

Union County Board of Commissioners  
August 15, 2018

Present: Commissioner Steve McClure  
Commissioner Jack Howard  
Commissioner Donna Beverage, Chair

Commissioner Beverage opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was given with all three Commissioners present.

**Public Comments**

Umatilla National Forest Service

Eric Watrud, 72510 Coyote Road, Pendleton, Oregon, Umatilla National Forest Supervisor introduced himself to the Commissioners.

Mr. Watrud expressed his appreciation for Forest Service staff, and briefly went over his experience as a forest service provider. He expressed his desire to have open communication with the Commissioners and to be a cooperative partner.

Commissioner McClure commented on a previous road closure that was made off of Highway 204 outside of Elgin, where the notice was posted in the East Oregonian. He asked that in the future notices be posted in The Observer, as most Union County residents go to the Observer for information.

Commissioner Beverage thanked Mr. Watrud for taking the time to introduce himself to the Commissioners. Mr. Watrud will be leaving his card for future communication.

Commissioner Howard also thanked Mr. Watrud for taking the time to come over and share his time with the Commissioners. He suggested Mr. Watrud contact the Mayor of Elgin prior to his meeting with him.

Blue Mountain Translator District (BMTD) Update

Alex McHaddad, Manager of the Blue Mountain Translator District provided an update to the Commissioners on the quarterly activities of the BMTD.

Commissioner McClure complimented Mr. McHaddad on his recent progress with BMTD.

Commissioner Howard also complimented Mr. McHaddad and offered his assistance in regards to his proposal for the 2019 Legislature.

Pacific Northwest Iron Workers

Mike Alldritt, Pacific Northwest Iron Workers, 11620 NE Ainsworth Circle, Suite 200 Portland, Oregon. Mr. Alldritt briefly introduced himself and his desire to put himself out there for upcoming projects. The Commissioners thanked Mr. Alldritt for introducing himself and encouraged him to contact local workforce entities with regard to potential internships, apprenticeships and training.

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

### Amended EOP Promulgation

JB Brock, Emergency Manager, presented an update to the Commissioners.

Mr. Brock briefly discussed the resolution for approval and the Emergency Support Functions.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Resolution 2018-12 In the Matter of a Resolution Amending the Union County Emergency Operation Plan to Include Emergency Support Functions. Commissioner Howard, seconded.**

**Roll call on the motion. Commissioner Howard, yes. Commissioner McClure, yes. Commissioner Beverage, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

### Burn Ban Implementation Request

Mr. Brock presented a request from the Union County Fire Defense Board for the Commissioners to implement a county-wide burn ban. He provided information regarding the predicted weather and also discussed the current dry conditions. Another reason for the request for the ban implementation is the low availability of resources due to fires currently burning in the region.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of implementing the county-wide burn ban effective immediately. Commissioner Howard, seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

It was clarified that the county's jurisdiction is only in the unincorporated areas of the County. Mr. Brock reported that it is his understanding that the fire chiefs have or will request their governing bodies also declare burn bans.

### Hibbert Land Swap

Sean Chambers, MERA Coordinator; Milo Hibbert, Private Citizen and Scott Hartell, Planning Director were present for a discussion regarding a land swap between Mr. Hibbert and Union County's Mt. Emily Recreation Area.

Mr. Chambers briefly discussed the proposed land swap of 34 acres and the safety it will bring to Mr. Hibbert's property. There are currently problems with littering and illegal shooting in the direction of the Hibbert family property occurring from the 34 acres of MERA owned property that would be traded to them. This would allow them to fence their property along the 3120 Road and address the problem. MERA would benefit in that the 34 acres to be acquired will allow for trail development in an area that is currently interrupted due to the private ownership.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of the Hibbert Land Swap. Commissioner Howard, seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### Consent Agenda

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of the July 11, 12, 18, 19, 24, 25 & 26; August 1, 2, & 8, 2018 Claims Journals. Meeting minutes from the July 25 & 30**

**Commissioners meeting as presented on the consent agenda. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **Tri-County Weed Management Area Agreement**

Shelley Burgess, Administrator Officer requested the Tri-County Weed Management Area Agreement be withdrawn from the agenda until further notice.

### **Break**

Commissioner Beverage called a 3-minute break at 9:57 am. The meeting was called back to order at 10:00 am.

### **Public Hearing**

#### **Annexation to La Grande Rural Fire Protection District**

Scott Hartell, Planning Director, provided a brief staff report on the annexation request to the Commissioners. He explained that six properties in the Perry area would be annexed if the petition is approved.

Commissioner Beverage opened the hearing for public comments. There were no public comments presented.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2018-20; In the Matter of Annexing Property into the La Grande Rural Fire Protection District. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Appointment to NEACT**

Shelley Burgess opened with a brief summary on the individual for appointment. She explained this appointment would appoint a new alternate replacing Norm Paulus.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2018-24; In the Matter of Appointment of Kyle Carpenter to the Northeast Area Commission on Transportation. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Appointment to STIF Advisory Committee**

Shelley Burgess explained that it is necessary for the Board of Commissioners to appoint a Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Advisory Committee in order for Union County to be eligible to receive funds that will be available as a result of House Bill 2017. It is proposed that the existing STF (Special Transportation Fund) be augmented with two additional members are charged to serve as the STIF Advisory Committee.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2018-25; In the Matter of Appointment of the Statewide Improvement Fund Advisory Committee. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Authorizing Financing Contract

Shelley Burgess opened with a brief summary on the financing contract between Union County and Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority. She explained that this contract will provide interim project funding for the Airport Rappel Base Project. The amount authorized to be borrowed is up to \$4,000,000 at an interest rate of 1.85%. This financing will be replaced with long term financing once the project has been completed and bonds have been issued by the State.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Resolution 2018-13; In the Matter of a Resolution Authorizing a Loan from the Special Public Works Fund by Entering into a Financing Contract with the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

O TEC Right of Way Easement – Airport Sewer Contract

Shelley Burgess presented a utility easement to be granted to OTEC to allow installation of new power for a lift station as part of the sewer improvement project currently under way at the airport.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Job Number 038226 Right of Way Easement between Union County and Oregon Trail Electric Consumers Cooperative. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

ODOT Agreement 32965 – Baum Industrial Park Paving

Shelley Burgess presented the agreement to the Commissioners which awards Union County \$250,000 in Immediate Opportunity Funds for paving at the Baum Industrial Park.

Commissioner McClure congratulated Commissioner Beverage in finding the funding for this project as it has been a long time coming, stating he believes that it will bring in more opportunity for potential buyers for lots in the park.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Funding Agreement No. 32965; Paving Baum Industrial Park. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Land Sale Contracts

**Lot #2:**

Shelley Burgess presented the land sale contract for BAR Trucking, Inc. for Lot 2 at the Baum Industrial Park.

Commissioner Howard would like the County to run a financial check on potential buyers for future sales.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of the Land Sale Agreement of Lot #2 at the Baum Industrial Park with BAR Trucking, Inc. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Lot #1:**

Shelley Burgess presented the land sale contract for Romans Precision Irrigation for Lot 1 at the Baum Industrial Park.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of the Land Sale Agreement of Lot #1 at the Baum Industrial Park with Romans Precision Irrigation. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Letter of Support – North Powder Kiosk**

Shelley Burgess presented a request from Lori Daniels for a letter of support from the Commissioners for the North Powder Exit kiosk. Commissioner Beverage had previously presented an individual letter of support so was able to explain that the grant application is to Travel Oregon in the amount of \$20,000.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval for a Letter of Support from the Commission for the North Powder exit kiosk. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Beverage recessed the meeting for an Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2)(e) and called it back to order.

**Next Commissioner's Meeting**

The next regular Commission meeting will be held on August 29, 2018.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Beverage adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Allison Rhyner  
Senior Department Specialist