

**CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 – 10:00 AM  
Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse Annex  
94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach, Oregon  
[www.co.curry.or.us](http://www.co.curry.or.us)

**Meeting minutes**

**PRESENT:** Sue Gold, Chair; Thomas Huxley, Vice Chair; Court Boice, Commissioner; John Huttli, Counsel; John Hitt, Interim Administrator; Brenda Starbird, Legal Assistant

**1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Gold called for the pledge of allegiance. Following the pledge of allegiance, Chair Gold introduced Board staff – present above.

**2. ADOPTION/AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA {10:02A.M.}**

Huxley requested two items be added under Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (a) to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent; and (2) (d) conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. Gold Agreed to add. Huxley said he believed agenda items 9e (possible amendments to zoning ordinance); and 6c (planning applications and appointments to the planning board) should be addressed at the same time, with 9e first. Huxley stated the number of members on the Committee would need to be decided prior to appointment of members. Huxley felt agenda item 9g (Health Ins. benefit discussion for non-represented employees) was premature as we were currently beginning the collective bargaining process. Hitt explained this was for the non-represented employees. Huxley said he preferred to save this topic for the budget hearing. Hitt further explained this was for the remainder of this fiscal year, not next budget cycle. Huxley would, nevertheless like it pulled from the agenda. Gold said she would have to agree, and felt she had a conflict. Huttli explained because of her decision making position, there wouldn't be a conflict. Gold and Huxley concurred to remove agenda item 9g. Huxley said he wished to remove item 4d (minutes) from the consent calendar portion of the agenda for further discussion at a later time. Gold concurred. Huxley also expressed the desire to pull agenda item 9a (Boice's letter to consider extending interim County Administrator John Hitt), indicating he believed this would come up under the Executive Session, added above. Gold said she was of the same opinion. She said the decision to move forward hiring an administrator had been made. Boice indicated there was public input to be discussed around this agenda item, and that he was surprised at the decision to pull it, and indicated he felt the public had the right to public comment. Boice also indicated he didn't want to pull the minutes from the agenda. Huxley stated there is a standing policy any item can be pulled from the consent calendar for further discussion. He would like to bring the minutes back at the next meeting. All Commissioners agreed. Huttli indicated there would be an opportunity for the public to speak re the selection of a County Administrator. Boice replied that the County is spending thousands of dollars getting two County Administrator candidates here for interviews and stressed Interim County Administrator John Hitt was doing a wonderful job. Gold reiterated that Hitt had indicated he didn't want to be a full time County Administrator. 9a was pulled from the agenda.

Boice indicated he had agenda items to add. He wished to recognize the number of fallen officers with a moment of silence (23 lost police officers). Boice indicated he would like two previous resolutions, one

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approved in August and one as recent as February re the Chetco Bar Fire, added for discussion. Gold said if they had been submitted on time, she would support that. Commissioner Boice stated he had a congressional investigation letter to add. This was added under discussion as 9h.

Gold requested the Wild Horse Brigade agenda item 8 be pulled from agenda. Huxley concurred. Agenda item 8 was pulled.

Huxley motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Gold seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-1. Boice voted "No".

### **(Agenda Item 5b – taken out of order) {10:15A.M.}**

**Presentations of award – Sheriff Ward** acknowledged Lena Rupe for 5 years of service (she was not present at the meeting). He also acknowledged and introduced James Turner, Corrections Deputy for 20 years of service. Mr. Turner spoke briefly.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS {10:20A.M.}**

#### **The following individuals spoke before the Curry County Board of Commissioners:**

Spring Sheffel – Cert (Curry Emergency Response Team) Program – PSA Everbridge sign up March 24<sup>th</sup>. Emergency messages alert (sign up) at libraries all county sites. 541 247 3208 Emergency Services for more information.

**Chair Gold reiterated that during all public comments there would be no personal attacks or individuals would be asked to sit down. Counsel Huttl clarified only if personal attacks become a disruption shall the individual be asked to sit down (referring to the rules of decorum).**

Vikki Pruden – 97599 Lucas Lane Harbor “blight” situation at this location. SW Nuisance Complaint.

Cecelia Worlton – Suppose you leave for a few days and return home to hear you’ve lost everything. It can happen to you. No assistance was provided to her. Please do what is necessary to get a State investigation started. Please help. Fire season is only 3 months away.

Larry Ismert – Item 6b item. Boice wants his discussion to be under his 20 minutes presentation.

Scott Faas- DBA Wild Rivers Entertainment Group. Chamber of Commerce, advantageous for all three county sites to work together. Re horses on wildfires, he indicated he supported horses for wildfire management, indicating he grew up here.

David Barnes – Passed on comment opportunity.

Cam Lynn or Lee Riddle – Riddle asked Cam to read letter. He indicated he was in support of increased salvage logging from the Chetco Bar fire.

Cam Lynn – Supports a Federal Coordination Policy. Believes policy will enable CC BOC to fulfill their roles as outlined in the constitution.

Jim Kolen – Kolen handed out a letter from the Elected Official’s endorsing current Interim County Administrator John Hitt and retaining his services through the end of the calendar year. The other topic was re the agenda item re non-represented County contribution for employee insurance payments. Kolen needed clarification for who is qualified for county paying more of the insurance premium, as he

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was unsure. He stated every other employee classification had an adjustment to their cost from the county side. He didn't believe non-represented employees should be treated unfairly, and should get the same consideration. He said employees are losing take home pay as time goes by as they have to pay more and more for health insurance. He said if employees were not compensated fairly, it was stealing. Chair Gold indicated if the Elected Officials were taken out of the equation, she might consider the proposal.

Guy McMann – Part of Boice's presentation- will present later.

Jim Rogers – lives up Elk River Rd. in Port Orford, a consulting Forester since 1965. Seen a lot of salvage done. Dragging logs through burned areas disturbs the burned ground area. Forest Service (FS) wants to provide logs to the public, doesn't want ground disturbed.

Connie Hunter – from South County before Board re housing issues. Thanked Boice for commitment to wildfire issues. Re staffing issues – Administrator Hitt, maybe will stay a little longer, "good fit" for Curry County. Tiny houses and the housing crisis - Requests a Multi Jurisdiction Committee be established.

Catherine Wiley – speaking on agenda item 6d - supports letter re cost issues at Sutter Coast Hospital.

Steve Beyerlin – requests Forest Service increase harvest timber from burned areas.

Tim Palmer – Here regarding Boice's proposed letter re salvage logging. As proposed, letter should not be approved. He recommends Board get facts straight first, noting Watershed issues, logging and landslides. He also recommended the Board hear from the Forest Service re their plan. He urged the Board to do their job but not support the letter (agenda 6b). Would not argue against "thinning" along road breaks, strategically along communities and homes. Debate ensued between Boice and T. Palmer. S. Beyerlin asked why Mr. Palmer got so much time to speak, which exceeded the 3 minute time limit.

Jeri Lynn Thompson - Resident Upper Chetco Brookings. Coordination policy – County did adopt such a policy. She stated she had worked in other counties on this, with other agencies. She requested the Board Ask for a "General Accounting" GAO report on Chetco Bar Fire to see for "ourselves". She noted she had spoken to former Forest Service Employee Mr. Took re Chetco Bar Fire. He had indicated to her that the fire prediction for 2018 would be significantly worse than 2017. She was requesting assistance from the Board.

#### 4. CONSENT CALENDAR {11:30A.M.}

- A. Surveyor Monthly Report February, 2018
- B. Final Plat Approval Application S-1701 For The Seascape Subdivision
- C. Brookings Airport Hangars A-0 & 2B Leases With Lee Garvin
- D. ~~Minutes July 5, 2017 General Meeting, October 18, 2017 General Meeting~~  
(Removed from agenda)

Boice motioned to approve the amended consent calendar. Huxley seconded the motion.

Motion passed, 3-0.

#### 5. PRESENTATIONS {11:32A.M.}

- A. South Coast Development Council (SCDC) Community Development Oral Report. - Sam Baugh, SCDC and Community Development Director, Carolyn Johnson (10 minutes)

Sam Baugh presented before the Board reporting on Economic Development. He reported on various topics updating the Board. Huxley asked about the monthly reports the Board used to receive. Baugh said he would work on getting those out again, as well as address the Board of Commissioners once a month.

~~B. Service Award – Deputies Turner and Cpl Rupe. Sheriff Ward (3 minutes) (Moved to 2 above)~~

**6. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS/APPOINTMENTS {11:40 P.M.}**

**A. Proposed Order Rescinding Budget Committee Appointment And Making A Reappointment. - Court Boice, Commissioner (15 minutes)**

Boice stated the Board should be aware that the prior appointment to the Budget Committee was not from Port Orford. Boice explained his preference be to appoint a Port Orford individual. Huxley explained when the Order was first adopted it was noted that it had been difficult getting applicants to apply, and once there were applications submitted, he hadn't based his decision on anything other than applicant qualifications. Huxley said he reviewed the GIS system to see where Mr. Stowsky resided and determined it was in the Ophir area. Huxley stated he'd like to keep the appointment as ordered. Gold stated she felt Mr. Stowsky was the most qualified applicant, and after reviewing the map presented, wished to keep the appointment. Boice moved to approve the proposed Board order. The motion died for a lack of a second.

**B. Proposed Letter To Supervisor Of Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest Re: Timber Salvage. – Court Boice, Commissioner (20 minutes) {11:44A.M.}**

*Guy McMahan – owns a home in Brookings. He gave the Board a presentation on harvesting issues noting he “now lives in the Mega fire scar” (review of maps) presentation. He said the vast majority of burn areas are within the Forest Service, noting someone needed to press them re safety of community and citizens.*

*Larry Ismert – Retired Registered Forester residing in the Pistol River area. He was before the Board speaking on the Chetco Bar Fire Timber Salvage Letter (read). Refer to letter. He urged the Board to seek level of salvage as described in the letter.*

Boice acknowledged everyone's hard work in this. Huxley commented that this topic went from a one page letter, to multiple pages, asking if the Forest Service knew about the proposed letter. Hitt said the Forest Service did know about the draft letter. A Forest Service Representative, Russel Wilstead, present at the meeting and he did say the Forest Service knows about the letter and they were following policy, etc...and didn't have a lot more to say. Gold said the Board would hold their vote until after lunch.

*{12:19P.M.} Community Development Director C. Johnson interjected before the Board recessed for lunch stating she would like to introduce Mr. Kevin McHugh who was applying for reappointment to the Planning Commission. Mr. McHugh came before Board to ask if there were any questions of him as he needed to leave the meeting ahead of the agenda item appointing members. No questions asked and no motions made.*

Chair Gold recessed the meeting at 12:25P.M. She indicated the meeting would reconvene at 1:30 at which time the Board was scheduled for a Public Hearing (SEE SECTON 7 BELOW)

**C. Review/Interview of Planning Commission Applications and Appointment By Board Order. – Community Development Director, Carolyn Johnson (30 minutes)**

Carolyn suggested this agenda item be deferred until item below is determined.

(9e added prior to 6c) **Possible Amendments to Zoning Ordinance) {1:52P.M.}**

Director Johnson said the Planning Commission is currently at members of 9. Could become a Commission of 7 or 5 as well and if the number of members changed, it would require amending the Zoning Code.

Hitt said the Planning Commission members needed to be established, and decide what the quorum was. Huxley said from everything he had read, there was no definite ruling as to a definition of quorum. Gold said they needed to decide how many members were to be on the Planning Commission. Huxley said he would like to see the number reduced from nine to five, one rep from each county area with two at large members.

Carolyn Johnson, Community Development Director said the Planning Commission met and unanimously recommended to keep members at nine.

Bob Morrow, Chair of the Planning Commission, addressed the Board noting he was at the meeting Carolyn was referencing and the committee had significant discussion on the topic. They determined nine members worked best, giving equal representation from all three areas of the County. He also said there were applicants who were reapplying for new terms. Gold said she had concerns for equal representation from all areas of the County. Boice said rural areas have to fight for representation and that the Board already broke tradition on budget appointment earlier today. Boice stated he wanted to keep nine planning commissioners. Hitt stated that a quorum is a simple majority of the members and there is a decision before them to decide a number – five, seven, or 9 planning committee members. Hitt said with all due respect to existing members on the Planning Commission, he did support Commissioner Huxley's recommendation for five members, noting from a staff management perspective it was easier with fewer members. Huxley motioned to reduce committee members to five. Motion died for a lack of a second. Chair Gold said to keep it at nine for now. Huxley stated he would like to make another motion to make the committee number seven. Chair Gold seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

**D. Letter of Concern to Sutter Coast Hospital. Approve By Motion. – Sue Gold, Commissioner {2:59P.M.}**

Gold said she had additional documents as support for the letter she proposed at a previous meeting. She also referenced an article in the Curry Coastal Pilot that came out in the newspaper on this date.

*Huxley interjected saying because the meeting had already exceeded the maximum time allowed, he felt the Board should extend by a motion for another hour. Gold asked for a motion to continue meeting one more hour. Boice motioned to continue meeting until 4:10P.M. (one hour) Huxley seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.*

Gold continued her presentation stating Curry County Insurance costs had increased and so had supplemental insurance costs. Huxley expressed concerns that every time this came before the Board, there was more information; noting approximately thirty additional pages had been submitted. Huxley said he was not prepared to move forward at this time. Gold said this could be postponed for two weeks and she would send information (included in the record) out for

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review. Boice said he didn't want to spend any more time on this and that he was in favor of sending letter out as soon as possible. Gold reiterated she would like to postpone until the next meeting and allow Huxley time for review. She also stated she would like everyone to sign off on the letter, so it would be unanimous. Hitt indicated he would keep same letter on agenda for next time for the Board to Vote. Gold confirmed.

End: 3:21P.M.

### **7. PUBLIC HEARING 1:30PM Benham Lane (*began out of order due to timeline*) {1:30P.M.} Hearing and Proposed Order To Abate Public Nuisance – 97904 W. Benham Lane. – John Hitt, Interim County Administrator**

Hitt presented before the Board for their consideration as to whether a nuisance existed or not, and the remedy if one existed. Hitt reviewed County Code. He also explained he inspected the property himself. He gave a presentation, showing pictures and explaining the property. He noted the proposed Board Order before the Board for their consideration would follow public comment. Gold questioned more properties coming up in the future and suggested working with Public Health. Hitt stated part of the Agreement with Public Health would be the County would take the Environmental Health portion on and receive some funding from the State of Oregon. He did state he agreed with Gold. Hitt said he would pursue that option, noting if abatements did fall on the County, it would be expensive. Boice noted there were a couple more nuisance properties in progress. Hitt said Curry County hadn't addressed these issues for some time, and it appeared there were a lot of these properties.

Public Comment: David Lee suggested the Board direct legal counsel to explore responsibility of lenders to take care of property during foreclosure process. Huttel said the county already had a law on this. No other comment. Huxley motioned to approve the order to begin the abatement process and direct Huttel to commence litigation if necessary. Boice seconded the motion. Huttel explained a title history was needed to be done on this property as well as the Hamilton Lane property. Huxley said all costs were recoverable once sold, just a lag in time, critical to not back off at all. Motion passed 3-0.

After motion passed, it became apparent Julie Raiter was in the Hearing Room. She explained to the Board that she thought the property had been foreclosed on and wasn't aware she was still on the title. End {1:52P.M.}

### **Discussion 6B – continued discussion - Proposed Letter to Supervisor of Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest by Boice re timber salvage. {3:21P.M.}**

Boice explained there was a proposed draft letter to Scott Russell, Supervisor of the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest. Huxley complained there had been an explosion of docs, going from a one page document submitted to now a multitude of other docs handed out. He said he would not sign the letter. Gold said she found the letter rather general, and would like to learn more about the particulars that were in Larry Ismert's letter. She also stated she would like to put this off for a bit and get more specifics. Boice said they were running out of time. Gold asked for two more weeks. Boice asked the Board to again read and review, directing Board to get this done – for the safety of the county and citizens, reforestation, etc. Hitt proposed an alternative: to keep current proposed draft letter intact but reference in the letter the supporting documents as well as attach the documents, noting this would speed up the process. Huxley stressed the need for more conversations with the different parties. Boice said 4 to 5 people had been working solid on this, noting his concern. He said they were already six months into this with fire season was now only three months away. Trees are currently deteriorating noting some are only on a one-year harvest schedule and half of that was gone already. He further stated he understood

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the need for more dialogue but the USFS was not coming to the table. HuttI reviewed the letter, page 74 of the packet saying the letter was general enough, lacking specifics, and felt the letter was acceptable.

Scott Faas, audience member, introduced himself as a licensed timber operator saying two weeks waiting on merchantable timber could be two weeks too long.

Cecelia Worlton, member in the audience, expressed the need for a congressional investigation. Chair Gold said that would be coming up for discussion on the agenda later.

Boice motioned to approve the letter in its' current form but with updates if needed, and/or attachment of documents with Hitt's and/or HuttI's assistance. Gold seconded the motion providing there would be proper documentation. Motion passed 2-1, Huxley was opposed.

### 8. OLD BUSINESS/PENDING ACTIONS

~~Motion To Reconsider Wild Horse Fire Brigade Resolution. — Court Boice, Commissioner (From Dec 6, 2017) (5 minutes) (removed from agenda)~~

### 9. DISCUSSION/BOARD DIRECTION/DECISION

~~A. Discussion Only — Letter To Consider Extending Interim Curry County Administrator John Hitt. — Court Boice, Commissioner (15 minutes) (removed from Agenda)~~

**B. Discussion Only - - Set/Recommend Proposed Meeting Date For State Senator Appointment.- - John Hitt, Interim County Administrator {3:28P.M.}**

Hitt announced an upcoming meeting, with neighboring counties for the purpose of appointing a State Senator, with that meeting set for April 9 at 1:00P.M. (sic: 2pm) in Roseburg (conference call permitted) to discuss the Appointment. Hitt said he would keep the Board informed on any updates.

**C. Discussion Only – Support For Proposed Mass Event Permit, Scott Faas, 143<sup>rd</sup> Productions. - Court Boice, Commissioner (10 minutes)**

This agenda item is deferred until the next Board Meeting.

**D. Discussion Only – Review Of Ordinance 13-03 “Federal Coordination Policy.” – Court Boice, Commissioner {3:30P.M.}**

Boice said this agenda item was about letting Federal Agencies know the County would have some authority in the wildfire process and policy, and that Hitt could take care of this. He said the policy is already established and county needs to follow our own policy. Consensus was for staff action and required no motion. HuttI said our own policy says to revisit every 5 years and the Board should schedule a future work session to do that.

**Discussion began (agenda item taken out of order) {2:23P.M.}(See under 6C above )**

**E. Discussion Only – Possible Amendments To Zoning Ordinance (ZOA) Section 1.071. – Community Development Director, Carolyn Johnson (20 minutes) See 6 C combined agenda items POSTPONED AT CAROLYN JOHNSON'S REQUEST**

**F. Discussion Only – Request To Correct Certain Legal Descriptions of Pistol River Road. – John Huttli, County Counsel {3:30P.M.}**

Huttli said he was looking to the Board for direction on moving forward with the paperwork before them, signed by Bill Crook. Huttli suggested he get direction from the Board to spend perhaps up to 20 hours or so of his time on this. Huttli said without further research, he could not recommend moving on this at this time. He further explained the Surveyor anticipated a great length of time to be spent on this. Huxley commented on time and cost involved from past discussions. He asked Huttli if this was a County responsibility to do this. Huttli said Mr. Crook proposed the Board change the record, per his representations, because the road doesn't actually follow the record. Huttli told Mr. Crook he would work with him on this matter.

**G. ~~Discussion Only—Health Insurance Benefit For Non-Represented Employees.—John Hitt, Interim County Administrator—(12 minutes)~~**  
(removed from agenda)

**H. Added: Congressional Investigation into the Chetco Bar Fire. Letter by Boice on Board Letterhead - Justification for investigation. {3:43P.M.}**

Boice introduced his letter. Gold suggested Boice have John Jezuit scan the document for the record. Boice said two Senator's requested and were anticipating receiving this. Gold said she would like more documents and have this brought back to next meeting, and discuss what is to go with the letter for support. Huxley would like to see the docs that would be sent. Boice reiterated again this was an urgent matter. Gold offered support, but wanted to see this brought back before the Board.

{3:47P.M.} Audience member Mike McArther, Executive Director from Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) was present in the audience. He spoke before the Board saying he was present to observe and also visit if time allowed. He said there would be forthcoming a written report from the legislature, noting SRS and Self Determination Act would be funding a 2-year extension – Federal year 2018, at 95% of previous levels. He said a check would be coming, and money would be in next budget cycle. He suggested Rocky McVay as a contact for more information. He said during Legislation, a grant program passed which would filter through the criminal justice commission, and would flow through law enforcement and DA. He suggested formulating a Pilot program (City/County/Sheriff). He said rules were being written now, and it would be expected to be complete in the next six months. He thanked Boice for his participation at the AOC meetings.

**~~10. ANNOUNCEMENTS/MEETING SCHEDULE—(Section 10 Eliminated)~~**

- ~~A. Notify Me on new Website is available for select topics~~
- ~~B. March 28, 2018 Workshop 10:00AM—Commissioners' Hearing Room—18-19 FY Budget~~
- ~~C. April 4, 2018 General Meeting 10:00AM—Commissioners' Hearing Room~~
- ~~D. April 6, 2018 Budget Officer Distributes Budget Worksheets to Department Heads~~
- ~~E. April 6, 2018 County Administrator
 
  - ~~i. Interviews 10:00AM—Commissioners' Hearing Room~~
  - ~~ii. Meet and Greet 4:00PM to 6:00PM Fairgrounds—Showcase Building~~~~
- ~~F. April 7, 2018 Tentative Special Meeting Executive Session 10:00AM—Commissioners' Hearing Room~~
- ~~G. April 11, 2018 Commissioners' Hearing Room
 
  - ~~i. Workshop 10:00AM~~~~



ii. ~~Special Meeting 2:00PM~~

**11. ~~INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ORAL REPORT~~ (John Hitt, Interim County Administrator) (Section 11 – Eliminated)**

- ~~A. County Administrator Recruitment~~
- ~~B. Gold Beach Main Street Proposal~~
- ~~C. BOC Meeting Times~~
- ~~D. Miscellaneous~~

**12. ~~COMMISSIONER UPDATES~~ (Section 12 – Eliminated)**

- ~~A. Commissioner Gold~~
- ~~B. Commissioner Huxley~~
- ~~C. Commissioner Boice~~
- ~~D.~~

**ADDED (under 2 above): EXECUTIVE SESSIONS; ORS 192.660(2)(a) and (2)(d) {3:55P.M.)**

The Board reconvened out of Executive Session at approximately 4:20P.M. No decisions were made.

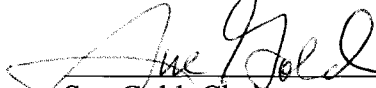
**13. ADJOURN**


Gold adjourned the meeting at 4:22P.M.

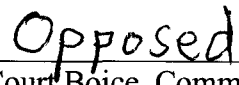
*(For a full transcript of this meeting, please refer to the video).*

DATED this 2nd day of May, 2018

CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sue Gold, Chair

  
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 Thomas Huxley, Vice Chair

  
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 Court Boice, Commissioner