



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Minutes

Monday, July 17, 2017, 9:00 am

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Silverton Conference Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner Sam Brentano, Commissioner Janet Carlson, Commissioner Kevin Cameron, Jan Fritz, Gloria Roy, Alan Haley, Faye Fagel, Tamra Goettsch, Dennis Mansfield, Camber Schlag, Brian Nicholas, Mark Christensen, Chuck Sybrant, Scott Miranda, Todd Sheldon, Tom Hogue, Krista Ulm, Barb Young, Jolene Kelley, and Kenna West as recorder.

Jan Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

INFORMATIONAL

Review River Road South emergency repair and disaster declaration

Summary of Presentation:

- Awarded federal funds through the Federal Highway Administration's emergency response program to repair River Road South;
- Heavy winter culminated with a large rainstorm on February 22nd resulting in a mudslide that covered the roadway;
- The roadway was cleared and reopened, but the roadway and slope were left destabilized;
- The Federal Highway Administration will reimburse 100% for the reconstruction of a portion of the roadway damaged in the mudslide and some slope stabilization;
- One small portion of the roadway has pre-existing waving which the Federal Highway Administration did not consider a part of the mudslide, but is considered maintenance, so they will not pay for that portion;
- The total project cost is \$525,000, but public works budgeted \$595,000 for possible overages;
- The Federal Highway Administration will pay \$382,000 for repairs;
- Must be completed within 180 days of the qualifying event, which is August 21, 2017; and
- The contract completion date is August 18, 2017.

Summary of Board Discussion:

- This will be on Board Session agenda on Wednesday, July 19, 2017; and
- Public Works will bring the slides shown at Management Update to Board Session at the request of the Commissioners.

Review proposal for leachate disposal

Summary of Presentation:

- Covanta and Public Works Environmental Services Division would like to amend their contract to allow leachate disposal at Covanta;
- Covanta recently installed a liquid waste injection system that injects liquid directly into the furnace that cools the fire:
 - This benefits the system because it allows additional garbage burning capacity; and
 - It reduces the cost to Marion County.
- Marion County currently disposes of 4.5 million gallons of leachate;
- The rate for leachate disposal is \$0.24 per gallon;
- The new contract would reduce the leachate disposal rate to \$0.15 per gallon;
- Department of Environmental Quality has authorized disposal of up to 8,000 gallons per day (1.8 million gallons of leachate);
- This will be a savings of about \$162,000 per year to Marion County; and
- There will also be a savings of 380 miles per trip.

Board Discussion:

- The liquid waste injection system is new technology for Covanta and they are unsure of the cost savings at this point; and
- There may be future savings if the Department of Environmental Quality reviews their decision and allows Covanta to increase the per day disposal amount.

Overview of RARE term of services

Summary of Presentation:

- Overview of Mark Christenson's RARE term of service;
- The RARE program is administered through the University of Oregon;
- Americorp members are placed in rural communities working on projects related to economic development, environmental planning, tourism, and other community development initiatives;
- Mr. Christiansen's primary project was the SEDCOR Business Retention and Expansion initiative;
- SEDCOR has had this for the past few years;
- Based on a University of Minnesota model which includes:
 - Utilization of volunteers to survey businesses; and
 - Survey consisted of questions regarding issues faced by rural businesses.
- Moved the survey over to Survey Monkey for compilation;
- Created a toolkit for the communities to use to implement the business retention and expansion initiative;
- Met with community leadership including members of the chambers and city management of Silverton and Mt. Angel;
- The business retention and expansion initiative brought out some trends including:

- A general lack of variety in businesses;
- Lack of coordination of store hours; and
- Workforce issues including recruitment and retention of qualified employees.
- Additional projects worked on include:
 - Mid-Valley Rural Conference;
 - Marion County Community Profile drafting;
 - Assisting Regional Economic Development Strategy Team;
 - Assisting on the Donald Strategic Doing process; and
 - Attendance at the North Santiam Regional Wastewater meetings to record the community input and impact.
- RARE experience has been great for Mr. Christensen; and
- Mr. Christensen's service concludes on July 31, 2017.

Board Discussion:

- Very appreciative of Mr. Christensen's hard work and assistance;
- Unfortunately, no RARE participant next year; and
- Will consider in upcoming years.

Review proposed purchase of a hydraulic wood mill and pole building

Summary of Presentation:

- Have come upon large trees that could be used for income production as well as training youth on how to use the newest technology in portable mills;
- Cost of the mill and pole building to house the mill is \$92,000;
- Looking at purchasing the portable, electric model;
- Currently have a manual mill;
- The proposed mill is a remote mill where the operator is further away from the mill and operates it via remote controls;
- Hoping to create a program resulting in a certification for the youth who become proficient on the use of the portable mill and woodworking;
- Safer and higher production rate than current mill;
- Currently there are 25 youth in the program in the winter and 50-60 youth in the summer;
- There are 4-6 with the ability to go up to 10 youth in this particular wood working program;
- The youth stay in the program about 3 months;
- Working with the Oregon Education Board and Chemeketa College to create a program so the youth can earn high school credits;
- The market for the planed wood is the home based wood worker;
- Would not be in direct competition with current private business;
- This business would work in conjunction with the current firewood business;
- The good wood would be cut from the rough tree resulting in smaller logs for the firewood cutters to cut, making it easier;
- Much more wood coming in than was expected at the outset;
- All urban recycled lumber from trees that have fallen in the cities; and
- Many different wood crafted products have been made and are being marketed by the youth.

Board Discussion:

- Return to Management Update with additional information including:
 - Outcome of discussions with Risk Management;
 - Potential financing to pay for the mill rather than using 4E funds; and
 - Cost of annual maintenance and repairs on the mill.

Update on low income property tax exemption

Summary of Presentation:

- Three issues need board direction:
 - Definition of low income;
 - Maximum period that property may be held for future development and still receive exemption; and
 - Which department will administer the program.
- There would be an annual application process; and
- Also need to determine what fees to charge for the original application and any renewals.

Board Discussion:

- County Counsel to determine the meaning of “initial year” and report back to Commissioners;
- Ms. Young to contact the State Housing & Community Services Department and find out if any other counties are using Option #2 as the definition of low income and, if so, what their experiences has been;
- Directed to draft using 10 years as the maximum period the property may be held for future development;
- Directed to draft naming Assessor’s Office as the administrator of the program; and
- Ms. Young directed to contact the City of Salem to determine their program and fees and potentially mirror their program.

NACo iCivics and County Explorer programs

Summary of Presentation:

- Commissioner Carlson reviewed the iCivics and County Explorer programs for potential use by Marion County.

Board Discussion:

- Programs could be useful for Marion County in some circumstances and are very interesting.

Communications Update

- The public information officer provided a communications outreach update; and
- Discussed the on-going, multi-jurisdiction solar eclipse planning.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND UPDATES

- Commissioner Brentano:
 - Attended Oregon Garden Foundation meeting.

- Commissioner Carlson:
 - Met with Public Health Division and Oregon Health Authority:
 - Most of the money is going to foundational services;
 - Marion County well above foundational services; and
 - Marion County probably won't get any money.
 - Meeting with WVP Health Authority with WVCH and BCN:
 - Discussed the coding project;
 - Alternative payment methodologies approved by the Board; and
 - Affirmed the proper route to be followed on this project.
 - Met with and will participate on the 24J Facilities Campaign; and
 - Attended CCTV taping for the MCRI Breakfast interviews:
 - Very excited by these interviews;
 - 2018 is the 10 year anniversary; and
 - Would like to move to the Salem Convention Center for the 10 year anniversary breakfast.

- Commissioner Cameron:
 - Economic Development Advisory Board:
 - Toured Detroit Lake and viewed the improvements made with the grant monies from Marion County;
 - Rode along with Public Works:
 - Reviewed roads and bridges that are scheduled for work;
 - Spent time on the chip seal machinery watching a chip seal process; and
 - Attended the tour of the old Center for Hope and Safety shelter.

OTHER

Solar eclipse viewing policy for employees

- Discussed following the inclement weather policy;
- County will provide one pair of solar eclipse glasses to each employee;
- Directed to continue with meetings and return to the Commissioners with a proposed plan for employee viewing of the solar eclipse.

Lawsuit

- Linn County Judge withdrew the adverse reconsideration opinion.

International County Managers Association (ICMA)

- The ICMA will be in Marion County filming for their upcoming conference; and
- Probably filming in regard to the re-entry and service levels provided by Marion County.

Adjourned at 11:04 am
 COMPLETED BY: **Kenna West**
Reviewed by: Sarra Sparks