



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**Approval Date:
October 21, 2020**

Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse Annex
94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach, Oregon
www.co.curry.or.us

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES September 23, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Paasch at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chair Christopher Paasch, Vice-Chair Court Boice, Commissioner Sue Gold.

Also present: Legal Counsel John HuttI and Administrative Assistant John Jezuit.

Absent: DCO (Director of County Operations) Julie Schmelzer

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. LINE OF DUTY CASUALTY REPORT

Boice gave the report.

3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

HuttI - Add Executive Session 192.660 (2) (f) and (h)

Boice – Add Kyle Stevens presentation after Agenda Item 5A

Boice - Pull Item 7D

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Rowe spoke about proposed agenda changes and their impact on disabled citizens.

Connie Hunter cited statistics among the veteran's community, noted an article about hyperbaric chamber for suicidal veterans, and spoke about the impact of suicides on surviving family members.

Gordon Clay spoke about September Suicide Awareness Prevention and + Action month, commented on faith based communities helping citizens facing issues of suicide, and promoted connectedness.

Hazel Hofsess spoke about issues arising with an Airbnb in her neighborhood, specifically, work done with no permits, loud parties, traffic concerns, and possible septic system issues.

Paasch stated code enforcement should take a look at this and recommended a workshop when Schmelzer returns. Gold observed there have been similar citizen comments about Airbnb's and agreed with Paasch about having a workshop. Becky Crockett, Planning Director, expressed concern about issues regarding the large number of vacation rentals. Boice spoke about issues with builders.

5. PRESENTATIONS

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

Curry County Strategic Plan:

1. Financial Stability 2. Economic Development 3. Quality of Life 4. Public Trust 5. Infrastructure

A. Curry County Emergency Services and Preparedness – Ruth Dixon, CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and DART (Disaster Animal Resource Team) Program Coordinator Dixon spoke about her experiences during the Chetco Bar Fire; introduced speakers who spoke about their experiences as well; commented on moving livestock to safe locations; praised Jeremy Dumire, Emergency Management Coordinator, help in emergency preparedness specifically, the growth in CERT training and increased youth involvement. Dixon also stated volunteers are very important. Gold commended Dumire and Dixon’s efforts in supporting the CERT program growth. Paasch cited Dixon’s involvement with in 4H and CERT.

B. SCBEC (South Coast Business Employment Corporation) Chelsea Corliss, SCBEC Program Manager and Annabel Taylor, Youth Program Coordinator Coos Youth Talent Advisor, SCBEC. Corliss introduced a PowerPoint presentation titled Recruit HIPPO (Helping Individuals Pursue Professional Opportunities). Taylor went through the PowerPoint slides which described in detail the benefits and advantages of their program such as youth workforce development and job readiness skills. Boice spoke about and recommended a BC Fisheries tour clad in HazMat (Hazardous Material) suits. Gold praised Taylor’s work, asked about results, and suggested reaching out to younger kids other than seniors as younger kids will have more enthusiasm. Paasch asked why kids did not pursue the opportunity offered and recommended shop or fabrication work.

Kyle Stevens, Executive Director, SOWIB (Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board), stated SOWIB is working with SCBEC to hire, train, and manage COVID safety ambassadors who will visit area bars and restaurants, provide education on mask guidelines, and distribute masks provided by SOWIB to those who need them.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Business Meeting August 5, 2020
- B. Minutes Business Meeting August 19, 2020
- C. Minutes Special Meeting September 8, 2020
- D. Appoint BOPTA (Board of Property Tax Appeals) Members
- E. Board Approval on a Resolution Designating Roadmaster as the Duly Authorized County Representative to Execute on Behalf of Curry County All Documents for Emergency Communications Tower Generator Grant Project 4452
- F. Veteran’s Department Supplemental Budget

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

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Request to Reject All Bids on Gardener Ridge Slide Repair Project and to Rebid Project at a Future Date – Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
Christensen explained the history of project, stated the reason for the request to reject the bid, and spoke about advantages and disadvantages of working on a detour with South Coast Lumber. Boice spoke about the critical access to this area, praised the relationship with South Coast Lumber, and encouraged flexibility. Gold stated she appreciates Christensen’s work on the detour. Paasch asked about Wilson Creek Road or using an old logging road near the Freeman property. Huttli suggested the Board terminate this procurement.

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

Curry County Strategic Plan:

1. Financial Stability
2. Economic Development
3. Quality of Life
4. Public Trust
5. Infrastructure

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to terminate all bids for this procurement in public interest.
Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Letter of Support – Proclamation – Mountain Biking – Hiking - Curry Trails Development
Commissioner Boice**

Boice spoke about the work done on Curry County trail development. Paasch stated he supports this.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve the proclamation letter of support for a world class mountain biking trail. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Curry County Contribution to Grant Writing PARC (Public Affairs Research Consultants)
Resources – Garrison Lake Kayak Boat Launch: Commissioner Boice**

Boice showed slides of the boat ramp; read a letter from Terrie Richards, City Administrator, City of Port Orford, supporting and appreciating the County's involvement; asked the Board to contribute \$500, which Boice noted is a drop in the bucket compared to the amount of money that goes out of this building; and suggested getting the grant approved may lead to other grant approvals in the future. Dave Lacey stated the grant will be submitted by the City of Port Orford, explained details of the grant, specifically, no motorized watercraft, ADA compliant parking, restrooms, and kayak launch; and noted PARC asked him to represent them. HuttI asked which organizations have the lead on this and suggested the City of Port Orford hire the grant writer. Gold asked if PARC had been hired by City of Port Orford to do this, inquired if other entities are paying for the grant writing, feels PARC should not be involved in this, stated she prefers sending a letter of support, and commented she doesn't want to spend the money. Paasch spoke about transparency on contributing money to the City of Port Orford. David Barnes objected to PARC involvement as PARC had previously failed the County, favored writing a letter of support, and stated he does not want to throw taxpayer's money to this project.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch, authorizing a \$500.00 contribution to the City of Port Orford for the Pinehurst kayak only launch. Motion carried 2-1 (Boice – Yes; Paasch – Yes; Gold - No)

AGENDA ITEM 7D WAS PULLED

**D. World Famous Langlois Oregon - ODOT – Curry County – Cypress RV & Campground CC
(Curry County) BOC (Board of Commissioners) Letter of Support Commissioner Boice**

**E. Curry County Board of Commissioners – Request for Agenda Sequence Amendment(s) –
Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Boice**

Boice is recommending conflict of interest be added as an agenda item; observed Commissioners have a responsibility to the taxpayers to let them know what the Commissioners do each week; noted he wants to hear from people personally; stated he doesn't know where the County is financially; and emphasized the public needs to know the Board is watching every penny, not just talking about it. A discussion followed. Paasch suggested conflict of interest be mentioned during amendments to the agenda and stated with OpenGov software, County financial data will be easier to access. HuttI observed conflict of interest disclosures can be handled when the agenda item comes up and recommended handling on a case by case basis. Gold stated, regarding conflict of interest, she agrees with HuttI; noted she is not opposed to conflict of interest as an agenda item; and feels County employee agenda items be discussed prior to commissioner comments. David Barnes stated he hopes for no change in the agenda and stated he would prefer to see Commissioner reports on what is happening in Curry County and not Commissioner comments about people who attended meetings.

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

Curry County Strategic Plan:

1. Financial Stability
2. Economic Development
3. Quality of Life
4. Public Trust
5. Infrastructure

Boice stated he is not ready to make a motion on this.

F. Curry - Boice Cope Contract Agreement Extension Walt and Sheila Meakins – Camp Hosts Request through October 2021 Commissioner Boice

Boice objected to the Meakins contract agreement ending October 1, 2020 and strongly recommended extending the Meakins contract agreement to December 31, 2021. Boice emphasized the Meakins were good people, have an excellent background, are very experienced, are doing a good job, and stated as an elected official, his job is oversight. Gold spoke about going through the chain of command, which is the Department Head, Anthony DeRock, Parks Coordinator, Director of County Operations, Schmelzer, and the Board liaison; cautioned the Board about interfering as it may set a precedent; and stated she supports DeRock. A discussion ensued. DeRock summarized the timeline of the Meakins (1) contract agreement and (2) the amended contract agreement; gave a brief history of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Boice-Cope campground hosts; and stated he wants to confer with Schmelzer upon her return on Monday, September 28, 2020, about extending the contract agreement for three (3) months. Paasch stated it is DeRock's prerogative to make management decisions. Huttl stated in the past the Board had approved Park Host's contract agreements; however, currently the authority has been given to DeRock and Schmelzer.

Motion by Boice to amend the contract to go through December 31, 2021. Motion dies due to lack of a second.

G. Appointing a Fair Board Member to Fill a Vacancy Due to a Resignation with Term Expiring on December 31, 2021 – Commissioner Paasch

The Board discussed the candidates, Jessica Carlson and Jerome Frank; voted to appoint Jessica Carlson; and encouraged Jerome Frank to re-apply as, due to term expirations on December 31, 2020, the Board will be appointing two (2) Fair Board members.

H. Appoint a Plan Commission, Central Position Member – Becky Crockett, Planning Director
The Board appointed Kari Hamrell to the Central County Plan Commission position.

8. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Gold spoke about

- Her work on two (2) buses which will go to the Homeless Coalition and the other to Central Curry County District 1 (Gold Beach) school district.
- An E-Mail she received from a constituent giving praise to the Road Department regarding the Duley Creek Road.
- Her continuing to work with Gold Beach Community Center to obtain a grant for Meals on Wheels.

B. Commissioner Paasch spoke about

- A recent OpenGov meeting and how OpenGov software will expedite things in the County.
- 100's of private pilots, using their own resources, to help out during the fires.

C. Commissioner Boice spoke about

- Matt Hall acquiring the Coquille newspaper
- Happy Camp fire losses, the Slater fire causing closure of Highway 199, and his work with Josephine County Commissioners to get 199 re-opened.

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

Curry County Strategic Plan:

1. Financial Stability 2. Economic Development 3. Quality of Life 4. Public Trust 5. Infrastructure

- Jim Seeley's success with Bandon Dunes, his impact on Pacific Gales, and the Bandon Dunes 120th US Amateur Golf Championship poster.
- Wanting citizens to know counties are dependent on PILT (Payments in Lieu of Taxes)
- An AOC (Association of Oregon Counties) incredibility well written letter on wildfire fighting.
- Battling for CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) relief funds
- Working with Dave Fortman, Code Enforcement Officer, on Port of Brookings Harbor restrooms and possible IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with the City +of Brookings.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

192.660(2)(a) To Consider The Employment of a Public Officer, Employee, Staff Member or Individual Agent.

192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.

192.660(2)(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 1:03 p.m. TASCAM (audio recording device) not working. Restarted at Exec Session at 1:24 p.m. and exited at 2:00 p.m.

Staff to proceed as directed.

10. HIRE ORDERS

A. Hire Director of County Operations

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve hiring of Director of County Operations. Motion carried 2-0 (Paasch – Yes; Gold – Yes; Boice – Abstain.)

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.")

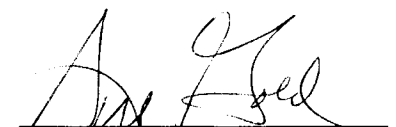
12. ADJOURN

Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at 2:01 p.m.

Dated this 21st day of October, 2020.


Christopher S Paasch, Chair


Court Boice, Vice Chair 10-21-20


Sue Gold, Commissioner

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant

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

Curry County Strategic Plan:

1. Financial Stability 2. Economic Development 3. Quality of Life 4. Public Trust 5. Infrastructure