

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administrative Meeting of January 22, 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, Chief Finance Officer; Dale Primmer, Community Corrections Director; Angie McNalley, Fair Coordinator; Dan Dorrان, Hermiston; Gail Nelson, Economic Development Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Shafer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He reminded those present that the meeting is a public forum. It is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Comments will become part of the meeting record. If persons wish to speak before the Board, please come to the podium, identify yourself and state where you live in order to be heard on the record – also note if you are speaking on behalf of others. He noted there is a point for public input before business items for other than agenda items.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Murdock.

Awards/Correspondence/Recognition - none

Minutes – none.

Additions to Agenda – none.

Public Comments – none.

Business Items

1. **Fair Board Bylaws.** Presented by Angie McNalley, Fair Coordinator, 1705 E. Airport Rd., Hermiston. She has worked with Doug Olsen to research historical documents; they never found bylaws, just an agreement. Therefore, with some Fair Board turnovers, it was time to formalize the process. A committee was formed from the Fair Board to create bylaws. They are now presented for Board of Commissioner review and approval. Commissioner Murdock, for record, thanked Commissioner Elfering for his time spent on the committee in reviewing the document and recommending approval. Ms. McNalley also added Umatilla County’s Ordinance is referenced as an Addendum, and subsequent changes will be addendums to the bylaws. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve and adopt the Fair Board Bylaws with the Addendum as noted. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock.** Commissioner Shafer added his thanks for the hard work on this. **Motion carried, 3-0.**

2. **Stanfield-Echo Enterprise Zone.** Presented by Gail Nelson, Economic Development Coordinator, 216 SE 4th St., Pendleton. This is for the Commissioners to act on the Cities of Stanfield and Echo’s plans to apply as co-sponsors of a new enterprise zone that would include their city limits and urban growth boundaries. Stanfield City Council approved the application last night, Echo Council approved it last week, and it was recently approved by the Port of Umatilla. At this time, the County is being asked to serve as a co-sponsor of the application. Ms. Nelson also advised that motels, hotels, and resorts will be eligible project in the zone. Commissioner Elfering added that forming their own enterprise zone was brought about since the City of Umatilla recently separated from them. In addition, Commissioner Murdock added this designation will be a

good fit since Stanfield and Echo are similar towns. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2020-010. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

3. Letter of Support. Presented by Ms. Nelson. Board action is requested to support the grant application of Blue Mountain Lumber Products LLC to the US Forest Service (for wood pellet energy and to improve machinery regarding upcoming thinning of forests due to fire danger). They are a small lumber company and need to take advantage of these grants to harvest smaller diameter logs/lumber. This support will facilitate the grant application. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the letter of support. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**
4. Appointment to LPSCC. Presented by Dale Primmer, Community Justice Director, 4705 NW Pioneer Pl., Pendleton. This is a bit of housekeeping. In working with Coordinator, Mark Royal, there are two members that have not been formally appointed to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. The recommendation is to appoint representatives that reflect current participation -- Carole Innes, City Council of Pendleton, and Mollie Croisan, City of Hermiston. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2020-009. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 3-0.**

Executive Session – none.

Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Elfering advised he attended the annual Oregon Fair Association conference last week in Roseburg. The big topic is that Davis Shows Cascadia is going out of business (the carnival provider for our county fair). The OFA will be looking to assist carnival shows in scheduling statewide to be more cost-effective. There is a lot of work to get this done by fair. There will be a carnival – Umatilla County is a good event.

Commissioner Murdock also added to the fair discussion. He attended meetings in Salem last week where EOCA's lobbyist lobbied the State Fair Board with two main goals: (1) they want to pursue a \$250,000 allocation (grant) from the legislature for a study with the purpose of examining the facilities of Oregon's fairgrounds to define the condition of each and see what needs to be done. He believes that Umatilla County is the only one in the state that doesn't own its fairgrounds. (2) Beyond the usual \$50,000 received yearly by each fair, they want to have that increased to \$165,000 per fair – perhaps in phases -- not all at once. All counties have aging fairgrounds that need to be addressed.

Back to Commissioner Elfering: he recently attended a CityCounty Insurance Services board retreat and advised that increases in the coming year look to be minimal for Umatilla County.

Commissioner Murdock: in regard to the last AOC regular meeting, they are trying to position AOC with regard to cap & trade, where 11 talking points have been created relative to the proposal. These points are just for discussion purposes; AOC is not taking a position. Also, concern has been expressed about community corrections funding – there is a lot of interest in that topic. In addition, there is a lot of discussion about a prevailing wage proposal regarding enterprise zones and related issues. On Tuesday, he went to a day at the capital. Right now it is wait and see if a session will be forthcoming. The next big session is AOC day in Salem in February; however, before that (on February 6), there will be a “timber unity rally”, which should draw a large rural presence. Lastly, AOC has contracted with a new Executive Director, Gina Nikkel. He recently met with Rob Bovett, AOC Counsel, to go over the parameters. Ms. Nikkel will start in mid-March.

Commissioner Shafer advised that Mark Owens (Harney County Commissioner) was appointed by the necessary County Commissioners to replace Lynn Findley as representative for Oregon House District # 60.

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: *Melinda Slatt*, Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners