



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:

August 19, 2020

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

www.co.curry.or.us

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

July 1, 2020

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, and Administrative Assistant John Jezuit.

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. LINE OF DUTY CASUALTY REPORT

Boice gave the report and recognized Karl Popoff, City of Gold Beach Mayor, for military service and service to Curry County.

3. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA ITEMS

Gold – Discuss 6C before 6A

Boice – Move 7D to 5B

Boice – Discuss items 6V, 6W, 6X

Schmelzer - Pull 6L, 6D, 6E, 6F, 6G until after Wage Study discussion

Schmelzer - Move 7C to 7A

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Rowe observed because Schmelzer is leaving Curry County, there will be changes in County operations and suggested replacing the Director of County Operations position with an office manager. Connie Hunter stated July is Bereaved Parents Awareness Month, spoke about losing a child, cited a personal situation, and commented on processing grief. Gordon Clay stated July is Minority Mental Health Awareness Month and spoke about the impact on mental health suicide rate statistics; stated July is grief awareness month; and noted 988 will be a national number for mental health crisis issues.

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. COVID 19 Update: After the Emergency Declaration Expires– Sherrie Ward, Public health Administrator

Ward provided updates on current Public Health programs and on where the State stands with the COVID-19 pandemic, noted statistics regarding statewide numbers, stated Governor Brown's executive order has been extended until September 4, 2020, encouraged use of Governor's website

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to get more information, and emphasized social distancing and respect for one another. Boice give more details on Governor Brown's executive order from June 30, 2020, praised Ward's work, and expressed concern about a second COVID-19 wave. Paasch stated he had spoken to Governor Brown on June 30, 2020 and asked her to look at rural counties differently, expressed disappointment in not opening State Parks, and noted rural county issues are not being addressed.

7D MOVED TO 5B

WRCFC (Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative) – Shasta Agness – Commissioner Boice
Boice gave the history of the collaborative effort on the Shasta Agness proposal, introduced Jenna Knobloch, Forest Program Manager, Sustainable Northwest (on the phone) and introduced Wade McMaster, Gold Beach USFS (United States Forest Service) District Ranger. Knobloch went over her PowerPoint presentation, explained WRCFC work in detail, described the CFLRP (Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program). McMaster praised the WRCFC efforts, emphasized importance of collaboratives as no decisions are made without their input, provided updates on the Shasta-Agness proposal, stated he is not a big fan of de-commissioned roads, and asked the Board to reach out to the Washington DC office for support of upcoming projects. Boice stated he wants to make sure the Board gets a better understanding of what has been done and is asking the Board to approve a letter of support for the Shasta Agness proposal. Gold stated she has been in contact with Curry Citizens for Public Land Access and is in favor of approving this project. Paasch asked McMaster to E-Mail the Board regarding upcoming projects.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve letter of support. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Dine to Stay in Curry Promotion – Summer Matteson, Economic Development Coordinator
Matteson explained the program brought to the County by Leslie Wilkinson and stated funding will be coming from the lottery and the Economic Development budget, not TLT (Transient Lodging Tax). Wilkinson presented an overview of the program, explained the program in detail and how it will be marketed; spoke about collaborative efforts with Matteson and Janell Howard, Brookings City Manager; stated the results are traceable; noted the county's cost is \$5,000; and added the program could be expanded to lodging. Gold asked for clarification of the costs. Paasch observed he would like data on the cost of the program compared to the results. Boice stated with the struggles restaurants are having, the timing of this promotion could not be better. Schmelzer asked Matteson to verify the source of the county's funding share.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

ITEM 6C DISCUSSION

Gold stated wanted to know where the money will come from as she had spoken to Rocky McVay, Executive Director, AOCC (Association of Oregon & California Counties), who said he does not expect PILT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) funds to increase. Schmelzer noted the wage study effects the master payroll; emphasized the master payroll must be adopted by July 8, 2020; noted various departments get funding through grants; advised staff can have data reflecting how much is coming from outside sources and the impact of this funding on the wage study (which will impact items 6D, 6E, 6F, and 6G) on Monday, July 6, 2020; and strongly encouraged a Special Meeting on Monday, July 6, 2020 for the Board to consider the issue. Paasch stated he is all for waiting until Monday, July 6, 2020. Boice stated he doesn't have time to really focus on this now due to the amount of details on his desk, expressed concern about the effect the COVID-19 pandemic is having on Curry County unemployment, noted implementing the wage study pay scale is justified in a good economy,

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suggested tabling this agenda item for 90 days to a year, and pulled this item and Agenda item 6L from the consent agenda.

- A. Minutes Business Meeting of June 17, 2020
- B. Committee Appointments - Tourism Promotion Committee, Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee, and Curry Public Transit Advisory Committee
- C. ~~Wage Adjustment for County Employees~~ – PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

Paasch stated items 6D, 6E, 6F, and 6G will be at current pay scale.

- D. New Job Description: Facilities Maintenance Worker/Custodian
 - E. Status change – B. Allen, Facilities
 - F. Temporary Pay Increase: Administrative Assistant Working as Office Manager
 - G. Reclassification of an Employee – Building

 - H. Adopting the Budget Committee’s Approved Salaries and Insurance Benefits for Elected Officials
 - I. Accepting a Grant from United Way of Southwestern Oregon for the Suicide Awareness and Prevention Council
 - J. OHA-2019-2021 IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) Agreement # 159808 Amendment #12 Amended and Restated – Public Health
 - K. Supplemental Budgets
 - L. ~~Master Payroll~~ - PULLED
 - M. Appoint Two (2) Members to LPSCC (Local Public Safety Coordinating Council)
 - N. Copier Leases – Julie Schmelzer, DOC
- Schmelzer explained the long term cost saving advantages to consolidating copier leases.

- O. Accepting Grant for a PodRunner, Purchase, and Signature Authority to the Community Development Director – Jeremy Dumire, Emergency Management Coordinator
 - P. Juvenile Department Youth Litter Patrol Program – Wendy Lang, Juvenile Director
 - Q. Roadmaster Signature Authority to Award Cedar Creek Culvert Replacement Project to Suulutaaq Inc. in the Amount of \$372,481.00 – Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
 - R. Roadmaster Signature Authority for Temporary Construction and County Storm Drain Easements for Cedar Creek Culvert Replacement Project – Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
 - S. Roadmaster Signature Authority to Award Langlois Mountain Road Side & Drainage Improvements Project to Suulutaaq Inc. in the Amount of \$274,545.00
 - T. Roadmaster Signature Authority for Temporary Construction and Storm Drain Easements for Langlois Mountain Road Slide and Drainage Improvements - Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
 - U. Roadmaster Signature Authority for 2020 North County Paving Project Change Order #2 Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
- ITEMS 6V, 6W, AND 6X DISCUSSION.
- V. Roadmaster Signature Authority to Purchase One (1) New Caterpillar Model M314F Excavator with Attachments for \$265,650 - Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
 - W. Roadmaster Signature Authority to Purchase One (1) New Caterpillar 920 Compact Wheel Loader with Attachments for \$177,564.8 - Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
 - X. Roadmaster Signature Authority to Purchase One (1) New 2021 Kenworth T880 Day Cab, Chassis with New 2021 Rogue Truck Body Dump Box for \$164,541.00 – Richard Christensen

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Boice stated he supported past Road Department equipment expenditures because some of the previous equipment was over 30 years old; noted he is not comfortable with this purchase right now as he has to talk to taxpayers; observed private companies do not want to be in competition with the Road Department; suggested repairing the current equipment; and recommended delaying the purchase decision for three (3) months. Christensen explained the effect of equipment repairs and breakdowns on labor and maintenance costs, noted the current equipment has a good re-sale value now, and encouraged the Board to approve the purchases. Paasch asked for a ballpark figure of re-sale value of vehicles to be sold. Gold asked about employee down time due to repairs and about how long quoted prices will be valid.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Paasch to approve purchase of agenda items 6V, 6W, and 6X. Motion carried 2-1 (Gold, Yes; Paasch, Yes; Boice, No)

- Y. Dyer Partnership \$202,200 Morrill Bridge Task Order 10C - Richard Christensen, Roadmaster
- Z. Curry County Road Department Contract with McLennan Excavation Inc. for Installation of \$27,210 in Storm Drainage Improvements on Ocean Way and Driftwood Drive – Christensen

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

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Revised Job Description: Director of County Operations

Schmelzer stated July 1, 2020 begins her exit from Curry County, specifically, (1) she will not be taking on any new projects; (2) recommended changes to the DOC (Director of County Operations) job description and subsequent changes to the County organization chart; (3) spoke about the job search and lack of responses for both the DOC and Finance positions; and (4) emphasized the need for the DOC to have an accounting background. A detailed discussion involving the Board, Huttli, and Schmelzer about the DOC transition followed and concluded with a motion.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve an order (a) for Julie Schmelzer to continue to oversee the Community Development Department until a replacement is hired and (b) adding a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting requirement to the DOC job description. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Accepting Grant from the State of Oregon for COVID Expenses – Julie Schmelzer, DOC

Schmelzer explained the need to write an order to accept the grant for the State, advised there may be some issues with the wording of the State's agreement, and noted the State will not release funds unless the County passes an order accepting the grant. Huttli addressed the possible issues, observed some counties will not accept the grant until the State changes the agreement, and suggested amending the order to read the County reserves the right to challenge some terms of the agreement, specifically the criminal background checks and changing the venue to Marion County. A detailed discussion ensued with the Board reaching a consensus on accepting the grant with an order amended to include reserving the right to challenge background checks and changing the venue.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold to accept grant from State or Oregon based on reservations. Motion carried unanimously.

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C. IGA between Curry County Parks and Oregon State Parks re: Alfred A. Loeb State Park – Anthony DeRock, Parks Coordinator

Schmelzer gave a brief history and introduced Larry Becker, District Manager, OPRD (Oregon Parks and Recreation Department). Becker spoke about the effect COVID-19 pandemic measures have had on the State Parks budget and their impact in the southern Oregon coast area, specifically Alfred A Loeb State Park and local gravel bars. Becker addressed the issues involved in re-opening, specifically, policing, garbage pick-up, restroom maintenance, restricting late night gravel bar usage, and the need for a camp host. Schmelzer explained the next steps involved if the Board is interested in pursuing an IGA with State Parks, such as contacting the Sheriff, advertising for a camp host, finalizing the IGA, and wording of the camp host agreement. Huttel stated the County employee is empowered to enforce ordinances and suggested increasing parking spaces. Boice stated he has been watching this pretty close, has some reservations, will support it and wants citizens to be aware of what the County is getting into. Gold asked if the County would be able to rescind the agreement as it is important to let the public know about potential changes. Paasch asked about McVay State Park.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold to approve amended IGA with State Parks and signature authority to Julie Schmelzer. Motion carried unanimously.

7D MOVED TO 5B

D. WRCFC (Wild Rivers Coast Forest Collaborative) – Shasta Agness – Commissioner Boice

8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Schmelzer spoke about

The Lobster Creek cleanup process and praised the work Anthony DeRock, Parks Coordinator, is doing on the cleanup procedures.

9. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Gold spoke about

- Her continuing work on the AllCare Grant
- Progress on volunteer recognition which has been on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

B. Commissioner Paasch spoke about

- Wearing masks and receiving E-Mails about not wearing masks.
- Meeting Jack Parnell, former United States Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, and their conversation about the Rogue River, specifically, Parnell using his networks in Washington DC to work with the USACE (United States Army Corp of Engineers) to get the river back in its socket.
- Goals to fix certain things in the Board's term in office, such as, (1) getting the Rogue River back to where it used to be years ago; (2) looking at the Sheriff's department funding; and (3) working with Schmelzer and employing out of the box thinking.

C. Commissioner Boice spoke about

- The Rogue River, specifically, sharing Paasch's optimism, the amount of gravel and sediment that comes down the River, and the need to engage Congressman DeFazio.

THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS WERE MADE BY COMMISSIONER BOICE.

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(They Were Incorrectly Attributed to Commissioner Paasch in the Minutes Submitted at the August 5, 2020, Business Meeting.)

- The COVID-19 pandemic and reminded citizens to follow State guidelines, keep things clean, and keep distances.
- Receiving a grant from AOC (Association of Counties) for housing issues.
- Progress on broadband.
- BLM (Bureau of Land Management) and timber harvest.
- Having more on the CARES (Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security) Act to report after tomorrow.
- The DOC job description qualifications and emphasized Commissioners elected to the role of making operating decisions for the County

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. 192.660(2)(a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent
- B. 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection
- 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 1:17 p.m. and exited 2:20 p.m.

Staff to proceed as directed.

11. HIRE ORDERS

- A. New Hire – Road Department

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve hire order for Road Department. Motion carried unanimously.

POSTPONED UNTIL JULY 15, 2020 MEETING

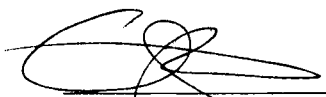
- B. New Hire – Department Specialist II – Clerk’s Office

- 12. **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.”)

13. ADJOURN

Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

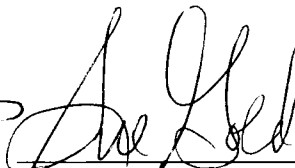
Dated this 19th day of August, 2020.



Christopher S. Paasch, Chair



Court Boice, Vice Chair
8/20/20



Sue Gold, Commissioner

Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant

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