

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Meeting of June 5, 2019  
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse  
Pendleton, Oregon

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**Commissioners Present:** Chair George Murdock, Vice-Chair John Shafer, and  
Commissioner Bill Elfering

**County Counsel:** Doug Olsen

**Members and Guests Present:** Robert Pahl, County Chief Finance Officer; Tom Fellows, County Public Works Director; UCo Health: Joe Fiumara, Director; Alisha Southwick, Deputy Director; Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director Undersheriff Jim Littlefield; Jennifer Blake, Human Services Director; Staci Kunz, EO Business Source-Umatilla County Transit; Jason Graybeal, Ferranti-Graybeal Ins.-President; Dick Ferranti, Ferranti-Graybeal Ins.-Agent; Phil Wright, East Oregonian-Reporter; Marie Simonis, County Budget/Finance Assistant Director; Rayleen McMillan, Oregon Recovers-Movement Building Director

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Murdock. He reminded those present that the meeting is a public forum. It is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Comments will become part of the meeting record. If persons wish to speak before the Board, please come to the podium, identify yourself and state where you live for the record – speak into the microphone in order to be heard on the record – also note if you are speaking on behalf of others. He noted there is a point for public input before business items for other than agenda items.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Commissioner Shafer.

**Awards/Correspondence/Recognition.** Chair Murdock noted next Thursday, the Commissioners will be honoring the public works staff at a BBQ for the great job of snow removal followed soon after with recent flooding. Their extra hard work is appreciated.

**Minutes.** Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the minutes of the Board meetings of 3/13/19; 3/20/19; 4/3/19; 4/17/19; and 5/1/19. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.

**Additions to agenda** – none.

**Public comments** – none.

1. **Budget Adoption – Public Hearing.** Chair Murdock called the hearing to order at 9:02 a.m. to adopt the FY19-20 budget. Robert Pahl, Chief Finance Officer presented. The Budget was prepared over several months and committee hearings were held in April. Budget is approved by them and up for adoption today. Chair Murdock added the budget committee met for two full days including presentations by all departments. Commissioner Elfering noted the process has been ongoing since last October; it is a very thorough budget.

Chair Murdock asked for any public comments. None were heard. He therefore closed the hearing at 9:04 a.m. There was no further discussion. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt order Budget 2020-01. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.** Chair Murdock commended Mr. Pahl and Marie Simonis for their hard work handling an over \$91 million budget.

2. STF Committee Appointment. Presented by Staci Kunz, Transit Coordinator. She recruited Melanie Lieuallen from McKay Creek Estates (serving senior citizens). This will put the committee back up to five. With Darrin Umbarger's recent resignation, she will try to find a replacement (handicapped services). **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve Order No. BCC2019-64. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  
3. STIF Committee Appointment. Ms. Kunz presented. This is to appoint Norma Barber, Ukiah School District. She will be a great liaison in the southern end of Umatilla County. Chair Murdock advised he has known her for a long time; she expressed interest in being more involved in county affairs. Discussion ensued about free transportation 1 day/week to the Pendleton area – a great service. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve Order No. BCC2019-037. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
  
4. Workers' Compensation Insurance. Dan Lonai, Administrative Services Director, introduced Dick Ferranti, agent, Ferranti Graybeal. Mr. Ferranti noted this is an annual update/renewal for only workers' compensation at this time -- Property/Casualty will be presented later when figures are available. There will be a discount of \$8,161 due to paying the premium early (within SAIF's new requirements). Mr. Ferranti added that going with guaranteed cost plan with SAIF has worked well for the last few years. He explained the reason for the discount paid earlier was changed by SAIF, they want pre-paying the premium five days before the end of coverage, thus payment is due by June 25 vs. by July 10 as in previous years. He went over the proposed plan including the process – experience factor, payroll reporting, etc. He feels this is still better than the average. Total premium = \$203,817 for FY20. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the renewal of workers' compensation insurance through SAIF Corporation. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0**
  
5. Elections Payable. Mr. Lonai presented. This is payable is for postage for the election– usual and customary. It is for the upcoming election. It is more expensive than in the past and part is an unfunded mandate of costs. The Legislature wants to have ballots mailed back for free, but that is not signed into law yet. Chair Murdock expressed disgust with unfunded mandates. Mr. Lonai advised that costs may be passed on to the districts. Total is \$25,000. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approved the payable of \$25,000 to the US Postal Service. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
  
6. Security Gate Repairs. Undersheriff Littlefield presented. The gate at the jail is old and repairs are no longer possible (the circuit board needs replacing). Total is \$10,000. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve the repairs to the gate by RB Steele in the amount of \$10,000 . Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  
7. Health Insurance Renewal. Presented by Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director. This is for renewal of the health insurance coverage for county employees. Current provider, PacificSource, says there will be no increase. The group is running well with experience ratio. The request is to accept the FY19-20 rate pass quote for health/vision and dental coverage. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve renewal of health insurance coverage through PacificSource. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  
8. Creation of Position- SBHC. Alisha Southwick, UCO Health Deputy Director, and Joe Fiumara, Director, presented for request for new position at the school based health center. Pendleton SBHC's medical oversight is returning to Public Health. She explained what happened to the current contractor and the reasoning for its decision to stop providing the service. There was a lot of turnover which caused unreliable service. The goal will be to provide stability and better service. Requirement is to provide advanced medical care. The request today is to approve .8 FTE Nurse Practitioner position during school

year. She noted about 150-200 students are seen per site – it is well utilized. In response to Commissioner Elfering’s question about contracting, process, oversight, Ms. Southwick advised budget support is from Oregon Health, St. Anthony Hospital, and other small grants. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve creation of new NHP position. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

9. Creation of Position – SBHC. Ms. Southwick presented. This request is for two new positions and is part of the previous action. This is to create positions for mental health services at School Based Health Centers. Amy Ashton-Williams, Human Services Director, will oversee the two Mental Health Positions and be paid by SBHC funding. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the two new mental health positions. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
10. Road Crosswalk Order. Tom Fellows, Public Works Director, presented. The request before the Board is to add a crosswalk on a County Road. There was construction last year at Echo and the School District has requested work on another crosswalk. It was determined location of one new crosswalk at the new gym is appropriate. **Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Order No. RD2019-12. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
11. Truck Purchases. Mr. Fellows presented. The request is to purchase three new trucks to replace old trucks (going out for auction). The vehicles include transport/tractor (\$124,570.36), and two dump trucks with snow plows (\$161,952.08) and the second would also have a sander (\$183,252.08). Purchase would be through the SourceWell contract with a local dealer (Woodpecker). Budget is available through State Highway dedicated funds.

Chair Murdock asked about standards for new clean fuel. Mr. Fellows explained a House Bill is going through the legislature (requiring that within 5-7 years, the County will no longer be able to purchase older than 2010 model.) He must get the Public Works fleet updated and has been working toward that goal of upgrading all equipment to be ahead of the new standard. This will be a huge impact. Discussion ensued about the effect of upcoming laws. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve purchase of three new trucks from Woodpecker Truck & Equipment as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**

12. Soil Probe Truck Replacement. Presented by Mr. Olsen. Previously, the Board authorized replacement of the old soil probe truck for Extension Services. The Extension Service has found a 2008 Ford F350 pickup through an auction that fits the needs of the agencies. The payable is for \$13,000 and funds are available in the program. **Commissioner Shafer moved to approve purchase of vehicle and payment to Dealers Auto Auction of Idaho. Seconded by Commissioner Elfering. Carried, 3-0.**
13. Fair Payable. Presented by Mr. Olsen. This payable is for the Youth Livestock Auction (livestock sale commission) in the amount of \$14,469.96 for the 2018 fair. **Commissioner Elfering moved to approve payable to Livestock Sale Committee in the amount of \$14,469.96. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
14. HELP Grants. Mr. Olsen presented. The Helix Enhancement Launch Program Committee recommends grants for 2019 to the Helix School District and the City of Helix totaling \$57,000. **Commissioner Elfering moved to adopt Order No. BCC2019-038. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

Executive Session – none.

Commissioners' Reports.

Commissioner Shafer reported yesterday he attended a scholarship luncheon by the Blue Mountain Insurance Professionals (previously NAIFA). He remarked about the very impressive students and that many parents were able to attend.

Commissioner Elfering noted neighbors of East Airport Road meetings started yesterday. At this time, the owners have been involved and meetings are going well.

Chair Murdock noted on Friday, Commissioner Shafer will be in Bend attending an EOCA meeting. And, he will be testifying before the ODF&W regarding wolf delisting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, *Melinda Slatt*, Executive Secretary Umatilla County Board of Commissioners