



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Minutes

Monday, September 21, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem
5th Floor, Suite 5231, Commissioners Boardroom

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners Colm Willis, Sam Brentano and Kevin Cameron, Jan Fritz, Joe Kast, Laurie Steele, Tom Rohlring, Bill Burgess, Jane Vetto, Brian Nicholas, Tamra Goettsch, Michelle Shelton, Kathie Carter, Nate Combs, Jason Schneider, Connie Higgins, Justine Flora, Barb Young, Jolene Kelley, and Kristy Witherell as recorder.

GUESTS:

Tim Cooper, Brown & Brown

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

INFORMATIONAL:

Review the Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan Renewal

- Michelle Shelton

Summary of presentation:

- MCLEA has been voted on;
- Non-MCLEA has not yet been voted on;
- Very reasonable increases based on utilization:
 - There was a three percent increase for PacificSource; and
 - There was a 5.47 percent increase for Kaiser Permanente.
- Prior to this year, the Kaiser plan utilization was separate, so it has been combined;
- The taxes changed a bit this year:
 - The Oregon tax has stayed at two percent; and
 - The federal health insured tax goes away January 1, 2021.
- There was no increase to the dental plans; and
- Recommending no increase to the employer funded HSA plan.

Board discussion:

- MCLEA employees decline the high deductible plan every year.

Discuss Election Readiness in light of the Wildfires and the Continued COVID-19 Pandemic

- Bill Burgess

Summary of presentation:

- No ballots were burned in the Beachie Creek Fire;
- Ballots will be mailed out on October 14, 2020;

- All fire displaced voters will get a ballot;
- The ballot will be mailed to their home address:
 - If they no longer have home delivery, the ballot will be held at the serving post offices designated by the United States Postal Service (USPS) COOP Plan.
- Generally, the USPS holds mail for 14 days before returning it:
 - Per discussions with USPS, they will hold ballots at the designated serving post office until Election Day if they are unable to deliver it to the home.
- If a voter would like the Clerk's Office to send the ballot to another address, they can update their mailing address on oregonvotes.gov;
- Voters can keep their residential address even though their home is no longer standing;
- Ballots need to be mailed no later than October 27, 2020;
- Outreach on this matter has been given to the following:
 - PBS;
 - Statesman Journal; and
 - Jolene Kelley to put on the website.
- The Clerk's Office is willing to drive ballots out to constituents and assist them with voting;
- The Marion County Republican Party has asked to open polling places for people in the canyon:
 - The Clerk's Office is opening the Senator Hearing Room two weeks prior to the election as an early voting center where people can vote.
- Absentee ballots were mailed out on September 18, 2020.

Beachie Creek Fire Update

Summary of presentation:

- Highway 22 will open up today to the City of Gates;
- North Fork Road to Pioneer Road and Taylor Park will also open today;
- Based on the meeting last week with Linn County and Commissioner Brentano's suggestion of property tax relief for the individuals that have lost their homes or have had their homes damaged in the wildfires, Ms. Young drafted a legislative request letter to introduce a bill to address these issues at the next legislative session:
 - This bill is statewide;
 - Suggestion is to name all eight wildfires that people were impacted by; and
 - Name the eight counties impacted in the letter.
- There has not been clear direction given to the board regarding cleanup of the damaged properties in the canyon; and
- The board will have media availability after this Wednesday's Board Session.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

COMPLETED BY: **Kristy Witherell**

Reviewed by: *Joanna Ritchie*