

Union County Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 20, 2008

Present: Commissioner R. Nellie Bogue Hibbert
Commissioner Colleen MacLeod
Commissioner Steve McClure

Call to Order

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

Road Grader Bid Award

Richard Comstock, Public Works Director, and Jim Brennan, Western States Equipment, stated that Western States is proposing to buy out two equipment leases. Richard took the buy out negotiations to Brandon Eyre, Attorney, Mautz, Baum, & O'Hanlon, and he approved them. Brandon showed Richard the way to make the contract according to Section 7 of the public contracting ordinance. Western States has offered to buy out two of the Public Works leases early and replace those with like machines of the same prices that were on the original 2004 and 2005 leases. Richard went over the recommendations from Brandon Eyre with the Commissioners.

Jim Brennan explained that Western States took a 4-5% increase this year and it will take a 7% increase next year. Commissioner MacLeod asked Jim why these older machines are valuable to Western States. Jim explained that these machines have been well maintained and it is beneficial to the rental stores to have because many of the crews that rent them do not have time to train employees on new equipment that have experience on the older models. Public Works already has a new model grader so their employees already know the controls and are comfortable using the new machines. There were no public comments about this issue. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the proposal by Western States Equipment. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Transient Tax Discretionary Fund Grant

The Discretionary Fund Committee received a grant application from the City of Elgin and the Elgin Health District. The committee recommended approval of the grant in which half of the funding would come from the discretionary fund and half would come from the video lottery money for a total of \$5,000. The committee also suggested that if Carmen Gentry, Mayor of Elgin, had trouble at the end of the process for Union County to subsidize what is needed, which would be approximately \$6,900. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the Transient Tax Discretionary Fund request from the City of Elgin and Elgin Health District as recommended. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

The July 31 claims journal (FY 2007-08), July 28, 31, and August 7 claims journal (FY 2008-09), August 7 public works claims journal (FY 2007-08) and July 30 and August 6 public works claims journal (FY 2008-09) were approved as presented on the consent agenda.

CHD Agreement Renewal

Steve McClure, Commissioner, explained that this agreement has been pending for two years and there have been some adjustments because Center for Human Development (CHD) made some changes in their operations. If a new project comes forward it was up to the discretion of Union County whether CHD was hired to do the project. If a new funding source comes for a new program there can be an agreement with CHD but they don't automatically get the project unless it is part of an existing program. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the agreement between Union County and CHD. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Region 13 Worksource Board

Court Order 2008-37, In the Matter of Re-Appointing Members to the Region 13 Worksource Board was presented for consideration. Three of the member's terms have expired and they have agreed to continue to serve on the board. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2008-37. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Cancelling Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes

Court Order 2008-38, In the Matter of Cancellation of Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes was presented for consideration. The taxes are delinquent and wholly uncollectible. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2008-38. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

NEACT Board

Court Order 2008-39, In the Matter of Appointment to the Northeast Area Commission on Transportation was presented for consideration. Each County may appoint an alternative to serve in the absence of one of the regular appointed members and Richard Comstock has agreed to serve as an alternate. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Court Order 2008-39. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Court Facility Task Force

Resolution 2008-17, In the Matter of a Resolution Establishing a Court Facility Task Force was presented for consideration. There has been concern with regard to the safety and functionality of the present State Court facilities and related offices in Union County. Attempts have been made in the past to obtain voter approval of additional funding for new court facilities. The need to address

the court facility issue in Union County has been brought to the forefront by a study of court facilities funded by the 2007 Legislature at the request of Oregon Supreme Court Justice Paul DeMuniz and the formation of a Court Facility Task Force was discussed. The Task Force shall be appointed by the Union County Board of Commissioners to include a member of the Union County Bar Association, Union County Circuit Court, City of La Grande, Local Government other than the City of La Grande, a County Commissioner, Union County District Attorney, and Three to Five at Large Representatives. The Union County Court Facility Task Force will be in charge of defining the facility needs of the State courts and related offices, reviewing potential site locations, reviewing financial opportunities and options including partnerships, providing periodic updates to the Board of Commissioners, and providing prioritized recommendations on facility locations and funding solutions. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Resolution 2008-17. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm
Department Specialist