

Board of Commissioners Meeting
December 16, 2009

Present: Commissioner Steve McClure
Commissioner R. Nellie Hibbert
Commissioner Mark D. Davidson

Call To Order

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

Partition Plat with Dedication

Rick Robinson, Bagett, Griffith & Blackman, came to the Commissioners with a Partition Plat with a Dedication for consideration. Rick explained that this property has been through the Measure 37 and Measure 49 process. There is a dedication to the public for the road. **Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of the Major Partition Plat as presented. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Revised Healthy Start Intergovernmental Agreement

Tressa Seydel, Commission on Children and Families Assistant Director, presented a Revised Healthy Start Intergovernmental Agreement for approval. Tressa explained that this agreement should be the final extension of the original agreement and should continue until the end of the fiscal year. Amendment number 2 is the agreement between the County and the State Commission reflecting the amount of the contract to be \$20,745 through June 30, 2010. The Union County agreement is between Union County and the Healthy Start program for the same amount and duration. **Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of the agreements as presented. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

The November 19 and December 3 and 4 claims journals; and the November 18 and December 2 Public Works claims journals were approved as presented on the consent agenda.

12th Street Intergovernmental Agreement

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, presented an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of La Grande and Union County for improvements on South 12th Street. This agreement outlines what Union County will do and what the City of La Grande will do regarding the improvements. It was approved by the La Grande City Council on December 2, 2009.

Commissioner McClure explained that this prescribes that the City of La Grande will put 12th Street into their system in the urban growth boundary. Howard Perry

from Anderson, Perry and Associates is doing the design and the big question is the HB 2001 funds. If the funds do not come through because of HB 2001 the scope of the project will be changed to fit within the funds that are available.

Commissioner Davidson moved approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of La Grande and Union County regarding the South 12th St. project as presented. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Nordic Ski Club Agreement

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, presented the Commissioners with a Lease Agreement between the City of La Grande, Union County, La Grande Snow Drifters Snowmobile Club and the Blue Mountain Nordic Club. This agreement provides for the City of La Grande to lease to Union County a portion of land for the construction of a 40X60 maintenance and storage building. The land will be leased by the County to the Snow Drifters Snowmobile Club and the Blue Mountain Nordic Club for the structure to house a snow groomer and other equipment. Grant funds are available for building construction. The land is located near the fair grounds. The City is leasing it to the County because in exchange of the space the County will receive access to the equipment which makes it an allowable use at no cost. This lease agreement has been approved by the La Grande City Council.

Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of the lease agreement as presented and authorized the Chairman to sign the agreement. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Refund of Personal Property Taxes

Court Order 2009-44, In the Matter of Refunding Real or Personal Property Tax, was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, explained that this Court Order is to refund personal property taxes to Grande Ronde Chiropractic. This request comes from the Union County Assessors office.

Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of Court Order 2009-44. Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment to Vector Control District

Court Order 2009-45, In the Matter of Re-Appointment to the Vector Control District Board of Directors, was presented for approval. Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, explained that this Court Order would re-appoint Shirley Roberts and Doug Winn to the Vector Control District Board of Directors.

Commissioner Davidson moved approval of Court Order 2009-45. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Title III Projects

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, explained to the Commissioners that under SR2008 the County could set aside money for Title II and Title III projects. There has been a Resolution approved by the Commissioners to set aside the money for last fiscal year and the current fiscal year. None of the Title III funding has been allocated so the available funding from last year is \$67,091 and the estimated allocation for 2009 is about \$60,000. The SR2008 is different from the previous one in that the funding can only be utilized within the five years allotted. The previous Title III funding had no deadline as long as the funds were used for the correct purposes. Her recommendation is to let the old money sit and use the new money since it has a time frame. Shelley explained that there are some strict guidelines on the process to authorize the funding. The first thing that had to be done was to advertise for acceptance of applications within the three eligible categories which are Fire Wise Communities Programs, Search Rescue and other Emergency Services, and Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The previous funding allowed for five categories. The advertisement was made and five applications were received. Once the applications were received the County was required to publish a notice of them for public comments within a 45 day period. The time has expired for comments. No comments were received. The applicants were notified that the Commissioners were going to consider the applications at this Commission meeting. Shelley stated that the Commissioners could fund all of the applications in full and there would still be funding left over. The County has until the fifth year to utilize all of the funding. **Commissioner Davidson moved approval of the applications from the Union County Search and Rescue and from Union County for an amount not to exceed \$75,000. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.** The Commissioners wanted more information on the fifth application before they would consider funding it. Shelley stated that she would let the applicant know that they could get more information for their application and apply for funding again next year.

Ordinance Continuing the Practice of Electing the County Surveyor

Ordinance 2009-06, In the Matter of an Ordinance Continuing the Practice of Electing the Union County Surveyor as Authorized by Oregon Laws 2009, Chapter 491; and Declaring an Emergency, was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, explained that this responds to Senate Bill 334 which was passed and becomes effective January 1, 2010. It takes away the provisions in the statutes for the election of the county surveyors. The Senate Bill did allow for a county Ordinance to continue the practice of electing the county surveyor. Shelley was contacted by the Union County Surveyor, Greg Blackman, who wanted to see if the Commissioners were interested in adopting an Ordinance that would continue the elected process. This Ordinance is based on a draft provided by Linn County. She is proposing that it be adopted prior to January 1st since it is unclear whether adopting it after January 1st would meet the requirements of the law.

Commissioner McClure opened the public meeting for comments.

Greg Blackman, 502 1st St. La Grande, OR 97850, explained that this ordinance will continue the election process of the county surveyor and will allow the constituents of the County to choose. He believes that Multnomah County wanted to appoint a Sheriff without the necessary education process so it was added to the Bill that had the surveyor election process on it as well. He can see no logical reason for changing the way a surveyor is appointed. It will also change the position from non-partisan to partisan.

Commissioner McClure asked Greg what qualifications a person has to have to run for county surveyor. Greg stated that they have to be a licensed professional land surveyor and in order to keep the license there is 15 hours of education that has to be completed every year. There is a minimum of four years of education and an exam has to be passed to be a land surveyor in training. A person has to be a land surveyor in training for four years to be eligible for the final exam. There are only about eight people that pass the final exam each year.

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

**Commissioner Hibbert moved approval of Ordinance 2009-06.
Commissioner Davidson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Davidson moved approval of Ordinance 2009-06 in an emergency clause. Commissioner Hibbert seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held under ORS 192.600(1)(e) Real Estate Transaction discussion.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm
Department Specialist