



CURRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Approval Date:

August 26, 2020

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

www.co.curry.or.us

WEEKLY BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

July 15, 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 Huttel, Director of County Operations Julie Schmelzer, and Administrative Assistant John Jezuit.

The Pledge was recited by all.

2. AMENDMENT/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Schmelzer – Add to Agenda Item 11 Extension of Sheriff's Hazard Pay

Schmelzer - Add to Agenda Item 9 Executive Session 192.660(2)(d)

Huttel - Add to Executive Session 192.660(2)(h) and 192.660(2)(f)

Boice - Move Agenda Item 5B Ahead of Agenda Item 5A

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

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gordon Clay spoke about (1) the differences between rural areas compared to urban areas and (2) the impact of fire arms on suicide statistics of men.

4. PRESENTATIONS

5B Highway 101 Illegal Camping Moved Ahead of 5A SOWIB (Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board)

B. Curry County State of Oregon – Losing Hospitality Revenue – Highway 101 Illegal Camping – RV Long Stays – Solutions ... ? – Commissioner Boice and Don Uhlir, Pistol River Resident Uhlir showed a PowerPoint; spoke about the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on RVs and Curry County; cited a website promoting RV travel to the Curry Coast; and addressed the problems caused by lack of policing; specifically, ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) No Overnight Camping signs removed, vehicles parked in the trail, scattered waste and garbage, and off-roading issues. Uhlir, from the perspective of maintaining the natural pristine beauty for future generations, suggested possible remedies to the problems. Gold stated she notices the same rigs parked in the same locations every day, expressed concern about where the waste is dumped, and asked about liability issues. Boice stated he appreciates Uhlir's presentation, noted the need to look at solutions, and spoke about (1) the ODOT presentation last year and (2) Code Enforcement. Paasch expressed concern about people pulling off the highway for lengthy stays and encouraged a workshop with

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ODOT and State Parks to work together on solutions. Schmelzer, citing jurisdiction issues and noting the County has camping regulations, asked Uhlir if he had communicated with ODOT or State Parks.

A. SOWIB (Southwestern Oregon Workforce Investment Board) – Kyle Stevens, Executive Director, SOWIB

Kyle Stevens showed a PowerPoint presentation, spoke about SOWIB history, commented on employment issues, and noted Boice is the Curry County SOWIB Board representative. Stevens also addressed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on SOWIB projects and unemployment statistics in Oregon and Curry County; expressed concern about FPUC (Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation) payments ending on July 25, 2020; and commented on upskilling and retraining. Gold asked about total resources SOWIB contributes to Curry County and stated she is working on getting internships in High Schools. Schmelzer commented on Curry County's involvement last year with Youth Pathways Partnership and wanted to know SOWIB's goal for Fall, 2020. Schmelzer noted the data will aid the County in deciding whether or not to continue pursuing Youth Pathways Partnership. Bryan Grummon commented on his worries of secondary problems caused by the COVID-19 pandemic; specifically, some people don't have many ways to get food, the number of unemployable people, the Sheriff's department working harder than in the recent past, and training issues for people without access to a computer. Boice spoke about a meeting in Florence, commented on why the meeting was held there, stated he wanted to let the public know the Board was grateful for the SOWIB presentation, and asked if SOWIB matched jobs with available workers.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes Business Meeting May 6, 2020
- B. Minutes Special Meeting July 6, 2020
- C. Promotion of an Employee Alison Peck
- D. New Hires for Litter Patrol
- E. Temporary Pay Increase: Administrative Assistant Working as Assistant Veterans Service Officer
- F. CCPTSD (Curry County Public Transit Service District) Requesting Letter of Support for a TGM (Transportation and Growth Management) Grant

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

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) in Support of a CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Housing Rehabilitation Grant through NeighborWorks Umpqua – Summer Matteson, Economic Development Coordinator

Matteson summarized the IGA, noted the City of Gold Beach offered to be the lead on this grant, cited the requirements for the grant, observed homeowners county wide would be eligible for the grant, and stated she is awaiting Port Orford's commitment to the IGA. Boice stated NeighborWorks Umpqua really wants to work with Curry County. Paasch thanked Matteson and complimented her work on this topic.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve support for the IGA with CDBG through NeighborWorks Umpqua with signature authority to the Director of County Operations. Motion carried unanimously.

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**B. Designating Properties in Hunter Creek Area as Public Park Lands – Julie Schmelzer, DOC
(Director of County Operations)**

Schmelzer explained the advantages of designating certain properties as Parks properties, then selling those properties and using the revenues realized for County Park upgrades. Gold asked (1) if the County had legal standing to do this and (2) is there a current court case on this issue. Huttli stated the next step, after designating the properties as Parks properties, is to have a public comment period and noted there is a period of redemption. Paasch spoke about a court case similar to this issue and a conversation he had with Representative David Brock Smith on the need to change the law. Jim Kolen, Assessor, stated before a property is foreclosed on, the owners or heirs receive many notifications, suggested consulting him to avoid burdensome administration of the process, and, citing the Strategic Plan, noted he would like to see more transparency in the process.

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve designating properties in Hunter Creek area as Public Parks Lands. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Order Approving AOCC (Association of Oregon and California Counties) Dues – John Huttli,
County Counsel**

Huttli explained the history of AOCC dues payment, stated they are budgeted, and encouraged using an order to more easily track the process. Boice stated he appreciates the effort and spoke about other counties.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve paying AOCC dues. Motion carried unanimously.

**D. Proclamation - Resolution Recognizing the Many Years Of Service - Karl Popoff –
Commissioner Boice**

Boice stated the resolution speaks for itself as it recognizes a veteran, spoke of Popoff's service in Vietnam, observed he has known Popoff for 25 years, stated recognizing one veteran recognizes them all, and noted Popoff deserves to be the first. Gold stated she is opposed to singling out any one volunteer, noted the COVID-19 pandemic interrupted her efforts to honor all County volunteers, strongly feels by honoring one (1) volunteer it appears the Board has favorites, and encouraged setting criteria to choose individual veterans to honor. David Barnes stated he (1) agrees with Gold, and (2) does not understand the timing on this as it is several weeks too late or several months too early. Paasch stated he met Popoff years ago, appreciates Gold's work on volunteers, and appreciates what Popoff has done.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Paasch, to approve resolution recognizing Karl Popoff's years of service. Motion carried 2-1 (Boice – Yes; Paasch – Yes; Gold – No)

**E. Board of Commissioners of Curry County, Resolution Proclaiming Support for Law
Enforcement and Public Safety – Commissioner Boice**

Boice stated his support for the proclamation, read the proclamation, and commented he is very proud of the work done by the Sheriff's Department. Barnes stated he fully supports the Sheriff's Department, feels the resolution is not necessary as it is political pandering, objected to the battle cry perspective of the wording, suggested re-wording the proclamation, and recommended including other public safety entities. Gold stated it's a good resolution and proclamation, and she will support it without the battle cry wording. Paasch agrees with Barnes and suggested adding first responders,

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Cal-Ore Life Flight Ground & Air Ambulance Service , and SAR (Search And Rescue). Huttel read some suggested revisions.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold, to approve amended resolution supporting law enforcement. Motion carried unanimously.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Schmelzer spoke about

- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the County operations, specifically,
 - In person quarterly department head reports to the Board have been curtailed;
 - The Parks Department is down in revenues;
 - Lost revenue such as Parks and TLT (Transient Lodging Tax) cannot be claimed as COVID-19 pandemic related expenses; however,
 - The Building Department is reporting the highest revenues ever.
- The Coos Forest Protection District changes to the County's fire protection plan;
- Anticipating reimbursement for COVID-19 pandemic related expenses soon;
- Another request for reimbursement funds will be submitted by the end of the month; and
- DOC position has been advertised nationally.

8. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

A. Commissioner Boice spoke about

- Congressman DeFazio office awareness of work Paasch has been doing on the Port of Gold Beach;
- His phone conversation with State Senator Arnie Roblan and proposed fire training center;
- April being Child Abuse Awareness month;
- A letter to BLM (Bureau of Land Management) supporting their after fire timber salvage process;
- The letter he wrote on the broadband issue;
- A presentation he made about the Fire Training Center;
- The activity in Portland as he is really worried about Oregon;
- Drive through testing at Curry General Hospital;
- Fire Season updates;
- Support for the Shasta Agness landscape restoration project
- The COVID-19 pandemic and six (6) surrounding counties statistics; and
- Governor Brown's press release about wearing masks.

B. Commissioner Gold spoke about

- OHA (Oregon Health Authority) report showing an increase in domestic abuse and child abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic;
- A very high percentage of COVID-19 deaths have underlying conditions;
- Our local Allcare group having an increase in available grant funding;
- Meeting with David Marshall new school superintendent of Brookings Harbor School District; and
- Meeting with Gary Dehlinger, Port of Brookings Harbor.

C. Commissioner Paasch spoke about

- The Wild Rivers Coast brochure;

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- A CARES (Curry Amateur Radio Emergency Service) group vacancy and encouraged licensed ham radio citizens to apply;
- Unemployment statistics for low income workers;
- His concern about nationwide riots, looting, and the resulting current climate occasioning local law enforcement hesitancy to respond; and
- His disappointment with Governor Brown for not calling up the National Guard for the situation in Portland.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

192.660(2)(a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent

AGENDA AMENDED TO INCLUDE 192.660(2)(d), (f), and (h)

192.660 (2)(d) To conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

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 11:09 a.m. and recessed at 11:51 a.m.

Staff is to proceed as directed.

10. HIRE ORDERS

A. Litter Patrol Crew Leader

Motion by Gold, seconded by Boice, to approve hiring Litter Patrol Leader. Motion carried unanimously.

11. 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.")

AGENDA AMENDED TO INCLUDE HAZARD PAY FOR SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

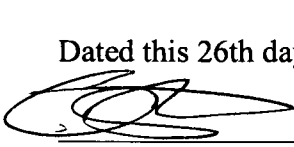
Schmelzer explained the hazard pay for the Sheriff's department ended June 30, 2020 and recommended the Board extended the hazard pay until September 6, 2020.

Motion by Boice, seconded by Gold to approve change in expiration date for hazard pay Motion carried unanimously.

12. ADJOURN

Chair Paasch adjourned the meeting at : p.m.

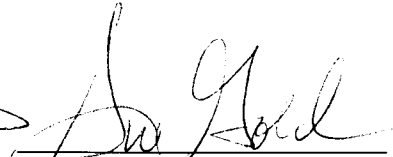
Dated this 26th day of August, 2020.



Christopher S Paasch, Chair
Minutes prepared by: John Jezuit, Administrative Assistant



Court Boice, Vice Chair 8/27/20



Sue Gold, Commissioner

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