

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, January 13, 2021
9:00 a.m.

Senator Hearing Room
555 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

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

Commissioner Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

(Video Time 00:00:41)

Commissioner Cameron welcomed new Marion County Commissioner-elect, Danielle Bethell.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Video Time 00:01:37)

Krystalynn Kemp:

- Ms. Kemp expressed concerns with elderly individuals residing in retirement communities and assisted living facilities;
- Ms. Kemp's father has been residing in an assisted living facility for approximately two years;
- Visitation at the living facility is very limited for Ms. Kemp whose father is nearing end of life:
 - Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ms. Kemp and her family were able to visit her father in person; and
 - Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, visitation is restricted and limited to conversation through the outside window into her father's room.
- Prior to the pandemic, Ms. Kemp's father was in good spirits:
 - He participated in in-house extracurricular activities;
 - He visited with friends residing in the assisted living facility; and
 - He participated in off-site excursions.
- Due to the impacts of COVID-19, facility residents are confined to their individual rooms:
 - The rooms are small with only enough space for the following:
 - A bed;
 - A chair;
 - A television;
 - A shelf; and
 - Some clothing.
- Ms. Kemp's father requires a wheelchair and is unable to leave his bed without assistance;

- Facility residents have been denied moments that provided inspiration for living:
 - No family visitations;
 - No extracurricular activities at the facility; and
 - No outdoor or off-site excursions.
- Ms. Kemp expressed her father is depressed and no longer thriving:
 - He does not feel the need to leave his bed.
- Ms. Kemp stated she understands the restrictions are for safety and protection; and
- Ms. Kemp expressed the need for change related to the restrictions that have been implemented in assisted living facilities:
 - Community citizens are able to visit department stores;
 - Assisted living residents are confined to their individual rooms; and
 - In-person family visitations are restricted.

Board discussion:

- Commissioner Cameron expressed the following:
 - The commissioners do not typically respond to public comment;
 - He understands Ms. Kemp's distress;
 - Ms. Kemp's message has been heard;
 - Her concerns will be forwarded on to the individuals regulating the restrictions; and
 - There are situations where more flexibility is needed.
- Commissioner Willis expressed the following:
 - Frustration levels are high with the state's response to COVID-19;
 - Care facilities are regulated by the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS);
 - The county does not have jurisdiction over the care facilities;
 - The county is the local public health authority;
 - A large number of deaths occurred in a care facility located in Marion County during the pandemic:
 - The incident was not immediately investigated by DHS; and
 - There was no timely response from the state for questions related to the incident.
 - The state did not respond to questions related to a plan for care facilities;
 - The county was advised by the state that a team had been formed to investigate the situation several weeks after the incident had occurred;
 - The state's solution to the issue was to limit or restrict family visitations;
 - It was determined that the issue in the care facility arose because employees entering the facility to work were transmitting the COVID-19 virus to the individuals that were residing in the facility;
 - The state's focus remained on confining the residents and restricting family visitations instead of addressing the transmission of the virus from the employees working at the facility;
 - He anticipates the visitation restrictions will improve once care facility residents and employees are administered the COVID-19 vaccine; and
 - He shares Ms. Kemp's frustrations.
- Commissioner Bethell expressed the following:
 - She appreciates Ms. Kemp's courage in voicing her concerns;

- The loss of a parent during the COVID-19 pandemic is remarkably challenging;
- She is frustrated with the state's handling of the COVID-19 virus, specifically with the most vulnerable populations;
- The county will continue to voice their concerns and the concerns of the communities;
- The federal government is handling the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines to the care facilities;
- She has concerns with the length of time it is taking to distribute the vaccines; and
- She will do everything she can to improve the issue.

PRESENTATION

(Video Time 00:14:52)

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) update. –Katrina Rothenberger

- Ms. Rothenberger reported the following updates for the COVID-19 pandemic as of 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 2021:
 - There have been an estimated 15,740 cumulative cases within the county since the start of the pandemic in March 2020;
 - The current positivity rate is estimated to be 9.4 percent;
 - An estimated 233 individuals have died from symptoms related to COVID-19; and
 - An estimated 57 county residents are currently being hospitalized for symptoms related to COVID-19.
- Marion County along with the following counties are considered part of Region 2 for Oregon's emergency response:
 - Benton;
 - Lincoln;
 - Linn;
 - Polk; and
 - Yamhill.
- The current hospital capacity within Region 2 includes the following:
 - The region has an estimated 787 cumulative non-Intensive Care Unit (ICU) hospital beds:
 - An estimated 193 adult non-ICU hospital beds are available.
 - The region has an estimated 126 cumulative ICU hospital beds:
 - An estimated 52 adult ICU hospital beds are available.
- An estimated 74 individuals are currently being hospitalized within Region 2 for symptoms related to COVID-19;
- Oregon has received the following counts for the COVID-19 vaccine:
 - An estimated 50,700 doses of the Pfizer vaccine:
 - An estimated 44,850 doses were distributed to hospitals; and
 - An estimated 5,850 doses were distributed to skilled nursing facilities.
 - An estimated 25,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine that were distributed to the following:
 - Hospitals; and
 - Local public health authorities.

- An estimated 115,060 Oregonians have been administered the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine:
 - The count includes an estimated 10,679 Marion County residents; and
 - An estimated 527 county residents have been fully vaccinated.
- The county has received approval from the state to contact long-term care facilities and offer vaccination assistance if needed;
- Vaccinations are currently being administered to individuals in Phase 1A of the Oregon Health Authorities (OHA) vaccine plan which includes some of the following:
 - Healthcare workers;
 - Residents of long-term care facilities;
 - Employees of long-term care facilities;
 - Law enforcement;
 - Emergency medical service providers;
 - First responders; and
 - Personal support employees and caregivers of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Eligible individuals in Phase 1A can receive the vaccination at Salem Health's COVID-19 vaccine clinic:
 - Eligible residents are required to live or work within Marion County;
 - Clinic hours may vary depending on vaccine availability; and
 - Marion County Health and Human Services (MCHHS) is encouraging individuals to view the Salem Health website prior to attending the clinic.
- Governor Brown has announced that effective January 23, 2021, the COVID-19 vaccine will be available for the following:
 - Individuals age 65 and older;
 - Childcare providers;
 - Early learning employees; and
 - Kindergarten through Grade 12 (K-12) educators and staff.
- Marion County residents are encouraged to vaccinate locally:
 - The OHA allocates vaccines to counties based on population levels; and
 - Receiving the vaccination within the county that you reside in will assist with ensuring a fair and equitable vaccine distribution.
- High case counts of COVID-19 have prompted an expedited time period for rolling out the vaccine;
- MCHHS continues to encourage community members to practice the following:
 - Wearing protective face coverings;
 - Washing hands frequently;
 - Practicing six-foot social distancing; and
 - Staying home if you feel sick.
- A live Facebook event is scheduled for Thursday, January 14, 2021, to discuss general information related to the COVID-19 vaccine:
 - Community members are welcome to participate and ask questions.
- MCHHS is searching for an alternate location to host COVID-19 testing events; and
- Wraparound services are still available for individuals that need to self-isolate:
 - Resources may still be available to aid with isolation; and
 - Individuals needing assistance can contact the MCHHS warmline.

Board discussion:

- Information related to the live Facebook event is located on the MCHHS website;
- The OHA data dashboard reported an estimated 10,679 Marion County citizens have received the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine:
 - The data dashboard was last updated at midnight on January 12, 2021;
 - The county has a 24-hour window to report the vaccine doses to the OHA alert system;
 - An individual's name and date of birth are entered into the OHA alert system to assist with identification tracking for the second vaccine dose if required; and
 - It is unclear if the OHA alert system tracks an individual's residing address.
- The state allocated millions of dollars in resources to the City of Portland and Multnomah County to support COVID-19 vaccinations within their area;
- Individuals residing outside of Marion County may be utilizing the COVID-19 clinic located at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem, Oregon;
- MCHHS has contacted OHA to discuss local resources being utilized for statewide or regional efforts;
- It was expressed that COVID-19 vaccines arriving within Marion County need to support Marion County citizens; and
- Additional resources may be needed to support vaccine administration for citizens residing outside of Marion County.

CONSENT

(Video Time 00:28:38)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Approve an order reappointing Cari Fiske-Sessums, Cleo Freauf, Wendy Holihan, and Ray Wilson to the Marion County Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee with terms ending January 31, 2023.

PUBLIC WORKS

Approve Amendment #6 to the Contract for Services with Covanta Marion, Inc. to allow Covanta Marion, Inc. to contract directly with third-party firms for metal recovery through July 1, 2021.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Approve a resolution extending the suspension of the Marion County Sheriff's Office Jail Capacity Management Plan through March 31, 2021, due to the COVID-19 emergency and authorizing the Marion County Sheriff to restrict lodging of arrestees and to allow release of inmates as appropriate to maintain health and safety.

TAX OFFICE

Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$63,184.99 to CIC Equities of Oregon Inc., account #524216.

Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$33,403.94 to CIC Equities of Oregon Inc., account #524217.

Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$34,147.99 to WaFd Bank.

Board discussion:

- The prior contract with Covanta Marion, Inc. has expired;
- Marion County and Covanta Marion, Inc. have had discussions and negotiations related to a new contract;
- Covanta Marion, Inc. was able to obtain a better contract; but
- The contract division between Marion County and Covanta Marion, Inc. has not changed.

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

ACTION

(Video Time 00:31:16)

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

1. Consider approval of Amendment #1 to the Contract for Services with HIV Alliance in the amount of \$141,210 for a new contract total of \$191,210 for linkage of care for newly diagnosed Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) positive individuals through December 31, 2022. –

Katrina Rothenberger

Summary of presentation:

- The original contract total was \$50,000;
- Amendment #1 provides for the following:
 - It adds \$141,210 to the existing contract for a new contract total of \$191,210; and
 - It extends the term date to December 31, 2022:
 - The total award for 2021 is estimated to be \$68,342; and
 - The total award for 2022 is estimated to be \$72,868.
- The county received a five-year early intervention outreach grant from OHA:
 - The grant was awarded to counties with high incident rates for HIV:
 - Marion County reported an estimated ten new cases of HIV in 2019; and
 - An estimated 18 new cases of HIV were reported in 2020.
- The county has contracted with HIV Alliance in the past;
- HIV Alliance provides services that the county no longer offers, which includes case management services for individuals recently diagnosed with HIV;
- The prior \$50,000 contract provided an estimated 0.65 percent in funding to support one Full Time Employee (FTE):
 - An estimated 0.25 percent was provided by another funding source;
 - Amendment #1 will provide an estimated 0.9 percent in funding for one FTE; and
 - The amendment also expands the rapid testing for community members.
- The job responsibilities entail some of the following:
 - The individual is a bilingual outreach specialist;
 - They engage individuals that are a high risk for HIV;
 - They engage individuals who have fallen out of care and may not be current with HIV medications;

- Providing rapid HIV testing;
- Recommending preventive treatments;
- Provides in-person outreach education; and
- Provides referrals for other programs that will assist with health support.
- COVID-19 has impacted HIV testing within communities; and
- MCHHS anticipates an increase in rapid HIV testing once COVID-19 becomes less problematic.

Board discussion:

- The grant has been in existence for multiple years;
- A mobile van was purchased prior to the COVID-19 pandemic to provide the following to communities:
 - Rapid HIV testing;
 - Testing for Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD's); and
 - Health information.
- The mobile van has been parked since the inception of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The grant program supports three FTE's at MCHHS which includes the following:
 - A nurse;
 - An office specialist; and
 - An individual that works on HIV prevention.
- MCHHS is required to provide the following whenever a new HIV case is reported:
 - Contact tracing; and
 - Case investigation.
- HIV Alliance works directly with individuals in the community that have a confirmed HIV diagnosis; and
- The potential to renew the contract after December 31, 2022, may be an option.

MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve Amendment #1 to the Contract for Services with HIV Alliance in the amount of \$141,210 for a new contract total of \$191,210 for linkage of care for newly diagnosed HIV positive individuals through December 31, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:40:01)

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

2. Consider approval of the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Oregon Health Authority in the amount of \$1,100,000 for behavioral rehabilitative services through December 31, 2022. –Troy Gregg

Summary of presentation:

- The incoming funds IGA funding will be utilized for the Guaranteed Attendance Program (GAP);
- The GAP is a free 90-day shelter program that provides court ordered juveniles an alternative to detention;
- GAP offers some of the following:
 - Behavior rehabilitation services; and

- Treatment groups.
- Research shows that the program is effective;
- A large percentage of juveniles in the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) system have participated in the county's GAP first; and
- The goal of the GAP is to intervene and prevent juveniles from going deeper into the OYA system.

Board discussion:

- Youth attend their local schools during the day:
 - They can attend the GAP during the following time periods:
 - In the morning prior to attending in-person or online school;
 - In the evening after attending in-person or online school; and
 - On the weekends where home visitation may be an option.
- State care or custody may require families to provide child support for the youth;
- The GAP assists youth with learning skills that may benefit them in the future;
- The program can accommodate 22 youth at any given time:
 - The youth may be male for female;
 - There are two housing areas that support both genders; and
 - The COVID-19 virus has limited the program to an estimated 12 to 15 youth.
- The youth generally enter the program via a probation officer's recommendation:
 - The program is an alternative to detention; or
 - The juvenile may be a community youth struggling in their home environment:
 - They may not be able to follow the house rules; and
 - Parents may be frustrated with the youth's actions.
- The Marion County Juvenile Department also offers an Alternative Program which may include workshops:
 - Youth in the GAP can also participate in the Alternative Programs.
- Youth enrolled in the GAP are required to perform the following:
 - Attend a local school in their community;
 - Complete school assignments;
 - Perform community service; and
 - Provide restitution if required.
- The program provides the youth with hands-on-work and skill building that they can utilize in their adult years;
- The following assist with funding for the GAP:
 - Juvenile justice intervention dollars; and
 - Community criminal justice dollars.
- The program does not use general fund dollars.

MOTION: Commissioner Bethell moved to approve the incoming funds Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Health Authority in the amount of \$1,100,000 for behavioral rehabilitative services through December 31, 2022. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

(Video Time 00:50:30)

PUBLIC WORKS

3. Consider approval of the Public Improvement Agreement with Farline Bridge, Inc. in the amount of \$4,064,862.90 for replacement of the bridge on Silverton Road over the Little Pudding River. –Ryan Crowther

Summary of presentation:

- The project is located on Silverton Road east of the city of Salem;
- The concrete bridge was originally constructed in 1922:
 - Additional construction on the bridge was performed in 1948 to expand the structure.
- The project scope entails the following:
 - Replace the existing outdated concrete bridge with a modern bridge that is built to current standards; and
 - Widen the approach roadway to provide a continuous left turn lane through the construction project limits to 64th Place.
- Road closures during a portion of the construction period are anticipated in order to accelerate the project's time frame:
 - Two traffic detours will be utilized to assist with traffic flow during the closure period:
 - The first detour will be on Hazelgreen Road;
 - The second detour will be on Sunnyview Road; and
 - Temporary signals will be constructed to aid with traffic flow through the construction zone.
- Multiple discussions with members of the public that are impacted by the project have occurred over the course of several years;
- Press releases will be utilized to notify the public of the pending construction project prior to any road closures occurring;
- The lowest project bid of \$4,064,489.25 was submitted by Farline Bridge, Inc.;
- The project budget entails the following:
 - The total funding required for the project is estimated to be \$4,064,489.25:
 - Federal funding will provide an estimated 89.73 percent of the project's expense:
 - The federal funding is estimated to be \$3,647,066.20.
 - County funding will provide an estimated 10.27 percent of the project's expense:
 - The county's funding is estimated to be \$417,423.05.
- Construction for the project is scheduled to begin in January 2021;
- It is anticipated that construction for the project will be completed by June 30, 2022;
- Road closures for the project are limited to no more than 200 continuous days; and
- The contractor is required to have the road open to the public by November 20, 2021, in order to accommodate holiday traffic.

Board discussion:

- The project is funded through the local bridge program;


- A federal transportation reimbursement will be utilized as part of the construction's funding structure:
 - The reimbursement will occur over a period of time;
 - MCPW requests a reimbursement as funds are expended throughout the course of the project; and
 - The county has already been reimbursed for funds that were utilized for the preliminary engineering.
- Public notification for the pending construction project will entail the following:
 - A detour plan will be implemented with detour signage posted;
 - Portable changeable message signs will be utilized;
 - Press releases will be submitted;
 - The city of Silverton has been contacted advising of the upcoming construction project; and
 - Notice of the pending closure will not be posted until after the construction dates are finalized.
- The 99-year old bridge will benefit from the improvements.


MOTION: Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Public Improvement Agreement with Farline Bridge, Inc. in the amount of \$4,064,862.90 for replacement of the bridge on Silverton Road over the Little Pudding River. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.


PUBLIC HEARINGS
9:30 A.M.

None.

Commissioner Cameron read the calendar.
Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 10:08 a.m.



 CHAIR


 COMMISSIONER


 COMMISSIONER

Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at

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