



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:

November 6, 2019

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

www.co.curry.or.us

WEEKLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 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 Huttl, Director of Operations Julie Schmelzer, Administrative Assistant John Jezuit.

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. LINE OF DUTY CASUALTY REPORT

Commissioner Boice gave the report.

3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Schmelzer – Pull 7H, 7I, and 12B.

Move 6D to 6B

Gold – Move 7D to 8D

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeremy Dumire, Emergency Management Coordinator, spoke about the successful Emergency Preparedness Expo on October 12, 2019, thanked the attendees and the sponsors, and advised there will be an expo next year. Dumire concluded his remarks by stating the Shake Out is October 17, 2019 at 10:17AM. Gene Clasen recommended Gold Beach airport add IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) as the runway meets the minimum length. Once installed, Clasen recommended using TLT funds to promote the airport in flying magazines. David Barnes spoke about attending the AOC (Association of Oregon Counties) meeting on October 4, 2019 and expressed concern about Curry County aligning with Jackson and Josephine Counties rather than Coos and Douglas Counties which are geographically similar to Curry County.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. Curry Health Network Regulatory Feasibility Study for Inpatient Beds and Brookings
Emergency Room – Ginny Williams, CEO

Virginia Williams showed a PowerPoint presentation titled Brookings Inpatient Hospital Beds Regulatory Feasibility Analysis focusing on the unique benefits, restrictions, and required criteria associated with gaining and maintaining a Critical Access Hospital designation for inpatient services

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

offered by Curry Health Network licensed facilities. The analysis concluded a reallocation of bed capacity would result in a severe financial consequence for Curry Health Network due to the elimination of the Critical Access Hospital designation. After the study, the Curry Health District Board of Directors decided to move forward on an ER (Emergency Room) in Brookings. Williams cited statistics showing the immediate need for, and long term benefits of, an ER, specifically CMC EC (Curry Medical Center Emergency Care) which will also offer same day appointments at a rate different than an ER rate. Williams stated the next step is an onsite OHA (Oregon Health Authority) survey. Gold asked if people will be charged ER rates and asked when is the expected opening. Paasch thanked Williams for moving forward with this. Boice stated the ER is a really good thing.

6. QUARTERLY REPORTS

A. County Phone System and Server Upgrade Proposal - Dan Springer, Chief Information Officer Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Dan Springer spoke about the historical background of the current phone system and offered 3 options to resolve the issue: Option 1 complete upgrade costing well over \$100,000; Option 2 upgrade just damaged and/or failing parts, but use all existing phones, about half the cost of option 1; and option 3 to search for a new phone system which CCEC IT does not recommend. Springer stated the system is reaching capacity; however, the capacity issue will change when the Sheriff's Department is off-loaded. Gold asked about guarantees on Option 2. Paasch asked about pricing.

B. Assessor/Taxation – Jim Kolen, Assessor

Jim Kolen stated the Assessor's office needs new hardware due to the power interruption of September 17, 2019. Kolen used two spreadsheets, one covering annual tax collected amount and the other covering taxing districts, to report in great detail on the Assessor's Department activities. Kolen noted it takes about seven years before the County takes over a property for non-payment of taxes. Kolen also stated, due to lack of staffing combined with difficulty in hiring people due to the economy, the Assessor's office needs at least two (2) more added to the staff to go from a 10 year to 6 year reappraisal cycle. Schmelzer asked about how many required on staff to get the County back to a 6 year reappraisal cycle. Paasch asked about the percentage received by the Library District and observed the Amnesty Program is not amnesty on property taxes, but amnesty on penalties for lack of building permits. Gold asked how we compare to other counties, asked about how long before the County takes over a property when the owner does not pay the taxes, and asked how many years are we backlogged on reassessing property. Boice stated he appreciates the work done by Kolen and Huttel on the Charter case. Kolen concluded our tool for finding new unassessed property is using the building department.

C. Roads - Richard Christensen, Roadmaster

Richard Christensen stated the Roads budget is looking good this year and he described in detail the Road Department's activities. Christensen observed the major challenge facing the Road Department is the Port of Brookings Harbor as there is no place to dump our material. Christensen stated he is working on reorganizing the department and getting higher speed internet to the Road Department office. Gold is concerned about slow speed internet and the effect on labor costs. Schmelzer advised County chose speeds not that great when internet was installed in the Road Department but she is working with IT to resolve the issue.

D. Finance and Human Resources – Sharlyn Director, Finance Director

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

Sharlyn Harvey gave departmental report by showing a PowerPoint presentation. Harvey is looking at more cost effective and more modern approaches in the finance office processes, and this will entail looking at software. Harvey also stated the county is on the State of Oregon's Delinquency list, and she is working on a CAP (Corrective Action Plan). Harvey observed Caselle, a government accounting software firm, has add-ons, the County elected not to migrate to the top two (2) Caselle systems, and she will be looking at new accounting software to improve efficiency by giving department heads real time access to data. Paasch asked if Harvey was working on a CAP and asked if software was adding revenue. Gold asked about software inadequacies. Schmelzer stated quarterly reports are easier to use as they are posted alphabetically.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve: Minutes Business Meeting of September 25, 2019
- B. Approve: Minutes Business Meeting of October 2, 2019
- C. Approve: Minutes Special Meeting of October 10, 2019
- D. Approve: Fourth Amendment to Communications Facility Lease on AT&T Use of Curry County Agness Communication Tower Site – Roadmaster 7D MOVED TO 8D
- E. Approve: 2019 Central County Paving Project Change Order #2 - Signature Authority to Roadmaster
- F. Approve: Sixes River Fishing Access Certification/Notice Of Determination – Assessor
- G. Approve: Building Inspector II Job Description
- H. ~~Approve: Accounting Clerk Accounts Payable Job Description~~ PULLED
- I. ~~Approve: Assistant County Accountant Job Description~~ PULLED
- J. Approve: Amendment to Current Contract 159808 – CCH (Curry Community Health)
- K. Appoint: Plan Commission Member to North County Position

Barnes questioned whether the County should be expanding our relationship with CCH.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve consent agenda, except Items 7D, 7H, and 7I. Motion carried unanimously.

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Ordinance, Second Reading: Creation of a Suicide Awareness and Prevention Council – Julie Schmelzer DOC, Director of County Operations

Gordon Clay thanked Schmelzer and the Board for their efforts with the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Council stating the challenge now is to find citizens who have an emotional desire to learn why suicide continues to rise. Schmelzer read the ordinance.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold to approve the 2nd reading of the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Council Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Permission for Coos Curry Electric Cooperative (Gold Beach) to Cross County Property – Commissioner Boice

Boice displayed Ellensburg Avenue aerial view of the Coos Curry yard stating Coos Curry has asked permission to cross the county propertyline. Schmelzer asked the Coos Curry representatives if Coos Curry had considered buying that property from us. Gold asked if they are looking for an easement.

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

Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch, to allow Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative to cross the County property as displayed in the aerial view. Motion carried unanimously.

C. BOC Meeting Dates October 16, 2019 to December 31, 2020 – Julie Schmelzer, DOC
Schmelzer showed the proposed 2020 meeting schedule. Gold asked about night meetings, specifically, rotate between only Port Orford and Brookings, or rotate between Port Orford, Gold Beach and Brookings. Boice suggested we leave the schedule exactly the way it is currently scheduled.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch, to accept the schedule as presented, Motion carried 2-1 (Paasch, Yes; Boice, Yes; Gold, No.)

8D. Approve: Fourth Amendment to Communications Facility Lease on AT&T Use of Curry County Agness Communication Tower Site – Roadmaster

Gold asked about a long term rental to cover cost of future repairs. Christensen stated he renegotiated the deal by adding a 2nd dish to the tower, the new annual fee will be over \$40,000, and the towers were paid with Title III funds.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch, to approve Fourth Amendment to Communications Facility Lease with AT&T on the use of the Curry County Agness Communication Tower Site contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Schmelzer added, with Board consensus, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Langlois Mountain road slip repair project with signature authority to Christensen.

Motion by Paasch, seconded by Boice, to approve Task Order #12, Langlois Mountain Road drainage improvements and the professional services contract to have the work done with signature authority to the Roadmaster. Motion carried unanimously.

Huttl stated, based on the recently passed marijuana taxing ordinance, the Treasurer needs direction on where marijuana tax revenues from the state and the county go. Schmelzer stated only the county tax revenues from unincorporated areas go to the Sheriff's Office, retroactive to the start of the budget year, July 1, 2019.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to distribute local county marijuana tax revenues retroactive to July 1, 2019, to the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried unanimously.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Schmelzer spoke about

- Update on housing coordinator job description and/or contracting for the position.
- The sale of three (3) properties - letters have been mailed asking for application fees.
- Revisiting office hours with the goal being all departments to be open Monday through Friday.
- Reasons for certain County employees to be issued County credit cards, specifically lower costs.
- The DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) person who resigned and asked if the County should consider partnering with another county.
- Investigating some counties "Golden Handshake" retirement program.

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

- Training on open meeting laws.

10. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Gold spoke about

- SWOCC (Southwest Oregon Community College) and Beyond Seminars.
- Meeting on October 22, 2019 with Elementary principals.
- Meeting on October 29, 2019 with High School principals.

B. Commissioner Paasch spoke about

- Getting back to a five 5 day work week as its imperative to have offices be open.
- Getting a building permit within a specified length of time.
- Trying to reduce accounts payable by contacting vendors.
- His satisfaction working with Schmelzer and staff.
- Moving forward on work being done and uphill battle we face with CCH, the County and the State.
- Receiving a letter for annual membership in renewable energy association.

Brookings Head Start Impromptu (not on the agenda) Update

Huttl introduced Art Chaput Regional Project Manager Business Oregon; Stu Woods, architect; Tracy Loomis, Community Development Director, CCD Business Development Corporation; and Mike Lehman, Executive Director, ORCCA (Oregon Coast Community Action) who will be inspecting the building, which is almost complete, that afternoon. Huttl also stated he is working with the City of Brookings to renegotiate the water connection bill. Gold asked if the project is on budget. Lehman stated the project would not exist without Curry County, the project guarantees a Head Start in Brookings, and is on budget.

C. Commissioner Boice spoke about

- His closeness to commissioners in other counties as the relationships are critical.
- Working very close with DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality).
- The dispatch PSU (Portland State University) study has died for lack of interest and he will not let it go.
- Working on offshore wind power and will be reporting to board on this.
- His meeting tonight with local fire chiefs.
- Today being World Food Day and the benefits Curry County has.
- Recent natural disasters - highway collapse, floods and, fires – and doing everything we can to prepare citizens and the county.
- Asking group of master gardeners to come in at the November 27 meeting to give a brief presentation.
- Rural Food Safety Day on June 7, 2020.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- ORS 192.660(2) (a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent
- ORS 192.660(2) (d) To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

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

- C. ORS 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records exempt from public records laws.
- D. ORS 192.660(2)(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

Chair Paasch entered Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. and recessed at 1:55 p.m. Entered into session again at 3:34 p.m. exited at 4:43 p.m.

Staff is to proceed as directed.

12. HIRE ORDERS

- A. Approve: Irregular Building Inspector II

Motion by Gold, seconded by, Boice to approve hire order for Irregular Building Inspector II.
Motion carried unanimously.

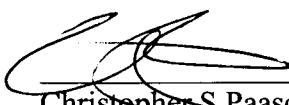
- B. ~~Approve: Assistant County Accountant Promotion~~ PULLED BY SCHMELZER


- 13. **OTHER** (ORS.192.640(1) ". . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.")

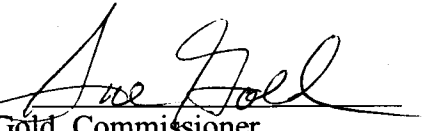
14. ADJOURN

Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at 4:44 p.m.

Dated this day 7 of 11, 2019.


Christopher S Paasch, Chair


Court Boice, Vice Chair 11-7-19


Sue Gold, Commissioner

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant