



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

April 24, 2019

Commissioners' Hearing Room, Courthouse Annex
94235 Moore Street, Gold Beach, Oregon

www.co.curry.or.us

WEEKLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

February 20, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Paasch at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chair Christopher Paasch, Vice-Chair Court Boice, Commissioner Sue Gold.

Also present: Legal Counsel John Huttli, Director of Operations Julie Schmelzer, Administrative Assistant John Jezuit

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. APPROVAL/AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA

Schmelzer requested amendments to the Consent Agenda - -

- Add transfer order Amy Gaddis-Parker from Assessor to Juvenile Item J
- Add rehire Building Inspector Hank Eckardt Item K
- Pull Chief Office Deputy, Assessor
- Pull Michael Lange, Plan Commission

Huttli add Executive Session 192.660.2 (b) (h) and (k) discipline of employee

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comment was offered by:

Mary Rowe concerned about regressive nature of tax consumption Sales Tax. Patricia Anderson expressed concern about neighbor shooting at tannerite causing her service dog to shake and not function and wants BOC (Board of Commissioners) to change ordinance on shooting at tannerite. Barbara (last name inaudible) concerned with shooting tannerite and suggested a distance limit with regard to proximity of neighbors. Lucie LaBonte spoke about LWVCC (League of Women Voters Curry County) supporting TLT (Transient Lodging Tax) and their concern that TLT revenues only be used for what is stated on the ballot.

4. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Gold Beach & Brookings Food Banks and Beyond Rejection Ministries – Lila Thorp, Gold Beach Food Bank; Connie Hunter; Pam Winebarger, Executive Director Brookings Harbor Food Bank; and Jim Johnson, respectively.

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

Lila Thorp in addition to the Food Bank hopes to have a warming center where homeless can get shelter from storms. Jim Johnson, Beyond Rejection Ministries, going into 35th birthday and works very closely with anybody addressing issues of homelessness. Connie Hunter stated a lot of people who use Food Bank are veterans.

Pam Winegarner Executive Director Brookings Harbor Food Bank stated the Food Bank

- Served over 4,200 people including 690 kids in 2018
- Serves the homeless, working poor, and veterans.
- Needs more storage.
- Is looking to raise \$160,000 through grants, donations, and in-kind donations.

B. Common Good – Port Orford - Alice Losbaugh

Alice Loshbaugh

- Showed a 3 minute video about Common Good.
- Stated they are using church land to grow food.
- Noted Port Orford is about to lose Meals on Wheels.
- Praised Valley Flora.

C. Curry Consumption Tax Proposal - John Hitt, Planning Services Contractor

Hitt

- Stated Curry County has increasing expenses and declining revenues and a consumption tax is under consideration.
- Looked at Oregon counties similar to Curry and estimated a 1.5% consumption tax would generate about \$1,750,000.
- Stated tax revenues could be used for Public Safety, South County Emergency Room, Emergency Communications, Economic Development, Housing, Parks, and Public Water Systems improvement.
- Recommends more public input on how to tailor this type of tax.

Gold suggested looking at an advisory committee to explore a 1.5% or 2% tax on real estate transactions as the average home sale is \$313,000. However, would hesitate to put on the May ballot. Boice stated our spending is going up and revenues are coming down, and he would like to get input to help refine the plan to offered to the public. Citizen Barnes spoke against a consumption tax because he feels it's a regressive tax and suggested toll booths on north and south border. Paasch stated a toll booth can be done, but is would be like pushing a boulder up a hill.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. BOC Minutes – January 7, 2019
- B. Juvenile Dept Administrative Assistant Job Description Amendment
- C. Juvenile Dept Crew Supervisor Job Description Amendment
- D. Subscription Agreement for Non-Represented Employees
- E. Subscription Agreement for Bargaining Unit Employees
- F. Appoint Richard Christensen, Roadmaster, as an alternate to the SWACT (Southwest Oregon Area Commission on Transportation) Board
- G. ~~Appoint Michael Lange to Planning Commission South County~~
- H. ~~Chief Office Deputy Job Description – Jim Kolen, Assessor~~
- I. ~~Request to Reclassify Employee from Administrative Secretary to Chief Office Deputy – Jim Kolen, Assessor~~

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

Schmelzer presented Items A, B, C, D, E, F; added transfer order for Amy Gaddis, Assessor's Office to replace Summer Matteson, Juvenile Department; and re-hire order for Hank Eckhardt, Building Department.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve the consent agenda as presented and amended.
Motion carried unanimously.

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. Proclaiming March 2019 as Revive Civility Month – Commissioner Paasch

Motion by Paasch, seconded by Gold, to proclaim March, 2019 as Revive Civility Month. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Personal Services Agreement with John Hitt – Julie Schmelzer, Director of Operations (DOC)
Paasch asked who will Hitt report to and would like order amended to read Hitt's hours are limited to an 80 hour per month average. Schmelzer stated Hitt will report to Becky Crockett, Planning Department Director. Boice stated he would like Hitt to report to Schmelzer. Gold suggested Hitt report to Becky Crockett, but go through Schmelzer. Huttel stated Hitt could report to Schmelzer or her designee.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve Personal Services Agreement with John Hitt as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Wildfire Threat Jackson County Resolution – Commissioner Boice

Tim Palmer questioned why a resolution is needed to continue to cooperate with other county governments and suggested focusing on Curry County.

Boice stated

- If we lived in Rogue Valley, we would know why.
- He is nervous about next year's fire season because Curry County has much more fuel on the ground than CA.
- We need robust public support on this issue, and we are showing Jackson County we are on board for changes.

David Barnes stated he understands our need to support Jackson & Josephine Counties and called for direct fuel reduction action, not more meetings or letters or complaints about how Chetco Bar Fire was allowed to burn.

Paasch stated

- There are some people such as Merv George, Forest Supervisor Rogue River Siskiyou National Forest, who are starting to do some things.
- He has an issue with some of the language and feels language needs defining and refining.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch, to approve support for Jackson County Resolution. Motion failed 2 – 1 (Paasch – No; Gold – No; Boice - Yes)

D. Public Land Natural Caused Fires Jackson County – Commissioner Boice

(There was no discussion)

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch to support Jackson County resolution for public lands, regulations, and policies. Motion carried 2-1 (Paasch - Yes; Boice – Yes; Gold – No)

E. Vietnam War Memorial Support and Donation – Commissioner Boice

Gold observed the County is really strapped and doesn't know if it's our purview to give donation. She recommends asking individuals to contribute.

Paasch stated he is a big supporter of our veterans and their service and will personally help with this fund. But it is difficult to ask all taxpayers to pay.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch to support the Vietnam War Memorial and not give a donation. Motion carried unanimously

F. MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) BOC (Board of Commissioners) and Fair Board – John Huttli stated Fair Board members must be bonded. He checked with our insurance company, and the Fair Board members are bonded.

Motion Paasch, seconded by Gold to approve agenda item 6F. Motion carried unanimously.

G. CRTF (Citizens Revenue Task Force) Resignations – Julie Schmelzer, DOC

Gold stated the CRTF was set up to be autonomous and spent hours upon hours working on the issues. The people who resigned did so due to Commissioner intervention. She does not think we should have another committee. Paasch stated he attended a meeting when he was commissioner elect as member of the public and feels the CRTF Chair can allow or not allow public comments. He supports trying to re-establish the CRTF. Boice stated he was in the meeting to represent the interests of the citizens of Curry County and was not disruptive.

Motion by Paasch, seconded by Gold, to re-advertise to reinstate a revenue task force with the understanding the public is welcome to attend the meetings, and it is the CRTF Chair's decision to allow public comment. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Advisory Ballot Question – Marijuana Taxation

Barnes is opposed because it is based on disingenuous numbers. Huttli stated before advisory measure goes before the voters, the county must have law in place to give an advisory question to voters. Historically we had such an ordinance on the books, but it was repealed.

Paasch

- Is concerned with the expense of putting question on ballot.
- Suggested putting the question on the September ballot because if the consumption tax is on the May ballot, it may be too much for the voters.
- Asked Huttli if repealed ordinance could be done today?

Gold is in favor of reinstating the repealed ordinance because there are appropriate times to have advisory questions on the ballot. Boice stated this is incredibly valuable data and public opinion is important. Schmelzer read a draft advisory question.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to accept the advisory ballot measure for marijuana tax contingent on getting an ordinance for advisory vote for the county [addressed later in the meeting, see below]. Motion carried unanimously.

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

I. Advisory Ballot Question – Consumption Tax

(There was no discussion)

Motion Boice, seconded by Gold, to put on the advisory ballot the question of (1) discuss the pros and cons of the consumption tax and (2) legal and procedural issues contingent on getting ordinance for an advisory vote. Motion carried unanimously.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Schmelzer provided her report. Highlighted was

- Some work to do on relocation process.
- Want to be both flexible and stick to meeting schedule.
- With the assignments shown on the liaison list, Department Heads know who they're working with.
- Community Development
 - Planning Director has been here over a month and definitely needs some help. Hopefully by mid-summer can get some full-time or part-time help.
 - Goal is to have records filed electronically and have a computer set up for general public.
 - Don Sigvartsen will come back and do some work for us.

Boice hopes we can come up with a budget for Code Enforcement Officer. Paasch stated by summer we will need a second Code Enforcement Officer.

8. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Paasch provided an update. Highlighted was:

- Changes in county vehicles policy as well as travel policy.
- Wants to commend Steve Beyerlin.

B. Commissioner Boice provided an update. Highlighted was:

- Spoke about the very important meetings he has in the next few weeks.
- Spoke of insurance claims from fire in California and possible impact on Oregon.

C. Commissioner Gold did not have any comments.

Huttl gave copies of an emergency ordinance to propose advisory questions on the ballot. The commissioners read the ordinance. Barnes stated he is opposed to this action and feels it should be posted in the newspaper.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve the emergency ordinance as written. Motion carried unanimously.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION 192.660 (2)

(b) To consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open hearing.

(f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection

(h) 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

For detailed information on any agenda item, refer to Audio/Video.

Chair Paasch entered Executive Session at 1:02p.m. and exited at 1:31p.m.

Motion by Paasch, seconded by Boice, advising Director of County Operations, Julie Schmelzer to proceed as directed. Motion carried unanimously.

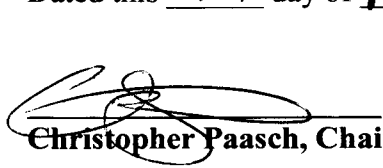
10. OTHER

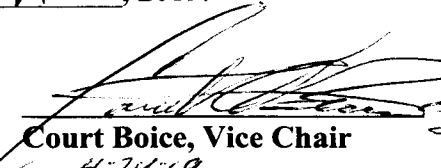
None.


11. ADJOURN

Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at 2:00PM

Dated this 24th day of April, 2019.


Christopher Paasch, Chair


Court Boice, Vice Chair
4-24-19


Sue Gold, Commissioner

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant