

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting
October 2, 2024
Bartholomew Building
Heppner, Oregon 97836**

Present In-Person Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner Roy Drago Jr., Matthew Jensen, Valerie Ballard, Justin Nelson, Kevin Ince, Robin Canaday, Daisy Goebel, Eric Imes, Tamra Mabbott; Non-staff: John Doherty, Kimberly Lindsay, Tess Rehak, Terri Gentry, Amy Kollman, Brett Koss

Present Via Zoom Gregory Goebel, Deona Siex, Lindsay Grogan, Morgan Browning, Sabrina Bailey-Cave, Mike Gorman, Tami Ewing, Vince Guerrero, Yvonne Morter, Amanada Kendrick; Non-staff: Aaron Palmquist, Brenda Proffit, Autumn Morgan, Andrea Fletcher, August Peterson, Erika Lasater, Irma Solis, Erin Anderson

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

Public Comment

Tess Ann Rehak, Boardman: Ms. Rehak thanked the Board for their decision regarding the future Circuit Courthouse location and provided signatures showing community support.

Amy Kollman, Heppner: Ms. Kollman stated her opinion that locating the Circuit Courthouse by the Fairgrounds makes the most sense and the Heppner community would benefit from it.

Terri Gentry, Heppner: Providing over 250 signatures in support of the Circuit Courthouse being located by the Fairgrounds, Ms. Gentry expressed disappointment with the change regarding location rules and thinks the courthouse would be best located in Heppner.

Brandon Hammond, Boardman City Manager: Mr. Hammond shared his appreciation of Commissioners and County, saying County has always been a great partner and he sees the circuit courthouse location being a great benefit to citizens.

Bill Kuhn, Heppner: Mr. Kuhn emphasized the importance of doing what makes the most sense for the community.

Comment via Zoom:

Aaron Palmquist, Irrigon: Speaking as a citizen, Mr. Palmquist thanked the Board for correcting the CREZ IGA and putting it on the consent agenda. He then voiced his support of the Boardman location for the Circuit Courthouse.

August Peterson, Lone: Expressed his opinion that the Board has a weakness in communicating with constituents and asked for improvement.

Pat McNamee, Irrigon: Said it's logical to have court cases on the North end of the County and it's time to move on from the Circuit Courthouse location.

Open Agenda No Items

Consent Agenda

Item B, Contract With Scales Northwest, was pulled from the consent agenda for discussion and revision.

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

1. *Minutes: July 24, 2024; September 4, 2024; September 18, 2024*
2. *January-June 2024 CCS OHA IGA Community Mental Health Payment Authorization*
3. *August 2024 CCS Payment Authorization*
4. *CREZ III Area of Influence IGA*
5. *Amendment 11 to IGA 180024 Financing Public Health Services*
6. *IGA: Board of Property Value Appeals*
7. *IGA between Morrow and Umatilla County Nurse Family Partnership*

Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval

Errors were found in supporting documents for Contract With Scales Northwest for Installation at North and South Transfer Station Sites. Staff were directed to review and make needed corrections and bring back to the Board at the next meeting.

Business Items

Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Update

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director, Community Counseling Solutions

Ms. Lindsay introduced Brett Koss, the new Law Enforcement Liaison Supervisor with Community Counseling Solutions (CCS). Law Enforcement Liaisons provide services such as facilitating communication between law enforcement and the community, provide peer support training, and debriefing after large incidents.

The deflection program technically went live September 1 and CCS is still waiting for the contract from County. This will be a bi-county program in partnership with Umatilla County and filling open positions is not anticipated to be a problem.

The Measure 110 funding provides \$2.3 million over the course of four years which is slightly less than the previous contract amount. This is a direct contract between the State and CCS, with CCS applying on behalf of County. The program provides vocational rehabilitation with funding from the State paying for the first six months of employment. Drug & alcohol counselors are staffed at both ends of County with these funds as well as a nurse practitioner who administers medication assisted treatment for opioid addiction.

The sub-acute care facility for youth is under construction in Boardman with an anticipated opening next fall. Children from Morrow County are given preference, followed by Eastern Oregon, and then youth from the rest of the state. This will be a secure facility with an average stay expected to be 90 days.

Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) Report

Jessica Rose, LPSCC Coordinator

LPSCC works on everything that has to do with public safety in the county and is currently working on the deflection grant, assisting with developing the deflection program. Ms. Rose recently went through certification for Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) through Cornell University which will help when applying for grants.

City of Heppner Request to Reconsider Circuit Courthouse Location

John Doherty, City Manager

Referring to the Oregon Revised Statutes that were used when County Commissioners began assessing locations for the future Circuit Courthouse, John Doherty, Heppner City Manager, provided reasoning for siting the courthouse in Heppner. Mr. Doherty reviewed the timeline of events which led to the Board's decision to build the Courthouse in Boardman. Mr. Doherty expressed the opinion that the courthouse belongs in Heppner and the Fairgrounds location is the best option for Heppner and County.

The commissioners who voted in favor of siting the courthouse in Boardman were the two allowed to reverse their original votes. Commissioners Drago and Wenholtz said they both stand by the votes previously made.

No action was taken.

Break 10:18 a.m.

Resume 10:25 a.m.

County Administrator Evaluation Process

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

Matthew Jensen's one year anniversary as County Administrator has passed and as part of the employment agreement is to have an annual performance evaluation. Mr. Jensen provided four options for the evaluation and requested commissioners' preference.

1. Informal meeting with no scoring
2. Use a standard performance evaluation tool
3. Human Resources (HR) led 360 review
4. Externally led 360 review, led by a consultant

Chair Sykes motioned to appoint Commissioner Wenholtz to work with Mr. Jensen and Lindsay Grogan, HR Director, to come up with an evaluation process to bring before the Board for approval. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Request

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

On October 1, Mr. Jensen led a meeting with department heads and elected officials to go over the reasoning for the FTE request for a Risk Procurement Manager (RPM) as previously directed by commissioners. The meeting ran an additional 20 minutes of the allotted hour and allowed members to provide input and ask questions.

Commissioner Wenholtz motioned to approve the out of cycle FTE request for the Risk and Procurement Manager. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval

Strategic Planning

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

The Project Advisory Committee for strategic planning will work directly with the consultant and staff to help facilitate and provide a public forum for input and management while the Board of Commissioners will make strategic plan decisions.

Commissioner Wenholtz provided his nominations, Brenda Shockman and Don Russell. Chair Sykes so far has one nomination, Joe Perry, and is working on selecting his second nomination. Commissioner Drago has been in talks with possible committee members, but at this time does not have any commitments.

Commissioner Wenholtz motioned to approve appointing Don Russell, Brenda Shockman, and Joe Perry to the Project Advisory Committee. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval

Department Reports

The District Attorney Report was presented by Justin Nelson
The Fair Report was postponed for November 6
The Human Resources Report was presented by Lindsay Grogan
The Public Health Report was presented by Robin Canaday
The Public Works Report was presented by Eric Imes
The County Administrator Report was presented by Matthew Jensen

Correspondence

None

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports on commissioner activity were presented

Break 11:55 a.m.

Resume 12:00 p.m.

Executive Session

Chair Sykes read the following citations:

ORS 192.660(2)(h), which allows the Commission to meet in executive session 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.

ORS 192.660(2)(f), which allows the Commission to meet in executive session to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the room.
Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on or otherwise

disclose any of the deliberations or anything said about these subjects during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to open session and welcome the audience back into the room.

Resume from Executive Session 12:25 p.m.

Adjourn 12:25 p.m.