

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting
December 18, 2024
Don Adams Conference Room, Irrigon Government Center
Irrigon, Oregon**

Present In-Person Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner Roy Drago Jr., Justin Nelson, Valerie Ballard, Kaitlyn Kennedy, Vince Guerrero, Sandi Pointer, Tamra Mabbott, Brian Snyder, Lindsay Grogan

Present Via Zoom Matthew Jensen, Sabrina Bailey-Cave, Deona Siex, Tamra Ewing, Yvonne Morter, Pam Rosenbalm; Non-staff: Tess MacMorris, Ronan Igloria, Lori Coppenrath, Erika Lasater, Brenda Proffitt, Brandon Hammond, Autumn Morgan, Austin Gutierrez, Anne Morter, Kelli Stewart, Andrea Di Salvo

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

Chair Sykes took a moment to present Commissioner Drago with a certificate of appreciation for his service as County Commissioner and to thank him for all his hard work.

Public Comment

No comments

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Wenholz noted that the School Resource Officer agreements needed correction which County Counsel, Justin Nelson was working on to be addressed toward the end of the business items.

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

- c. Agreement 180024-13 Amendment to Oregon Health Authority Intergovernmental Agreement for Financing of Public Health Services

Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Consideration of Courthouse Annex Project Revised Budget & Schematic Design

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

At the December 4 meeting, Commissioners were given an update on the Circuit Courthouse Project with a new cost estimate around \$50 million which included “soft costs” such as fixtures, furniture, and equipment. This exceeded the previous estimate provided of \$25 million which only accounted for construction costs.

The design team met with key stakeholders to revise plans, reduce square footage, and bring the cost down which they were able to do and presented a new option between \$30 and \$35 million.

Alternatively, Chair Sykes proposed downsizing the project with a basic courthouse facility while creating a long-range capital improvement plan to meet facility needs in the future.

Recess 9:25 a.m.

Due to a medical incident, Chair Sykes left the meeting and Commissioner Wenholtz took over chairing the meeting as Vice-Chair.

Resume 9:33 a.m.

Commissioner Drago motioned to authorize County staff and design team to go forward with Option 1, to proceed with the revised schematic space design with a targeted total construction cost of \$35 million.

Commissioner Wenholtz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

County Administrator, Matthew Jensen, requested that items B, J, and M be moved to the top of the business items.

Approve Plat for New Dream Estate

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve the final subdivision plat for New Dream Estates.

Commissioner Wenholtz seconded the motion. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Consideration of Rules and Procedures for Board of Commissioners Meetings

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

The proposed Rules and Procedures for Board of Commissioners Meetings has been developed from a combination of work done in other municipalities by Mr. Jensen and procedures borrowed from other Oregon counties. This formalizes some processes already followed and revises other requirements.

Needed corrections to the Rules of Procedures were identified and Commissioner Wenholtz stated he liked the second option proposed for 1.h. and requested it be revised to read "After each regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners is called to order, the Board shall adopt the meeting's agenda by a single motion, a second, and majority vote. Any agenda item may likewise be removed from consideration or rescheduled to another meeting following the same process."

Commissioner Drago motioned to adopt R-2024-32 outlining rules of procedure for holding Board of Commissioner meetings with amendments as discussed.

Commissioner Wenholtz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Parks Fee Schedule Update

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator; Vince Guerrero, Assistant County Administrator

Park fees have not seen an increase in roughly eight years and with changes to overhead and the desire for the parks to become self-sufficient with expenditures vs revenue, a nominal fee

increase is requested. Greg Close, Parks Manager, sought input from park users and many thought the increases were reasonable.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve Morrow County Parks fees schedule for 2025. Commissioner Wenholtz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Water Advisory Committee Final Report and Recommendations

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director, introduced consultant Ronan Igloria of GSI Water Solutions, who presented the Final Water Initiatives and Policy Concepts.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve Resolution R-2024-31, adopting the revised Water Initiatives and Policy Concepts final adoptions and recommendations of the Water Advisory Committee with the requested corrections as noted.

Commissioner Wenholtz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion Carried.

Second Reading of ORD-2024-06 Land Use

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Commissioner Wenholtz requested that additional corrections be made and to resubmit the code updates once complete.

GSI Water Solutions Phase 2 Scope of Work

Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

The Board previously approved a contract for Phase 1 of the Morrow-Umatilla County Drinking Water Roadmap Project and are presented with a Scope of Work for Phase 2 which is scheduled to be completed in June 2025. Phase 2 will include additional well testing with leftover funds from Phase 1 in addition to increasing communication and outreach, data review, feasibility and engineering concepts, and grant compliance and reporting.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve GSI Water Solutions Phase 2 Scope of Work for the Drinking Water Roadmap Project.

Commissioner Wenholtz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Planning Commission Member Appointments

Commissioner Drago motioned to appoint Stephen Henthorn and Andrew Cemore as members of the Planning Commissioner. Commissioner Wenholtz seconded. Vote: Two aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee Member Appointments

Commissioner Wenholtz motioned to appoint John Qualls as Local Business representative, Paul Proudfoot for Livestock Producer, and Roy Drago Jr. for Wolf Conservation. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Spring Clean-Up Non-City Residents

Sandi Pointer, Public Works Administrative Manager; Kaitlyn Kennedy, Compliance Planner
Public Works last held a free dump weekend open to all residents in 2007. While the cities within Morrow County have offered free dump days, those have only been available to residents living within incorporated areas.

Each voucher will be limited to loads of 4ft x 6ft x 2ft which is the equivalent of a truck bed. Vouchers would be available at the Planning and Public Works offices with proof of residence outside of city limits and valid from January-June 2025 to prevent overloading transfer stations. Funding for the vouchers, valued at \$15 each would come from a surplus in the Finley Butte License Fees Fund.

Commissioner Drago motioned to accept the Public Works Department and Planning Code enforcement to allow each non-city Morrow County resident a garbage voucher and fund this for \$22,000. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion passed.

Fair Board By-Laws Update

Vince Guerrero, Assistant County Administrator

Minimal changes were made to the by-laws from the 2015 version to the new 2024 by-laws. Commissioner Wenholz found redundant statements in Article IV, Section 3, Term of Membership. Commissioner Wenholz requested clarity in the language of Article V. Section 3, defining employment of the Fair Manager. Article VI, Section 6 is to be removed.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve the by-laws with corrections noted. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, one absent. Motion carried.

Ordinance for Clean Water Consortium

The Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Clean Water Consortium has been approved by both Morrow County and Port of Morrow. An ordinance is required to finalize the establishment of the consortium.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve reading of Ordinance ORD-2024-07 by title only.

Commissioner Wenholz seconded.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve

Deflection Program Agreement

Justin Nelson, District Attorney

Many counties across Oregon County are receiving funds annually for the next several years to implement and run drug deflection programs. To best utilize funds, Morrow County and Umatilla County have partnered together and contracted with Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) to provide treatment services.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve Morrow County Deflection Program Agreement with Community Counseling Services. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda Items A and B: School Resource Officer Agreements

Brian Snyder

These agreements include the clerical updates noted during the consent agenda review.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve and sign the Law Enforcement Services School Resource Officer Agreements with Morrow County School District and Lone School District. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Department Reports

The Planning Department Report was presented by Tamra Mabbott

The Sheriff's Office Report was presented by Brian Snyder

The Assessment and Tax Report was presented by Mike Gorman

Recess 1:24 p.m.

Resume 1:30 p.m.

Correspondence

Morrow County School District Bond Feedback

Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Committee Appointment

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports on Commissioner activity were provided

Executive Session

Commissioner Wenholz read the following statement:

*The Morrow County Board of Commissioners will now meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a), which allows the Commission to meet in executive session **to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.***

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.

Return to Open Session and Decision

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve offering up to a step 8 of Range 25 to the Transit Manager applicant. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: 2 aye, 1 absent. Motion Carried.

Executive Session

Commissioner Wenholz read the following statement:

*The Morrow County Board of Commissioners will now meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i), which allows the Commission to meet in executive session **to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.***

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 Open Session

No action taken

Adjourn

2:22 p.m.