

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting
October 16, 2024
Don Adams Conference Room, Irrigon Government Center
Irrigon, Oregon

Present In-Person Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner Roy Drago Jr., Matthew Jensen, Valerie Ballard, Justin Nelson, Kevin Ince, Lindsay Grogan, Sandi Pointer, Amanda Kendrick, Glen Diehl, Christy Kenny, Tamra Mabbott, Ben Tucker; Non Staff: Jerry Conklin, Linda Kenny

Present Via Zoom Sabrina Bailey-Cave, Deona Siex, Mike Gorman, Tami Ewing, Vincent Guerrero; Non-Staff: Sofia Di Salvo, Ryan Doil, Mark Hagedorn, Karen Pettigrew, David Ledbetter, Tammie Warren, Erika Lasater, Danielle Hoeft, Brandon Hammond

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance 9:00 a.m.

Open Agenda

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator, notified the Board and audience that a discussion on ARPA loan distribution would be added to the afternoon work session.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve the following items from the consent agenda:

1. Minutes: October 2, 2024
2. September-December 2024 Ambulance Services Payment Authorization

Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Public Hearing

Fiscal Year 2025 Supplemental Budget

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

The Behavioral Health Deflection Grant Program has Morrow County listed as the recipient rather than the fiscal agent as previously understood. The supplemental budget adjustment will allow for transfer of the remaining general fund to the newly created fund.

Chair Sykes opened the hearing for public testimony to which there was none.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve R-2024-18 and R-2024-20. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to adjust appropriations as presented in R-2024-18 and R-2024-20. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval

Business Items

South Morrow County Seniors Matter Update

Jerry Conklin, Chairman; Linda Kenny, Treasurer

In Spring 2023, Mr. Conklin came before the Board to request Covid Relief Funds to start a senior meal program. The program, South Morrow County Seniors Matter (SMCSM), has been

successful with more than 100 community volunteers and over fifty speakers from Morrow County, City of Heppner, local organizations, and businesses. SMCSM has grown with six unpaid board members and three paid part-time staff: a lead cook, assistant cook, and activities coordinator. With grants awarded from businesses such as Amazon, Wild Horse Casino, and Lamb Weston, SMCSM has begun offering classes to seniors with subjects ranging from fitness, dementia awareness, aging well, and crafts with more subjects anticipated.

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System Update

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

The ERP selection process that started in December 2023 has reached a decision point. Participation exceeded what was expected and efforts made by staff to participate are appreciated. Once implementation begins, it is expected to take 9-12 months for the program to go live.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to post the Notice of Intent to Award for the Univerus and Euna contracts. Commissioner Drago seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to enter into contract negotiations and statement of work development with Univerus and Euna. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to accept the BerryDunn Proposal for Implementation Project Management Assistance and enter into contract negotiations for Project 6 of their original proposal. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Ratification of the 2024-27 Collective Bargaining Agreement

Lindsay Grogan, HR Director

Negotiations for the Road American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) contract for 2024-27 began in May of this year. A tentative agreement was reached at the end of September, and the union voted for ratification October 1.

Commissioner Drago motioned to ratify the collective agreement between Morrow County and the Morrow County Road Department AFSCME Local 2479. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Fiscal Year 2025 Resolution Budget Transfer and Adjustments

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

There are three budget adjustments that do not require a public hearing as they don't meet necessary thresholds and can be adjusted via resolution.

1. R-2024-19 is a transfer of appropriations moving funds from the general fund to the Weed Department to cover the cost of the new building lease, utilities, and other related expenses.
2. R-2024-21 transfer of appropriations of general fund monies to the Finance Department to allow for the new position of Risk and Procurement Manager.
3. R-2024-22 is an increase of appropriations offset by a specific restrictive resource.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve Resolutions R-2024-19, R-23024-21, and R-2024-22 to make adjustments to the fiscal year 2025 budget and appropriations as detailed. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

County Accountant Rejection of Claim

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

The Finance Department received an invoice for processing and while under review, it was found that the procurement process was not followed and required Board approval for payment. This was a process oversight, and all involved employees have been informed of the situation and how to correct the process in the future.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve Resolution R-2024-23 and authorize payment of the invoice to Morrow County Grain Growers. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

November Meeting Schedule

Valerie Ballard, Executive Assistant

The second Meeting of November falls during the Association of Oregon Counties conference which is attended by Commissioners and some members of staff. The same situation arose in 2023, and the Board chose to cancel the meeting. It was decided to cancel the second meeting of November 2024 and hold a Special Session if the need arises.

Lexington Airport PAPI Replacement

Sandi Pointer, Public Works Administrative Manager

The Lexington Airport will be receiving Critical Investment Funding in the 2025-26 fiscal year. Part of this funding is to incorporate the Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) Lights which were found to no longer meet requirements. These lights are irreparable and need to be replaced. Federal Aviation is requiring a cultural study of the area before the project begins. All work is reimbursable from the Federal Aviation Administration at 95%.

Commissioner Drago motioned to accept work from Century West Engineering for the anticipated fiscal year 2025 design grant. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Break 10:32 a.m.

Resume 10:39 a.m.

Administrator Evaluation Process

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator; Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner

On October 2, options were presented to the Board for administering the annual review of the County Administrator. The Board decided they will be in charge of the evaluation with the aid of an outside consultant.

Consideration of IGA for Clean Water Consortium

David Sykes, Commission Chair; Matthew Jensen, Administrator

Reviewing the latest draft of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) being developed in collaboration with County Counsel and Port of Morrow for the Clean Water Consortium, current discussion is focused on the makeup of the Board of Directors. It was suggested two representatives each from the County and Port make up the Board of Directors who will then appoint an advisory committee which will include city representation. County staff will help support the consortium by acting as fiscal agent with Matthew Jensen acting as managing director, and Valerie Ballard providing meeting support.

Consideration of Letter of Support for POM

Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner; Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

The Port of Morrow is requesting a modification to their Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Wastewater Permit and would like a letter of support from the Board.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve the letter of support for the Port of Morrow's DEQ Wastewater Permit Modification. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

The Veterans' Services Report was presented by Amanda Kendrick

The Justice Court Report was presented by Glen Diehl

The Juvenile Department Report was presented by Christy Kenny

The Planning Department Report was presented by Tamra Mabbott

The Sheriff's Office Report was postponed

The Emergency Management Report was presented by Steve Freeland

The Loop Report was presented by Ben Tucker

The Weed Department Report was included in error and skipped

The Treasurer's Report was provided by Jaylene Papineau

The Accounts Payable Report was provided by Kevin Ince

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports on Commissioner Activity were provided.

Adjourn 11:58 a.m.