

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

PRESENT: Commissioner Kevin Cameron and Commissioner Colm Willis. Also present were Jan Fritz, chief administrative officer, Jane Vetto as county counsel, and Brenda Koenig as recorder.

ABSENT: Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Commissioner Willis arrived at 9:05 a.m.
Commissioner Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

(Video Time 00:07:10)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

(Video Time 00:07:15)

PROCLAMATIONS

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Action

1. Consider approval of a proclamation designating the month of March 2024 as Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Marion County. –Karin Perkins; Paul Hines and Moises Segura, Albertina Kerr

Summary of presentation:

- Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) services program partners with others in the community to promote respect for and educate others about individuals experiencing IDD;
- Seek to include those with IDD in all aspects of community life and make aware the barriers those with IDD face when connecting with the community;
- In 1987 March was proclaimed as Developmental Disabilities Awareness month by President Ronald Regan:
 - March continues to be nationally recognized as the IDD awareness month.
- This year’s theme is ‘A World of Opportunities’;

- IDD values include person centeredness, self-direction, independence, community inclusion;
- Oregon was the first state to close institutions for individuals with IDD:
 - Supporting the right and choice of individuals to live in their own homes.
- In 1990 approximately 1,200 individuals lived at Fairview Training Center and the last residents left in 2000;
- Today all Oregonian IDD individuals live in a home and community-based setting;
- In 2008, Oregon adopted an Employment First Policy to promote community-based employment for individuals with IDD:
 - This is a belief that individuals with IDD can work fully integrated in their communities.
- Marion County has over 3,300 residents receiving IDD services, living in home and community-based settings;
- Marion County has over 900 Personal Support Workers and dozens of in-home agencies support those with IDD; and
- Marion County has more than 350 24-hour residential and foster homes that support those with IDD.

Paul Hines:

- Project SEARCH is a 9-month internship that partners with a host business in the community:
 - The business provides mentorship, training and job skills to the intern;
 - Interns spend three months with an intern in one department; and
 - Every three months the intern gets a new job and mentor teaching them new skills and jobs.
- This program allows individuals to place this experience on their resumes:
 - Teaches the ability to overcome barriers that may be experienced in the future.
- Project SEARCH is a worldwide program:
 - It began in 1997 at a children's hospital in Ohio where they taught skills to be able to work at the hospital;
 - The program is in 48 states, 9 countries with 715 active programs; and
 - There are three in Oregon.
- Over 78 percent of individuals with IDD are not working in their communities;
- Interns that complete the program have a 68 percent chance to find employment in their communities that is not seasonal and an adequate rate;
- Graduates from a Kerr program obtain meaningful community employment through agencies such as Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS):
 - Project SEARCH has worked with various agencies in different counties.
- Project SEARCH has supported individuals for many years and promotions;
- Many individuals have transitioned out of job coaching and on-site job supports and are completely independent;

- The program allows individuals to make mistakes and still keep working:
 - Skill Trainers teach unwritten rules and skills to individuals including:
 - When to call out and how to do it;
 - What to wear; and
 - What to say and when to say certain things.
- The program begins with one hour of a lecture and discussion-based format:
 - Every day for nine months there is a new topic, including:
 - Communication, technology, finances, career exploration, health and wellness, etc.; and
 - Speakers come in and discuss their careers.
- There are various host businesses and departments including banks, hotels, government agencies, restaurants, hospitals, manufacturing plants, human resources, payroll, etc.;
- Host businesses have the opportunity to allow current employees to be exposed to working with those with IDD;
- A major role of this program is to educate businesses and communities by breaking down the barriers and stigma associated with the IDD community;
- Many say they do not know how to interact those with IDD but there is nothing different that needs to be done:
 - Gaps are filled in by the program's support staff.

Moises Segura:

- Mr. Segura previously had two jobs and wanted to expand his skill set;
- This was a good opportunity to do so, and he does not regret it;
- Mr. Segura enjoyed the working with the support staff and gaining the needed experience:
 - It was amazing to experience new things.
- Prior to beginning the program, Mr. Segura's job goal was to work in retail:
 - Retail and janitorial work is common in the IDD community;
 - The goal is to break that barrier and show other opportunities; and
 - Mr. Segura's new goal is a Job Coach.
- Mr. Segura is an advocate and able to interact with anyone:
 - After a job rotation he trained new interns on what to expect; and
 - He has translated and advocated for bilingual interns.

Board discussion:

- Albertina Kerr began in 1917 at Portland:
 - They have had an office in the City of Salem since 2019.
- Currently there are about 30 individuals that are supported and working in Marion County:
 - The support starts as full-time and fades over time as skills and understanding grows.
- Some of the following can be done to support IDD awareness including:

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- Becoming involved in Project SEARCH;
- Contribute or volunteer with organizations supporting individuals with IDD;
- Listen and learn by engaging with individuals with IDD;
- Hire individuals experiencing IDD;
- Ensure your business provides inclusive and accessible services; and
- Participate and promote local events supporting the IDD community.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve a proclamation designating the month of March 2024 as Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Marion County. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

The commissioners read the proclamation.

(Video Time 00:31:47)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - Action

2. Consider approval of a proclamation designating the month of March 2024 as National Problem Gambling Awareness Month in Marion County. –Heidi Johnson and Eli Kinsley, Bridgeway Recovery Services

Summary of presentation:

- Problem Gambling Prevention Program goals are as follows:
 - Prevent problem gambling;
 - Increase awareness;
 - Reduce youth gambling; and
 - Encourage responsible gambling.
- Problem gambling is continuing to gamble despite negative personal, social, or financial consequences;
- Increasing awareness helps to prevent problem gambling by the following:
 - Lower stigma and shame around seeking help;
 - Promote responsible gambling;
 - Decrease negative individual and social impacts such as:
 - Higher rates of bankruptcy;
 - Loss of relationships;
 - Criminal activity; and
 - Mental health and addictions problems.
- Gambling can negatively impact families and communities;
- Oregon offers free, confidential, help through Oregon Problem Gambling Resource at ORGR.org;
- Individuals with multiple problems like gambling, substance abuse, or mental health issues can decrease sense of hope;
- Individual’s that internalize being an addict deter themselves from seeking help;

- Support is a vital strength of the community that will continue to help address the problem;
- The more support an individual has the more likely they can succeed;
- Problem Gambling Awareness Month events include:
 - An “Every Story Matters” campaign;
 - Feature the topic in the Marion County Prevention Newsletter;
 - A 2024 calendar featuring art drawn by students at local schools:
 - The calendar is in Spanish and English; and
 - They were distributed at school and community events.
 - High school video contest and workshops.
- A few accomplishments completed so far includes:
 - Youth participated in ILEAD Youth Summit;
 - High School video contest working with community partners;
 - Presented at various middle and high schools;
 - Completed community readiness assessments;
 - Communication campaign in Spanish;
 - Social media outreach; and
 - Event at Center 50+.
- The 2024 objectives for the program include:
 - Continue to build youth resiliency;
 - Continue to roll out Spanish campaigns; and
 - Continue outreach events among older adults.

Board discussion:

- Oregon lottery dollars help to support the program:
 - Of all these funds one percent goes to prevention and treatment.
- Oregon Health Authority (OHA) gives funding to Marion County:
 - The funds are then used to meet goals determined by Marion County and OHA.
- Youth financial literacy is important and needs to be taught; and
- ILEAD Youth Summit has financial literacy classes for high school students:
 - There is high interest in them from youth.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve a proclamation designating the month of March 2024 as National Problem Gambling Awareness Month in Marion County. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

The commissioners read the proclamation.

(Video Time 00:50:27)

PRESENTATION

3. Marion County Wildfire Recovery Housing Program –Matt Lawyer, Erinn Miller, and Joe Nicholes, Christian Aid Ministries (CAM)

Summary of presentation:

- The state of Oregon gave Marion County \$12 million by an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) through House Bill 5006 of the 2021 legislature:
 - This bill allocated \$150 million for wildfire recovery; and
 - Of the total \$36 million went directly to directly impacted counties.
- In 2023 the county created the Marion County Wildfire Recovery Housing Program:
 - Assisted survivors in their recovery;
 - The following criteria needed to be met to qualify an individual:
 - Home was within the fire boundary of Beachie Creek or Lionshead wildfire of 2020;
 - Original primary owner/landowner and resident; and
 - Income is less than or equal to 120 percent of the area median income.
- The county has been successful in distributing the incoming funds;
- The program began July 2023 with the following statistics:
 - There has been an estimated \$623,837 in grant funding;
 - There has been a total of 11 applicants;
 - Approved \$532,195 for five Christian Aid Ministries (CAM) homes;
 - Approved \$91,192 for smaller projects; and
 - About half of the total amount has been spent already.
- The first approval was in July 2023 for a home in Linn County:
 - This is a Marion County program, but Linn County residents will continue to be supported.
- CAM has been part of the program from the beginning:
 - They provide free skilled labor from all of the United States and Canada; and
 - The homeowners are responsible for materials.
- CAM began talks with Santiam Canyon Long-Term Recovery Group and has since done the following:
 - There have been 15 homes completed;
 - Collaborated on two home builds; and
 - Siding and flooring on three projects.

Board discussion:

- Individuals from all over the country have come to assist wildfire victims and the recovery efforts;
- There are 15 volunteers that come every week to help rebuild:
 - From November to the end of April;
 - Pay their own airfare and take time off of work;

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- Done as a service and representation of Christ to the community; and
 - Giving back hope to the community.
- Funding goes farther with good partners and a long-term recovery plan;
- CAM has been helping the community for the last three years;
- It is important to utilize taxpayer dollars in a good way;
- A total of \$532,195 was used for five CAM homes:
 - This is a cost of \$95 per square foot with a total of 5,608 square feet;
 - The market rate is \$235 per square foot with a total of \$1,317,880 for 5,608 square feet; and
 - Market rate costs after the fire are \$300 per square foot with a total of \$1,682,400 for 5,608 square feet.
- The various partners have come together to get the work done including:
 - Churches, government agencies, non-profit organizations, etc.
- CAM is rebuilding homes while showing love to the community;
- Homeowners are grateful for all those involved in helping rebuild and remodel their homes;
- Some rebuilds required other types of projects including:
 - Retaining walls, patios, hazardous trees, awnings, and windowpanes.
- Continue to reach out survivors that are identified as primary homeowners;
- Continuing to assess if households are eligible for other Marion County programs;
- CAM is working with families to determine eligibility for next year's building season;
- Santiam Hospital Disaster Services team supports and advocates for survivors:
 - Assisting in applications and accessing other resources.
- Thankful to the following groups:
 - The 2021 legislature;
 - Linn County;
 - Santiam Canyon Long-Term Recovery group;
 - Santiam Hospital's Disaster Services team;
 - Every business and individual that helped in some way; and
 - The Marion County staff.
- Oregon Housing Community Services is asking for individuals that believe they are eligible for Community development Block Grant (CDBG) to apply;
- Efforts to assist in the wildfire recovery include:
 - Senate Bill 1545 passing unanimously in the senate for tax relief;
 - Marion County Sheriff's Office evacuating residents;
 - Jan Fritz helping to open the Oregon State Fairgrounds:
 - Hired two retired city managers to assist Detroit and Gates; and
 - Immediately sent funds to help pay bills in the cities.
 - SEDCOR, Nick Harville, and Construction Alliance helping to rebuild the Detroit Community Center;
 - Building permits waived for all residents who lost homes;
 - Grants for rebuilding and replacing septic systems;

- Work on sewer system pre-fires; and
- So much more.

(Video Time 01:12:32)

CONSENT

COMMUNITY SERVICES

4. Approve the Economic Development Grant Agreement with the Oregon Garden Foundation in the amount of \$150,000 to assist with funding for capital improvement projects and operational expenses with an ending term date of two years from execution.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

5. Approve Amendment #6 to the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to add \$15,901.80 for Program Element (PE) 12-01, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEP) for a new contract total of \$10,465,746 through June 30, 2025.

HUMAN RESOURCES

6. Approve orders appointing Lore Christopher, Jolene Kelley, and Melessa Villoria to the Marion County Compensation Board with terms ending December 31, 2024.

7. Approve the recommendation to update the classifications and uphold the pay grades for class codes #009, Permit Specialist; #103, Building Inspector 2; and #373, Senior Planner; and update the classifications and adjust the pay grades upward for class codes #006, Permit Specialist Trainee; #102, Building Inspector 1; #104, Building Plans Examiner Senior; #106, Building Plans Examiner 1; #107, Building Plans Examiner 2; #109, Electrical Inspector; #112, Plumbing Inspector; #349, Waste Reduction Coordinator; #371, Assistant Planner; #372, Associate Planner; #374, Principal Planner; #408, Public Works Aide; and #607, County Counsel.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

8. Approve the Contract for Services with WB Creations, LLC, in the amount of \$175,000 to provide services to the Marion County Sheriff's Office for digital marketing recruitment through February 1, 2027.

TAX OFFICE

9. Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$30,082.09 for Cannon Court Apartments, tax account 582692.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved for approval of the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:15:08)

ACTION

COMMUNNITY SERVICES

10. Consider adoption of an ordinance by emergency procedure authorizing property tax exemptions for rural industrial property pursuant to ORS 307.340. –Kelli Weese, and Erik Andersson and Kip Morris, Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR) of the Mid-Willamette Valley

Summary of presentation:

- Would like to reestablish this program:
 - Allows businesses to forgo property taxes if they meet certain criteria:
 - Evaluation on property improvements; and
 - Number of full-time jobs added.
- The program supports rural businesses and their capital improvements;
- The program was established in 2016 after Senate Bill 1665 was adopted:
 - Marion County established an ordinance soon after;
 - The original statute has a sunset date of January 2, 2024; and
 - Legislature extended the sunset date to January 2, 2030.
- An emergency procedure is done so there will be no delays in application processing;
- Capital improvement investment must be between \$1 million and \$25 million;
- The improvement value will be exempt from property taxes for three years;
- The exemption needs the taxing districts representing at least 75 percent of the applicable property taxes to agree:
 - SEDCOR and the business reaches out to taxing districts.
- Applicants are required to sign a First Source Hiring Agreement;
- Businesses that have benefitted from the exemption include:
 - Marion Ag Service Inc.:
 - New distribution center outside of Donald;
 - Exemption began in 2021-2021;
 - Investment cost is \$2.6 million;
 - Exemption is \$31,000, annually, for three years; and
 - There were six jobs created.
 - Hopmere Cold Storage
 - New 28,000 square foot energy efficient hop cold storage facility;
 - Exemption began in 2020-2021;
 - Investment cost is \$2.2 million;
 - Exemption is \$24,000 per year for three years; and
 - There were five jobs created.
 - Sodbuster Farms:
 - New machinery and related construction for hop processing near Wheatland;

- Exemption began in 2022-2023;
 - Investment cost is \$6.5 million;
 - Exemption is \$70,000 per year for three years; and
 - There were 25 jobs created.
 - EverFab:
 - New 48,000 square foot building, near Aumsville, doubling the capacity;
 - Exemption will start 2025-2026;
 - Investment cost is \$3 million;
 - Exemption is \$30,000 per year for three years; and
 - There will be 28 jobs created.
 - GK Machine, Inc.:
 - New 140,000 square foot building, and improvements to existing building;
 - Exemption will start 2025-2026;
 - Investment cost is \$25 million;
 - Exemption is \$300,000 per year for three years; and
 - There will be 25-30 jobs created.
- GK Machine Inc. has had Texas Economic Development fly out and fly them out to discuss option in Texas:
 - This county program is a beneficial and help program.
- Marion County's leading industry is agriculture;
- This program is one of few economic development programs available to agricultural producers:
 - Supports AgTech and value-added projects and diversifies farm incomes;
 - Encourages investment in automation and other new technologies;
 - Allows projects to generate incremental revenue before having to pay property taxes on the investment; and
 - Oregon Enterprise Zone program is only available to projects within designated city limits and/or urban growth boundaries.

Board discussion:

- The exemption is utilized for businesses located in Marion County that are outside cities Enterprise Zones or the Urban Growth Boundary;
- It is tempting for businesses to move into urban enterprise zones;
- This program is also good for Marion County's future revenue;
- Only existing businesses qualify for the exemption;
- The listed projects are \$455,000, annually, in taxes:
 - These will fund future projects.
- Thankful all those involved that helped get this program started.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved that the chair adopt the ordinance by emergency procedure and read the title of the ordinance once.

Commissioner Cameron read the title of the ordinance once.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to adopt an ordinance by emergency procedure authorizing property tax exemptions for rural industrial property pursuant to ORS 307.340. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Cameron again read the title of the ordinance once.

(Video Time 01:32:09)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

11. Consider approval of Amendment #11 to the Participating Provider Service Agreement with PacificSource Community Solutions to add incoming funds in the amount \$26,000,000 for a new contract total of \$88,172,591 to provide covered services under the Oregon Health Plan through December 31, 2024. –Ryan Matthews

Summary of presentation:

- The largest portion of the funding is paid on a per member, per month basis;
- PacificSource is the coordinated care organization for the Marion and Polk County region:
 - It is responsible for about 140,000 members; and
 - They manage the health benefit of the Medicaid population.
- The agreement recognizes Marion County’s role as a treatment provider:
 - Funds Medicaid services for addiction services, mental and public health.
- The amendment reflects the 1.9 percent rate increase as membership rates grow;
- PacificSource is Marion County’s largest funding sources; and
- The have funded several initiatives.

Board discussion:

- The contract expired at the end of the calendar year, and it has automatic renewal period;
- It is intended to be effective January 1, 2024; and
- Only certain covered services are provided by Marion County and there is no requirement to provide all covered services.

Motion: Commissioner Willis move to approve Amendment #11 to the Participating Provider Service Agreement with PacificSource Community Solutions to add incoming funds in the amount \$26,000,000 for a new contract total of \$88,172,591 to provide covered services under the Oregon Health Plan through December 31, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:37:38)

PUBLIC WORKS

12. Consider approval of the Purchase Order with Peterson Machinery Co. in the amount of \$497,199.56 for the purchase of one CAT 3024 Material Handler to replace existing equipment at the North Marion Recycling and Transfer Station through April 14, 2027. –Andrew Johnson

Summary of presentation:

- The equipment replaces an eight-year-old backhoe that is used at the North Marion Transfer Station;
- North Marion Transfer Station is receiving more, larger, loads; and
- The equipment will give efficiency and minimize damage on current tools.

Board discussion:

- None.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Purchase Order with Peterson Machinery Co. in the amount of \$497,199.56 for the purchase of one CAT 3024 Material Handler to replace existing equipment at the North Marion Recycling and Transfer Station through April 14, 2027. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:39:12)

13. Consider approval of the Construction Contract with Dirt and Aggregate Interchange, Inc. in the amount of \$102,222 for guardrail replacement on a portion of Sunnyview Road, NE through June 30, 2025. –Ryan Crowther and Carl Lund

Summary of presentation:

- This is part of the annual guardrail replacement;
- The project is located east of the City of Salem on Sunnyview Road;
- The current guardrail is outdated and does not meet current standards;
- Project scope for the project entails:
 - Removal of existing guardrail;
 - Install new Midwest Guardrail System posts, rail and end treatments;
 - Gravel shoulders;
 - Erosion and sediment control; and

- Other related miscellaneous work.
- Project schedule and budget is as follows:
 - The project received two bids:
 - Dirt and Aggregate Interchange, Inc. submitted the lowest bid.
 - Estimated completion of project is June 30, 2024.

Board discussion:

- None.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Construction Contract with Dirt and Aggregate Interchange, Inc. in the amount of \$102,222 for guardrail replacement on a portion of Sunnyview Road, NE through June 30, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:42:58)

14. Consider approval of the incoming funds Supplemental Project Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation in the amount of \$5,374,348 for safety improvements at the intersection of Ehlen Road, NE, and Butteville Road, NE through March 1, 2029.

–Ryan Crowther and Carl Lund

Summary of presentation:

- This project is funded by the ODOT All Roads Transportation Safety Program;
- This area is a safety corridor;
- Existing conditions include:
 - This is a two way stop;
 - The through traffic travels east to west; and
 - The north and south road stops on Butteville Road.
- The project scope entails:
 - Construct a single lane rural roundabout at the intersection of Ehlen Road NE and Butteville Road NE; and
 - This will reduce fatal and injury crashes.
- The project is 100 percent funded and paid through ODOT’s program;
- The county will not contribute funding if the project remains on budget;
- The schedule for construction is as follows:
 - Preliminary engineering will begin 2024;
 - Right-of-way acquisition in 2025; and
 - Construction to begin in 2027.

Board discussion:

- Single lane roundabouts reduce the frequency of fatal crashes;
- Double lane roundabouts have the same number of crashes, but they are less severe; and

- The contract value is \$5,734,348.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the incoming funds Supplemental Project Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation in the amount of \$5,734,348 for safety improvements at the intersection of Ehlen Road, NE, and Butteville Road, NE through March 1, 2029. Seconded by Commissioner Cameron; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 01:52:03)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

9:30 A.M.

None.

Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.



CHAIR

Not Present At Meeting

COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSUQ1gg6M78UsBE3q6w4rdf59Z5rXkEi5>