

**Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting
December 4, 2024
Upper Conference Room, Bartholomew Building
Heppner, Oregon**

Present In-Person Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Commissioner Roy Drago Jr., Matthew Jensen, Valerie Ballard, Kevin Ince, Lindsay Grogan, Steve Freeland, Vince Guerrero, Tamra Mabbott, Eric Imes; Non Staff: Gus Peterson, Kari Walchli, Kim Coil

Present Via Zoom Sandi Pointer, Tami Ewing, Sabrina Bailey-Cave, Mike Gorman, Jordan Standley; Non-staff: David Amenityro, Andrea Di Salvo, Brandi Sweeney, Erika Lasater, Erin Provazek, Karen Pettigrew, Kelly Doherty, Rodrigo Senties Ruiz

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

Public Comment

Commenting through Zoom, Kelly Doherty, Boardman resident, brought up a motion that was made at a recent Columbia Development Authority (CDA) meeting which Commissioner Wenholz voted against. She thought it should be on the agenda for this meeting as the next CDA meeting is December 11. Commissioner Wenholz indicated he would address this during his Commissioner Report.

David Amenityro of Amazon Web Services (AWS) said he wanted to speak in support of the Road Use Agreement (RUA) on the consent agenda.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Wenholz requested pulling items c and h for discussion. Commissioner Wenholz then stated for the record regarding item b, RUA with AWS, the facility will be served by Pacific Corp, meaning there is no conflict of interest with his position as Board member for Umatilla Electric Coop.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve the consent agenda, pulling items c (Enterprise Resource Planning: Univerus Contracts) and h (lone Gas Station Access Agreement) for discussion. Commissioner Drago seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimous approval.

The following consent agenda items approved:

- a) Minutes: November 6, 2024 Regular Session
- b) Amazon Data Services Road Use and Maintenance Agreement
- c) ~~Enterprise Resource Planning System: Univerus Contracts and Statement of Work~~
- d) Enterprise Resource Planning System: BerryDunn Implementation Contract
- e) Enterprise Resource Planning System: EUNA SAAS and Service Agreement
- f) Vehicle Purchase Agreement for Budget Approved Dump Truck Purchase
- g) Property Tax Refund Due to Overpayment

- h) ~~Oregon Department of Environmental Quality – Lone Gas Station Access Agreement~~
- i) City of Heppner Grant Agreement – Water Telemetry Project

Items Pulled for Discussion

C. Enterprise Resource Planning System: Univerus Contracts and Statement of Work

With Univerus hosting data, Commissioner Wenholz inquired if there are any provisions in place if there is a data breach or ransomware attack. Kevin Ince, Finance Director, explained that three entities will be hosting data with Master Service Agreements and licensing requirements for maintaining security and compliance. As long as compliance is maintained, the County would be responsible for ransomware or a data loss event. If Terms of Agreement are breached, then there may be legal recourse.

H. Additional work is needed at the Lone Gas Station and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is requesting location access beginning in January to excavate and mitigate in order to discharge County property.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve items C and H of the consent agenda.

Commissioner Drago seconded the motion. Vote; Unanimous approval,

Business Items

Circuit Courthouse Design Team Report

Doug Carl and Earl Eastman, Alliance Management Construction; Austin Gutierrez and Kelli Stewart, DLR Group

The pre-design report for the Courthouse annex building in Boardman is complete. The site survey has been acquired, as has the geotechnical report, and zoning requirements. There will be two separate parking areas: a public parking lot for public entry and a small plaza to accommodate security lines and the other with secure fencing and gates for staff and a sally port.

After meeting with stakeholders, it was determined that to accommodate current and future space needs, the building is planned to be 28,500 square feet, at least two stories tall, and will include space for public defenders, a holding area, and jury assembly. The project budget is estimated to be \$50 million with Oregon Judicial Department contributing \$17 million for their portion.

Commissioners asked staff to look into reducing project costs by removing the Justice Court space and sizing down other County office space where possible and revisit the topic at the next meeting.

Local Public Safety Coordinating Council

Jessica Rose

The written Local Public Safety Coordinating Council report was reviewed by Commissioners.

Tourism Update

Karie Walchli, Contracted Tourism Consultant; Vince Guerrero, Assistant County Administrator
In 2023 Morrow County saw a 3.1% increase in travel spending from 2022. For comparison, the State of Oregon saw an increase of .6% and Eastern Oregon had a decrease of .7%.

Karie Walchli, tourism consultant, applied for a grant on behalf of Oregon's Rugged Country to help local businesses better welcome and accommodate those with disabilities. Workshops were held both in person and virtually to help address accessibility barriers. Since then, Ms. Walchli has been asked to join state and national expansion opportunities in 2025.

Priorities going forward include updating the Eastern Oregon Visitors Guide, increasing social media presence via influencers, trail development, and further local development of the Dark Sky Sanctuary. Part of South Morrow County is in the world's largest Dark Sky Sanctuary, which is a big draw for photography enthusiasts.

Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group (WCVEDG) Update

Kim Coil, Board Chair; Katie Murray, Administrator

WCVEDG receives funding from Columbia River Enterprise Zones which is distributed among various programs supporting housing, seniors, childcare, and business growth. While WCVEDG already offered home rehabilitation grants, new construction grants were added this year. Kim Coil, WCVEDG Board Chair, and Katie Murray, WCVEDG Administrator, assist with grant writing and leveraging funds.

Funding highlights include \$15,000 to South Morrow County Seniors Matter, which covered building rent to jumpstart their senior lunch program; providing the down payment for the HVAC replacement at St. Patrick's Apartments; committing \$250,000 to Heppner Daycare's capital improvement project, and support to Heppner Chamber of Commerce projects such as Market 87, a retail opportunity for local artisans and vendors. Two new 1,000 square foot homes will be constructed in Heppner to provide more housing options for local seniors looking to downsize from their family homes.

Consideration of County Theft Policy

Lindsay Grogan, Human Resources Director

After a successful cyber phishing incident, staff were instructed to develop a theft and loss policy for County property including policy for documentation and reporting procedures.

Commissioner Wenholtz appreciated the addition of a standardized form for reporting purposes. Chair Sykes requested specifically addressing monetary theft, cyber theft, embezzlement, and a policy for ransomware events.

Update to Bereavement Policy

Lindsay Grogan, HR Director

Updates to the County's bereavement policy were made to comply with new legal requirements.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve the bereavement policy. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval

Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Plan Project

Kevin Ince, Finance Director; Erin Provazek, Project Manager, Berry Dunn

During the fiscal year 2024 audit, a vulnerability was identified with the lack of an information data recovery disaster plan. Kevin Ince, Finance Director, and Jordan Standley, Hermiston IT Director provided project and technical support with BerryDunn as the consulting firm contracted to assist with development of the project.

Phase 2, the business impact analysis is complete, and a copy was included in the meeting packet. Strengths and weaknesses were identified and short-term and long-term recommendations for improvement were provided.

The third and final phase of the project will be a strategy and plan for business continuity and disaster recovery.

Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator; Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to amend the Hazard Mitigation Plan, removing figure 9 on page 44 and amending numbers as needed. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Drago motioned to approve the resolution with amendments. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Water Consortium Intergovernmental Agreement

Matthew Jensen, County Administrator

This Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Morrow County and Port of Morrow establishes a four member panel for governance for the planned Clean Water Consortium.

Commissioner Wenholz motioned to approve the intergovernmental agreement between Morrow county and Port of Morrow for the Water Consortium and authorize Chair Sykes to sign. Commissioner Drago seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Water Consortium Member Appointment

David Sykes, Commission Chair

Commissioner Drago motioned to appoint Commissioner David Sykes and Tamra Mabbott as members of the Clean Water Consortium Board. Commissioner Wenholz seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Department Reports

The Clerk's report was presented by Bobbi Childers

The Public Works report was presented by Eric Imes

The Surveyor's report was presented by Matt Kenny

The Weed Department report was presented by Corey Sweeney

Correspondence

A letter of resignation from a member of the Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee was acknowledged.

Commissioner Reports

Brief reports on Commissioner activity were provided

Adjourn 12:30 p.m.