

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administrative Meeting of April 29, 2020
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

Commissioners Present: Chair John Shafer, Vice-Chair George Murdock, and Commissioner Bill Elfering
County Counsel: Doug Olsen
Members and Guests Present: Robert Pahl, CFO; Marie Simonis, Assistant Director of Finance/Budget; Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Shafer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Murdock.

Chair Shafer reminded those present that the meeting is a public forum. It is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken.

Business Items

1. Commissioner Murdock noted a request from Doug Corey and numerous others in the general public, for information from the Commissioners. In response, a letter has been prepared and **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the letter to be signed by the Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
2. **Creation of Clinic Nurse Practitioner Position.** Commissioner Murdock presented. The Nurse Practitioner position has normally been a contracted position. However, even after going to great lengths, the county cannot recruit and hire someone to oversee UCo Health clinics in Pendleton and Hermiston for evaluations and prescriptions. The previous contract was with St. Anthony Hospital for a provider, which provider resigned (last day was 3/12/2020). The health department has pursued contracting options without success and instead would like to fulfill this need through an employed position for a Nurse Practitioner; an hourly position, no benefits, for approximately two days/week, not to exceed 19 hours per week. Being fully staffed with qualified medical professionals is required to carry out public health functions that are especially critical during the pandemic. Approval is sought to create a Nurse Practitioner position at UCo Health for the clinic. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the creation of the position. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0. 2.**
3. **Umatilla County Reopening Guidelines.** Commissioner Murdock presented. Guidelines for reopening have been vetted with staff, UCo Health Director and Health Officer, AOC and the Governor’s office. All counties have been asked to prepare such a procedure. Today at 2:30 he will have a conference call with Tina Edlund, the Governor’s Health Policy Advisor. He’s hopeful it will be basic/general questions. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve the guidelines as drafted and presented. Commissioner Elfering commented the outline in general has followed the President’s directives and the Governor’s directives and he seconded the motion. Carried, 3-0.**

4. Umatilla County Work Schedules. Commissioner Murdock gave the report. For the last four weeks, the county implemented a special work schedule through 4/30 for some county offices. It is proposed to extend the schedule through May 15. All staff would be back on 5/18/20. Chair Shafer clarified that 5/15 is a Friday, thus all county staff would be back to regular work on Monday, 5/18. **Commissioner Murdock moved to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

Executive Session – none.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melinda Slatt

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners