together, explained budgets are evaluated every year as costs increase and programs are added, stated spending is not excessive; and noted understaffing issues have been addressed.

Motion by Paasch, seconded by Boice, to withdraw the four (4) ballot measures, Agenda Items 5B, 5C, 5D and 5E, from discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEMS 5B, 5C, AND 5D WERE WITHDRAWN FROM DISCUSSION

B. Ballot Measure Discussion No. 1: Consumption Tax – Commissioner Paasch

C. Ballot Measure Discussion No. 2: Fuel Tax– Commissioner Paasch

D. Ballot Measure Discussion No. 3: Advisory Question School District Consolidation– Commissioner Paasch

F. IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with Coos County in Support of a CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Small Business/Microenterprise Grant through CCD (Coos Curry Douglas) Business Development – Summer Matteson, Economic Development Coordinator Matteson summarized the details of the IGA. Boice noted Coos County is taking the lead here and doing a little bit of the workload.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve IGA in support of CDBG Grant. Motion unanimously.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM 5H

H. Boice Cope Park Public Safety and Overcrowding

Boice read E-Mail comments from local citizens regarding Boice-Cope Park issues such as, parking, extension cords run across the road between camp sites, septic system, no masks, and no social distancing. Boice stated, while he doesn't have all the facts, he has a huge concern about what this will do to the long term growth of the Park; and stated this is not about revenue but public safety. Anthony DeRock, Parks Coordinator, addressed the issues; commented on the actions taken to resolve the issues; described in detail the results of the actions taken to resolve the issues; and observed the County is following all guidelines. Paasch observed the previous camp host left the park unattended; stated the county is in the process of getting a 2nd camp host; asked if the situation at Boice Cope park is safe; observed State Parks are overwhelmed which impacts normal Boice Cope activity; and stated he is comfortable with DeRock's actions.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM 5I

I. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Non Congregate Housing Grant

Boice stated there will be more on this at the August 19, 2020 meeting as the presenter, Racheal Maddock-Hughes, Principal and Founder Sequoia Consulting (a firm recommended by AOC (Association Of Oregon Counties)) was unavailable due to a scheduling conflict. A discussion ensued with Matteson, Gold, Barker-Hidalgo, Boice, and Paasch commenting on the advantages, benefits, and occasional restrictions associated with grant funding.

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6. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Gold spoke about - -

- Working with Kathy Bernhardt, General Manager, CCPTSD (Curry County Public Transit Special District) and reaching out to schools and the County's Veteran's office about two (2) free buses, which are in good condition and handicap accessible.

B. Commissioner Paasch spoke about - -

- The importance of getting the Census done properly and possible advantages to Oregon.
- A letter he wrote regarding a notification through NACo (National Association of Counties) from Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt's office about President Trump's executive order regarding national monuments. The letter cited Curry County's attributes as a location.
- The emergency Congressman DeFazio declared on the Rogue River and Port of Brookings Harbor and commitments from USACE (United States Army Corp of Engineers) to removing rock and dredging the mouth of the river.

C. Commissioner Boice spoke about - -

- The great day he had on the river on Monday, August 3, 2020.
- Steve Beyerlin contributions relative to the Rogue River sediment issues.
- The salmon study with cormorants and the River Docs firm
- The good work on the medal of honor letter
- Wanting the public to know Schmelzer had filed a complaint with the ethics commission against him adding - -
 - Some specific details of the complaint
 - His feeling that he is being harassed
- Keeping in close contact everyday concerning the fire season.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

192.660(2)(a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.

192.660(2)(d) To deliberate with designated labor negotiators

Chair Paasch entered Executive Session at 12:46 p.m. and exited 1:25 p.m.

Staff to proceed as directed.

8. HIRE ORDERS

A. New Hire – Paralegal

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve hire order for a paralegal - District Attorney office.
Motion carried unanimously.

9. **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.”)

10. ADJOURN

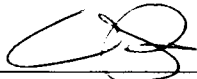
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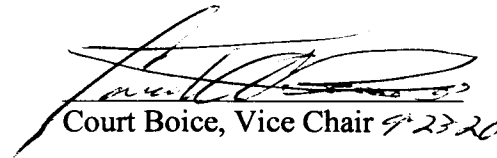
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Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

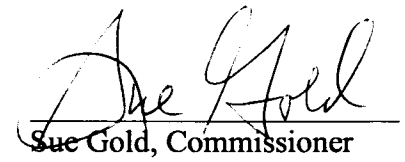
Dated this 23rd day of September, 2020.



Christopher S Paasch, Chair



Court Boice, Vice Chair 9-23-20



Sue Gold, Commissioner

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant

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