

Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 17, 2011

Present: Commissioner Steve McClure
Commissioner Mark D. Davidson
Commissioner William D. Rosholt

Call To Order

Chairman McClure called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three Commission members present.

Public Comments & Concerns

Scott Stevens, 62817 Buchanan Lane, La Grande, asked the Commissioners if they have an intergovernmental agreement with Island City on the agenda for the meeting. Commissioner McClure stated they are going to generate a letter from the County requesting that Island City do their enforcement and if they are not going to do any enforcement then the County will. Commissioner McClure stated that he is not sure what Island City will do regarding the annexation request.

Scott Stevens read a letter from David Clemens into the record.

Commissioner McClure explained that the County will expedite the process as quickly as possible.

Authorized Signature Form

Vicky Brogoitti, Director of Commission on Children and Families, came to the Commissioners with an Authorized Signature Form for consideration. She explained that this form has to be in place before they can begin drawing down funds from the State. This is the form that identifies the people who are authorized to sign to request funds or sign off on reports to the State Commission on Children and Families. This will require the signature of the Chairman and the Administrative Officer. **Commissioner Davidson moved to authorize the Commission Chairman and the Administrative Officer to sign the Authorized Signature Form. Commissioner Rosholt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Budget Allocation Form

Vicky Brogoitti brought the Budget Allocation Form to the Commissioners for consideration. She explained that the Commissioners have approved this in another format but it does require the signature of the Commission Chairman for the State to release funds. **Commissioner Davidson moved to authorize the Commission Chairman to sign the Budget Allocation Form for the Commission on Children and Families. Commissioner Rosholt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

The July 29 and August 4, 9 and 11 claims journals for fiscal year 2011-12; the August 4 and 11 claims journals for fiscal year 2010-11; the August 4 and 11 Public Works claims journals for fiscal year 2011-12; the April 20 and May 4 Board of Commissioners Minutes; and the May 24 Budget Minutes and Solid Waste Budget Minutes were approved as presented on the consent agenda.

Legal Description Correction Court Order

Court Order 2011-40, In the Matter of Amending Court Order 2010-31 to Correct the Legal Description for Property Petitioned into the Powder Rural Fire Protection District Boundary, was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, explained that when the Planning Department received the petition for annexation into the Fire Protection District Boundary the legal description that was used in the Court Order that was adopted included a piece of property which was not included in the petition. There was an error in the legal description. This Court Order would remove that section and leave only the larger section which was the original intent. It came to the Planning Department's attention when it was processed through the Department of Revenue. Shelley explained that this Court Order would correct the original Court Order because the Commissioners did hold the public hearing and approve the annexation but the Court Order did something more than what was intended. **Commissioner Davidson moved approval of Court Order 2011-40 as presented. Commissioner Rosholt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

WURA Line of Credit Approval

Resolution 2011-12, In the Matter of a Resolution Authorizing Signature Authority for the Wallowa Union Railroad Authority Line of Credit, was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess explained that this is a document that the County will need to provide to Community Bank to show that the Commissioners took official action to authorize a signatory for the acceptance of the line of credit. This represents Union County's authorization. The WURA Board took a separate action and will authorize who can draw down the funds. This Court Order authorizes the signature on behalf of Union County. **Commissioner Davidson moved approval of Resolution 2011-12 as presented. Commissioner Rosholt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Surplus Property Court Order

This Court Order was held until the next meeting.

Quit Claim Deeds (Foreclosure Sale)

Shelley Burgess brought two Quit Claim Deeds to the Commissioners for consideration. She explained that these deeds are from a tax foreclosure sale that was done in November. There was a delay in preparing the deeds because there was a wait for a clear legal description. **Commissioner Davidson moved**

approval of the Quit Claim Deeds as presented. Commissioner Rosholt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Shelter from the Storm Operating Agreement

Shelley Burgess brought the Operating Agreement between Union County and the Shelter from the Storm to the Commissioners for consideration. She explained that this agreement would extend the agreement for one year. There are no other changes at this time. **Commissioner Davidson moved approval of the Shelter from the Storm Operating Agreement as presented. Commissioner Rosholt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Discretionary Fund Recommendation

Shelley Burgess explained that the Discretionary Fund Committee prepared a funding recommendation for the Commissioners consideration. They reviewed an application from the Cove Community Association for the Cove Cherry Fair. The recommendation is to award \$1,000.

Commissioner Davidson explained the committee met to review the request and they felt it is in line with other requests that have been received and funded. The request was for \$1700 but the recommendation is \$1,000 to keep in line with the other requests that have come in. He stated that he supports the recommendation. **Commissioner Rosholt moved approval of the Discretionary Fund recommendation as presented. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Ordinance Regulating Fuel Dispensing for Airport – Public Hearing

Ordinance 2011-05, In the Matter of an Ordinance Regulating Fuel Dispensing for the Union County Airport and Declaring an Emergency, was presented for consideration.

Commissioner McClure explained that the purpose of this Ordinance is to add a fee on any fuel dispensing that occurs at the Airport. These Ordinances are common in most Airports around the area. The fuel sales are a major source of revenue for the Airport. There are a few people who are bringing in their own fuel so the County provides the service at the Airport but is not receiving any revenue towards the Airport. The fee will be \$.10 per gallon which he believes is a reasonable amount.

Commissioner McClure then opened the public hearing for testimony.

Warren Grover, 1507 Conklin Ln. Cove, stated that he has been flying planes at the airport for 10 years. He has a light sport which burns 4.3 gallons per hour. It has an engine which requires non-ethanol premium which is not available at the airport. He uses 5 gallon cans to transport fuel to his hanger to fuel his airplane. He doesn't store fuel at the hangar but brings the fuel in each time he will be

using the airplane. He flies about 50 hours a year which would be \$22.50 to the County if he is taxed for fuel that is not provided.

Commissioner McClure stated that it is the County's intent to address the large suppliers.

David McClay, 407 F La Grande, stated that this was tried when the City of La Grande owned the airport. In the long run they lost money. With the amount of fuel being dispensed to helicopters they will land across the street and bring a tanker in to fuel up. There is a way to offer discounts after so many gallons a month as an incentive. There could be other ways to increase revenue without angering the large companies.

Louie Lyman, 62057 Evergreen Rd., La Grande, stated that there are assets at the Airport that can bring revenue other than having to impose this tax. There are seven hangars at the airport and one of those has an office. Louie asked what the hangars rent for. Shelley stated that they are \$100 a month. He explained that there is a maintenance hangar that should rent for \$1.25 a square foot. There are four people located in the industrial park. Those people should have to pay an access fee since they are using the airport every day. Louie asked what is going on with the large green hangar at the airport and why it isn't rented. Commissioner McClure explained that the County is trying to rent the building at this time. It is being temporarily rented to Columbia Helicopters. The County has looked at other opportunities to try and rent that building.

Commissioner McClure stated that he likes Louie's ideas and maybe they can pass the Ordinance and add the other suggestions to have even more revenue.

Louie stated that there should be a tie down fee of \$10 if they leave their plane for the day or overnight. Commissioner McClure stated that the County will look into tie down fees.

Louie asked if the County could look into having a key lock system on the fuel. Commissioner McClure explained that the comments he gets on a key lock system are from law enforcement who opposes them because it allows people to come in and buy fuel unmonitored. They have concerns about drug trafficking.

Louie explained that he will walk into the office at the Airport and nine times out of ten he is waking someone up to get some fuel. He wants to know why the County would employ seven people who are not doing their job. He stated that there is something to do all the time. The employees don't answer the radio on a regular basis.

Commissioner McClure explained that the County would look at their ideas for a revenue stream and see what can be done. He still thinks that the fuel surcharge is an important component.

Louie asked why the County purchases fuel from only one provider. Commissioner McClure explained that if there is not an established relationship or contract when there is a heavy fire season there will be no fuel available. They keep that relationship for those times.

There was no other testimony given. Commissioner McClure closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Rosholt asked if the Commissioners want to go against the Attorney's advice and put a minimum amount in the Ordinance.

Commissioner Davidson suggested doing some research on how other airports are enforcing their fuel Ordinances. He stated that the people that are using the airport for recreational purposes may think that the small amount they would have to pay in the fuel tax would be worth it to be able to house an aircraft at the airport and use the airport.

Commissioner McClure asked Mr. Grover what the value is to use the airport for his recreational purposes. He stated that it is worth the \$22 that it would cost him a year but people do not like the word "tax". Mr. Grover stated that the fuel that he uses is not available at the airport and if it was he would purchase it there.

Commissioner Davidson suggested that the Ordinance could clarify what type of fuel so it was only the fuel available at the airport for purchase.

Warren Grover stated that with tie down fees his experience is that pilots do not get turned off by an overnight tie down fee. It is almost in every airport that he has traveled. As long as it is modest and maybe there could be a weekly rate or it could be waived if they purchase fuel.

Commissioner Davidson explained that all the County is trying to do is have the operators who are using the public asset start contributing something toward the maintenance and upkeep of the facility.

Commissioner Rosholt stated that the County also has to follow the FAA guidelines. Louie stated that the FAA only controls the air space and runways.

Commissioner McClure explained that the County takes airport improvement funds and there are grant assurances given to receive that money. One of the grant assurances is that everyone is treated the same. They do control some of the things that are done at the airport because the County received those funds.

The Commissioners will do some more investigation on what other airports are doing and other ways to word the Ordinance. There will be testimony taken at the next hearing as well. The next hearing was scheduled for September 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Community Development Block Grant Close Out – Public Hearing

Lisa Dawson, Northeast Oregon Economic Development District, explained to the Commissioners that she is before them to provide information on the Community Development Block Grant that was done for Microenterprise Development. They had seven classes that qualified as CDBG eligible which meant that 51% of the people in the class were low and moderate income. There were another six or seven classes that were not eligible for funding. The classes were basic business planning classes, a Quicken class, a social media class and a local food workshop. The classes were well received and the comments were good from the participants.

Commissioner McClure asked if Lisa felt all the administration that went with the grant was worth the funds that were received. She stated that it was worth it for her and she would do it again. It is administration heavy but one comment that the State had for any future contract was to have a per diem rate for meals and lodging and charge that across the board if there is a class rather than having actual costs. That will eliminate some of the paperwork at the end of the grant. During the middle of the grant cycle she received the 2011 grant handbook which stated that there also needed to be a fair housing activity. Fortunately, the Fair Housing Council of Oregon was coming to La Grande anyway on August 25th and agreed to do a public workshop. She has been advertising that workshop directly to all of the realtors. She has had a good response for attendance.

Commissioner McClure asked Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, if it has been a burden on her. She explained that Lisa does the work for the grant. It does seem to her that there are a lot of requirements for the amount of money given. There are a lot of additional requirements that come along with this grant that she hasn't seen with some larger grants that the County receives. Lisa has lived up to her commitment of taking on those responsibilities when Union County agreed to sponsor the grant.

Lisa explained that the CDBG is getting tougher. They would like the County to be trained on what it takes to have a CDBG because any sponsoring entity is responsible for meeting the requirements.

Commissioner McClure opened the public hearing for testimony. There was no testimony received. The hearing was then closed.

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Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm
Sr. Dept. Specialist