

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD SESSION – Regular Session

Wednesday, March 27, 2024  
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, Jane Vetto as county counsel, and Brenda Koenig as recorder.

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

*(Video Time 00:00:51)*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

*(Video Time 00:01:00)*

**PROCLAMATION**

COMMUNITY SERVICES - Action

1. Consider approval of a proclamation designating the month of April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Marion County. – Sarah Coutley; Kyle Tarr, Liberty House; Vanessa Nordyke, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Marion County; and Tanya Hamilton, Family Building Blocks

***Summary of presentation:***

Tanya Hamilton, Family Building Blocks:

- Family Building Blocks has been serving the community for over 25 years;
- The organization’s mission entails:
  - Keeping children safe;
  - Keeping families together; and
  - Preventing child abuse in communities.
- Multiple organizations are part of the Marion County Child Abuse Prevention Month Committee:
  - Child abuse prevention is year-round.
- Child abuse neglect numbers for 2022 include:
  - An estimated 41.6 percent of the victims were five years old or younger;
  - Eighty percent of a child’s brain is developed by the age of three:

- Ninety percent of development occurs by the age of five.
  - There were 10,711 victims of child abuse and neglect in Oregon; and
  - There were 1,098 victims of child abuse and neglect in Marion County.
- It is important to recognize child abuse early so that children can grow and thrive; and
- Blue ribbons have been placed on a tree in Riverfront Park:
  - The ribbons represent confirmed victims of child abuse and neglect in communities.

Vanessa Nordyke, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Marion County:

- CASA advocates for all children in foster care in Marion County;
- CASA collaborates with the following for child safety:
  - The Marion County Sheriff's Office; and
  - The Marion County District Attorney's Office.
- Adults play an important role in preventing child abuse including:
  - Parents;
  - Family members;
  - Caregivers;
  - Friends;
  - Teachers;
  - Coaches;
  - Mentors; and
  - Faith leaders.
- Adults can educate youth on the following:
  - The world around them;
  - Body safety;
  - Healthy boundaries;
  - Healthy touch; and
  - How to identify safe adults.
- Individuals are encouraged to seek training to recognize and react responsibly to concerns of child abuse;
- Youth need healthy and positive relationships in their lives;
- Prevention becomes effective when individuals become aware and then act accordingly; and
- Everyone can be a positive role model and help in different ways including:
  - Training staff around you;
  - Reporting suspected abuse or neglect;
  - Being empathetic;
  - Being available to youth; and
  - Knowing your neighbors.

Kyle Tarr, Liberty House:

- It is important to acknowledge and honor daily prevention activities;

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- Building healthy relationships with youth is important;
- Community activities and displays for Child Abuse Prevention Month are available on the county's website;
- Individuals are encouraged to get involved and support local organizations that strengthen families;
- The 2024 theme for Child Abuse Prevention Month is "Paint the Town Blue":
  - Events and activities occurring during the month of April include:
    - Wearing blue to show support;
    - A car parade will be held;
    - Blue light will be displayed on the Union Street Bridge;
    - Blue light will be displayed on the City of Woodburn bridge;
    - A pinwheel window display:
      - Pinwheels are the national symbol of hope.
    - A tree at Riverfront Park will be decorated with blue ribbons; and
    - A ribbon cutting will be held at Liberty House in the City of Woodburn.
- Everyone plays a role in preventing abuse and keeping children safe;
- Liberty House will be providing free training in both English and Spanish throughout the month of April; and
- Individuals are encouraged to contact the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline if they suspect child abuse is occurring.

***Board discussion:***

- Marion County buildings will be lit up blue;
- Commissioner Willis expressed that individuals that have suffered abuse as a child, no matter how long ago, are important and what they suffered does not define who they are, and he is grateful for their presence and service in our community.
- Commissioner Bethell expressed the following:
  - This work is taken seriously, and services are being expanded in the county;
  - Individuals should not have to leave their communities to seek help; and
  - Programs are available for individuals that need help.
- Commissioner Cameron expressed the following:
  - This work is a team effort;
  - When abuse cases make it to the Marion County District Attorney's Office, then efforts have failed:
    - We can continue to recover from this failure.
  - Changing the location of the tree annually will show that the issue is a statewide and countywide issue; and
  - There are many kids and parents that need help and support.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve a proclamation designating the month of April 2024 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Marion County. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

The commissioners read the proclamation.

*(Video Time 00:23:25)*

## CONSENT

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### Board Committee Appointment – Solid Waste Management Advisory Council

2. Approve an order appointing Bill Riecke as a Citizen-At-Large to the Marion County Solid Waste Management Advisory Council with a term ending December 31, 2027.

### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

3. Approve Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Human Services to add incoming funds in the amount of \$87,929 for a new contract total of \$31,915,474 for Marion County to oversee and provide services for the Community Development Disabilities Program (CDDP) through June 30, 2025.

### TAX OFFICE

4. Approve an order for a property tax refund in the amount of \$26,156.43 for RJ Partners, LLC, tax account 526427.

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

*(Video Time 00:24:34)*

## ACTION

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

5. Consider approval of Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) to add \$1,412,445 for a new contract total of \$1,889,147 for management of the Marion County, Homeowner Residential Rehabilitation Program for low-to-moderate income residents through May 30, 2027.

–Steve Dickey

#### ***Summary of presentation:***

- Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) increases funding that will be utilized for a contractor payment account;
- In 2023, the cap amount increased from \$15,000 to \$50,000;

- Amendment #1 will allow contractors to be paid in a timely and expedited manner;
- The contractor payment account has a maximum funding amount of \$200,000:
  - This allows for four projects at the maximum amount of \$50,000 each;
  - The account cannot drop below \$50,000 until the funds are depleted; and
  - The county will maintain control over the majority of the funds.
- Once funds are deposited into the MWVCOG account then the county may request a reimbursement from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):
  - This also allows the county's funds to be replenished in a timely manner.

***Board discussion:***

- Amendment #1 to the contract was discussed in detail at a prior meeting.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) to add \$1,412,445 for a new contract total of \$1,889,147 for management of the Marion County, Homeowner Residential Rehabilitation Program for low-to-moderate income residents through May 30, 2027. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 00:27:46)*

**PUBLIC WORKS**

6. Consider approval of the Contract for Services with Riverbend Materials in the amount of \$330,400 for the purchase and delivery of chip seal aggregate for the 2024 Marion County Chip Seal Program through December 31, 2024.

–Scott Wilson

***Summary of presentation:***

- The contract with Riverbend Materials is for the purchase and delivery of chip seal aggregate;
- The pavement preservation process involves spraying liquid asphalt on a road's surface and then covering the material with a layer of aggregate;
- The contract with Riverbend Materials is for a one-year term;
- Chip seal treatments provide a durable and waterproof wear course;
- The treatment process can extend the life of the existing pavement;
- Approximately 57 miles of roadway will be treated with chip seal over the 2024 summer months:
  - It is anticipated that the work will start in July and be completed by the Labor Day holiday.
- The locations and schedules of the road work can be found on the county's website:
  - Outreach is also provided through social media; and

- Message boards will be displayed prior to chip seal applications.
- During the chip seal process only one traffic lane will be open;
- Motorist are encouraged to exercise caution when travelling through work zones;
- The Contract for Services with Riverbend Materials is for \$330,400;
- The contract was awarded through an Invitation to Bid process; and
- The 2024 Chip Seal Program is a budgeted expenditure.

**Board discussion:**

- The county will be performing extensive repairs on some roadways that involves milling in the wheel paths:
  - Repairs on these roadways may be performed over a two-year period; and
  - A double chip seal process may be performed that utilizes special aggregate.

**Motion:** Commissioner Willis moved to approve the Contract for Services with Riverbend Materials in the amount of \$330,400 for the purchase and delivery of chip seal aggregate for the 2024 Marion County Chip Seal Program through December 31, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Bethell; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 00:32:07)*

7. Consider an appeal of the hearings officer's decision for Administrative Review (AR) Case #23-033/Bodunov. –Nicole Inman

**Summary of presentation:**

- The item before the board is to consider an appeal of the hearings officer's decision for Administrative Review (AR) Case #23-033/Bodunov;
- The applicants applied for an Administrative Review (AR) to determine the number of legal lots on 26.65 acres of land:
  - The property is located on Abiqua Road NE in a Timber Conservation (TC) zone.
- The hearings officer held a duly noticed public hearing for the application on January 4, 2024;
- On February 8, 2024, the hearings officer issued a decision determining that the property constitutes one legal parcel;
- The hearings officer's decision was appealed on February 22, 2024;
- The appeal was discussed at a board session meeting on March 20, 2024:
  - The board tabled the item until March 27, 2024, for further review.
- On March 20, 2024, staff recommended denying the appeal:
  - Staff received new information after the March 20,2024, board session meeting; and
  - Staff are now requesting that the board consider accepting the appeal.
- The applicants disagree with how the hearings officer drew from applicable laws; and
- There may be a policy interpretation for the board to consider.

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**Board discussion:**

- Commissioner Willis expressed the following:
  - There is a decision that the board can make with the policy on an interpretation of the law from the boards perspective;
  - He would like to accept the appeal; and
  - He would like the opportunity to discuss this.
- Commissioner Bethell expressed that she supports Commissioner Willis' request;
- Commissioner Cameron expressed he would like the applicants to have the opportunity to be heard and explain what may be possible;
- The applicants have granted an extension that would allow the board time to consider the request;
- A decision by the board is needed by August 8, 2024; and
- Staff will coordinate a future meeting date with the applicant.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Bethell moved to approve an appeal of the hearings officer's decision for Administrative Review (AR) Case #23-033/Bodunov. Seconded by Commissioner Willis; motion carried. A voice vote was unanimous.

*(Video Time 00:36:03)*

**PUBLIC HEARINGS  
9:30 A.M.**

None.

(Video Time 00:36:27)


**Board discussion:**

- Commissioner Cameron attended a Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWMAC) meeting the prior evening:
  - The council advises the board on matters related to solid waste;
  - The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) presented 2025 recycling legislation that was passed;
  - There are rules that will be made for different organizations;
  - There may be an opportunity to comment potentially in April;
  - He would like SWMAC to make recommendations to the board related to the comments;
  - The rules will impact the county and the region; and
  - A presentation may be given to the board at a future SWMAC Work Session.

Commissioner Cameron adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

  
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CHAIR

  
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COMMISSIONER

  
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COMMISSIONER

**Board Sessions can be viewed on-line at**

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

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