

Morrow County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2023
Bartholomew Building Upper Conference Room
Heppner, Oregon

Present In-Person:

Chair David Sykes, Commissioner Jeff Wenholz, Greg Sweek, Kevin Ince, Roberta Lutchter, Eric Imes, Justin Nelson, Lindsay Grogan, Jaylene Papineau, Bobbi Childers, Brian Snyder

Present Via Zoom:

Debbie Radie, SaBrina Bailey-Cave, Brenda Profitt, Erika Lasater, Heidi Turrell, Ronda Fox, Ana Pineyro, Sandi Pointer, Mark Keith, Robin Canaday, Kirsti Cason, Torrie Griggs, Staci Osmin, Lisa Mittelsdorf, Yvonne Morter, Tamra Mabbott, Anna Browne, Linda Skendzel, Glen Diehl, Jim Doherty, Angie Burke, Deona Siex

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: 9:00 a.m.

City & Citizen Comments: None

Open Agenda: No items

Consent Calendar

Commissioner Wenholz moved to approve the following items in the Consent Calendar:

- 1. Resolution No. R-2023-2: In the Matter of Establishing a Yearly Election of Morrow County Board of Commissioners Chairman & Repealing Resolution No. R-2017-1*
- 2. Ninth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority Intergovernmental Agreement #169524 for the Financing of Public Health Services; and authorize Chair Sykes to sign on behalf of the County*

Chair Sykes seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Business Items

Purchase Request – Grader & Attachments

Eric Imes, Public Works Director

Mr. Imes talked about the need for the purchase. He said the Road Equipment Reserve budget currently supported the purchase.

Kevin Ince, Finance Director, provided an overview of permissive cooperative procurement, which means an organization, Sourcewell in this case, has gone through rigorous competitive bid processes for a variety of products and services nationwide. Government entities can then “piggyback” on these agreements, resulting in a more expeditious process.

A brief question and answer exchange took place.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to approve the purchase of a 2023 CAT 160 Motor Grader with attachments, in the amount of \$396,280.91. Chair Sykes seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Resolution No. R-2023-1: Morrow County Public Employees Retirement Plan Amendment

Lindsay Grogan, Human Resources Director

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

Ms. Grogan cleared up last week's confusion over the dates listed in the documents. Northwest Retirement Plan Consultants drafted the amendment with the incorrect dates but they have now corrected them, she explained.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to approve Resolution No. R-2023-1: In the Matter of Amendment to the Morrow County Public Employees Retirement Plan; and authorize the Human Resources or Finance Director to sign and execute the Plan Amendment. Chair Sykes Seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Budget Committee Vacancy

Kevin Ince, Finance Director

Mr. Ince said a vacancy was created when Commissioner Wenholz became Commissioner. He asked the Board's preferred process to fill the vacancy. Brief discussion.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to proceed with the posting to fill the vacancy on the Budget Committee. Chair Sykes seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Determine Appointment Process for Vacant County Commissioner Position 1

After a lengthy discussion, which included input from Ms. Grogan, Clerk, Bobbi Childers and County Counsel, Justin Nelson, the Board opted to: accept submissions to the Clerk's Office through January 31st; submissions to consist of Candidate Filing Form SEL 101 and, preferably, a letter of interest; advertise and also publish as a public notice in area newspapers; and the Board would interview candidates to narrow the field, depending on the number of submissions received.

Commissioner Wenholz moved to authorize the Clerk and Human Resources Director and the Interim Administrator to follow through with advertising and promotion of the open position, as mentioned above. Chair Sykes seconded. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Community Counseling Solutions Quarterly Report

Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director

Ms. Lindsay decided to delay some of the topics in her update to a later date to instead focus on the Oregon Revised Statutes that pertain to the County's role as the mental health authority. She also talked about how funding is passed through to CCS, and offered a brief overview of the Medicaid contract.

Miscellaneous

The Board heard from Irma Solis, Acting Trial Court Administrator for the Sixth Judicial District. Ms. Solis encouraged the Commissioners to contact her if they had questions pertaining to the District Court system in Morrow County.

Review Commissioner Vehicle Use Policy

Greg Sweek, Interim County Administrator

Mr. Sweek reviewed current policy that allows Commissioners to take vehicles to their residences, and reviewed the timeline for that change.

Commissioner Wenzholz stated he wanted the policy to revert back to Commissioners following the same policy as all employees – that the vehicle must be parked at a County facility or on County property. As Chair Sykes agreed, the Board directed staff to return next week with the appropriate documents to make the change.

Department Reports

- Mr. Sweek provided the Administrator’s Report
- Judge Glen Diehl provided the Justice Court Quarterly Report
- Linda Skendzel provided the Veterans Office Quarterly Report
- The Planning Department Monthly Report was provided by Tamra Mabbott, Planning Director
- The Treasurer’s Monthly Report was provided by Jaylene Papineau
- Mr. Ince provided the Accounts Payable Report

Correspondence

- Letter from the Planning Department to Business Oregon in support of the Port of Morrow’s grant application for Kinzua Mill Site Floodplain Mitigation
- Letter from Business Oregon notifying the County it was awarded “\$207,000 from the Emerging Opportunity Pilot Fund in the form of a grant for installing power and fiber infrastructure at the Lexington Airport to enable current and future private investment.”
- Employment letter/contract between Morrow County and Greg Sweek for the position of Interim Administrator

Commissioner Reports

Reports of activity were provided by both Commissioners.

Signing of Documents

Adjourned: 12:10 p.m.