

Board of Commissioners Meeting  
June 1, 2016

Present: Commissioner Steve McClure  
Commissioner Mark D. Davidson  
Commissioner Jack Howard

Chairman Howard opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the pledge of allegiance was given. All three commissioners were present.

**Public Comments**

No public comments were offered.

**Constituent Inquiries**

Commissioner Howard stated that he received an informal notice from Ken Bruce that there will be a Library Directors meeting on June 13 in the Misener Room; he is unsure of the meeting's intent.

**Elected Official, Department Head & Employee Comments**

**Fund Exchange Agreement**

Doug Wright, PO Box 1103, Public Works Director, presented the Fund Exchange Agreement to the commissioners for signing; ODOT changed some language in the original document. The changes would make it broader so that equipment purchased would be used for Public Works and maintenance purposes only. It also stipulates terms and conditions for selling purchased equipment. It has already been signed by Assistant Attorney General. **Commissioner McClure moved to approve the Fund Exchange Agreement. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Consent Agenda**

**Commissioner Davidson moved approval of the Consent Agenda, which included Claims Journals for May 12, 18, and 19. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Administrative Matters**

**Resolution 2016-08, Abolishing Unnecessary Funds**

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, stated that three funds with minimal balances were identified during the budget process last year. The budget committee noted that they could be closed since they were no longer active. Mrs. Burgess read Resolution 2016-08 in its entirety. Funds to be abolished are as follows:

1. Fund 401, the Airport Bond fund, \$3.10. This was created when an airport improvement bond passed; it has now expired. The fund remained open to allow for the collection of delinquent taxes. Closing the fund would result in delinquent tax collected for this bond to be sent to the general fund.

2. Fund 250, the Child Abuse Mitigation and Intervention (CAMI) Program fund, \$0. The county used to serve as the fiscal agent for what is now the Mt. Emily Safe Center. They became an independent entity, but owed the county some funds; the fund was left open so they could repay the balance over time. They have obligated those responsibilities this year.
3. Fund 234, Renewable Energy fund, \$42.40. This was created with wind energy revenues; there is no anticipated revenue in the future.

Commissioner Howard asked if remaining balances in the funds would be sent to the general fund. Mrs. Burgess stated that based on statute when the funds were created, remaining funds would be sent to the general fund.

**Commissioner McClure moved to approve Resolution 2016-08. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Resolution 2016-09, Authorizing Grant Application for Buffalo Peak Multi-Use Park Feasibility Study

**Commissioner McClure moved approval. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Howard recessed the meeting and called it back to order at 10:00 a.m.

### **Petition to Vacate Portion of Faith Lane**

Commissioner McClure stated that although he does not believe it is a conflict of interest, he would like the record to show that his nephew, Wayne Herron, owned the property and retained the house and approximately three acres and partitioned the rest of it. Commissioner McClure stated that he has not personally benefitted from it.

Commissioner Howard stated that he did not see any objections to Commissioner McClure's proceedings and deliberations on the matter.

Scott Hartell, Planning Director, 1001 Fourth Street, La Grande, stated that Nicholas Conklin submitted a petition for road vacation of a portion of Faith Lane. The first 150 feet of Faith Lane would remain a public use road; the 1400 feet west of that area would be vacated by the county. Doug Wright, Union County Public Works Director, submitted a letter supporting the road vacation. This public hearing was advertised in accordance with ORS 368.401 and the county completed the process of vacation identified in ORS 368.326. This public hearing is for the commissioners to hear public testimony and deliberate before making a decision.

Commissioner Davidson stated that Nicholas and Christina Conklin are the owners of both affected parcels, tax lot 601 and tax lot 700.

Mr. Hartell stated that tax lot 601 is in a ten acre zone and is considered a ten acre parcel with the portion of the right-of-away for the public road. Tax lot 700 is 13.3 acres and cannot be further partitioned based on the zoning that applies to the property. A private road can access two parcels in the county without having any conflicts. Commissioner Davidson stated that this action would not combine the parcels. Mr. Hartell added that the right-of-way would be divided equally between both tax lots.

Commissioner Howard asked if any objections were received in writing at the Planning Department office. Mr. Hartell stated no.

Commissioner McClure asked if this would land-lock any parcels. Mr. Hartell stated no.

Commissioner Howard opened the public hearing for testimony.

Faith Lane Public Comment

Nicholas Conklin, 57726 Godley Rd, stated that he is the property owner for the two tax lots referenced. If he were to sell the parcel, a house could not be built on the property because it is essentially a swamp. There are three irrigation ditches that run along the property and is the biggest reason he wants it vacated; it would be pointless to build a road.

Commissioner Howard closed the public hearing.

Commissioner McClure stated that he viewed the property with Mr. Hartell. He concurred with Mr. Conklin and stated that the road leads to nowhere and he does not think this action would have an impact of any kind. He supports the petition to vacate a portion of Faith Lane.

**Commissioner Davidson concurred with Commissioner McClure and moved approval of Court Order 2016-21. Commissioner McClure seconded.**

Commissioner Howard stated that it was his understand from city ordinances that a 30-day gap would be required after the presentation of the requested vacation. He stated that he thinks that may be inaccurate and asked if it could be passed and approved on the same day. Mrs. Burgess stated that it could be passed and approved on the same day because it is a court order and the county does not have a charter that dictates differently, like the City of La Grande.

**Roll Call: Commissioner Davidson, yes. Commissioner McClure, yes. Commissioner Howard, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Next Meeting and Location**

Budget meetings will take place on June 7 and June 8 at 4:00 p.m. at the Joseph Annex Building. Regular Commission meeting will be on June 15 at 9:00 a.m. at the Joseph Annex Building.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorcinda Johnston  
Sr. Dept. Specialist II