



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# Management Update summary Minutes

OREGON

**November 05, 2024. 9:30 AM**

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem  
5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

## ATTENDANCE:

**Commissioners:** Danielle Bethell, and Kevin Cameron

**Board's Office:** Jan Fritz, Matt Lawyer, Trevor Lane, Shawnnell Fuentes, Alvin Klausen, Jon Heynen, Chris Eppley, and Chad Ball.

**Legal Counsel:** Steve Elzinga.

**Public Works:** Brian Nicholas, Kent Inman, Max Hepburn, Ryan Crowther, Chris Einmo, and Lani Radtke.

**Health and Human Services:** Christina Bertschi, Karin Perkins, Wendy Zieker, Michael Keuler, Lisette Cervantes Almonte, and Ryan Matthews

**Assessor's Office:** Robb Witters, Nate Combs, Brooke Skidmore, and Tom Rohlfling

**Human Resources:** Ryan Scheuch.

Jan Fritz called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

## **Summary**

The Grand Ronde Tribe requested a gate on Dieckman Lane to stop illegal dumping, which was met with skepticism about the need for a gate without investigating the root cause. A temporary speed reduction on Ehlen Road was approved to enhance safety during construction. The Keller's Brooks contract amendment was discussed, focusing on water service expansion and budget constraints. The IDD program proposed hiring individuals with disabilities for dedicated OS1 positions. The potential acquisition of an 18-unit apartment complex for transitional housing was debated, emphasizing the need for staffing and funding. Finally, a grant application for emergency preparedness funding was reviewed, with concerns about OHA's requirements and the need for a competitive grant process. Discussed the application process for a manufactured home in Salem, highlighting discrepancies between mailing addresses and primary residence claims. Concerns were raised about property owners with multiple properties, where tax statements were sent to different addresses, casting doubt on their primary residence status. The board decided to deny applications where mailing addresses did not match the property's location, with the option for applicants to appeal to the Tax Court. The conversation also touched on the need for clear application language and the challenges of verifying primary residence claims, emphasizing the importance of following the law and ensuring fair distribution of funds.

## INFORMATIONAL:

### **1. Dieckman Lane Gate Request**

- Max Hepburn

- The tribe owns properties at the end of a dead-end, low-volume road, and the county can issue a permit for the gate.
- The tribe is trying to stop illegal dumping on their property.
- The area is a haven for illegal dumping, with people using it as a hidden spot.

### **2. Temporary Speed Reduction for Ehlen Road at I-5 Interchange**

-Ryan Crowther

- Need for a temporary speed reduction order on Ellen Road due to construction.
- The speed reduction is intended to improve safety for construction workers and the traveling public.

### **3. Keller's Contract for Brooks Water and Wastewater Amendment #3**

-Chris Einmo

- Focusing on moving from master planning to key design.
- The project aims to utilize existing infrastructure and American Plan Rescue Act (ARPA) funds to build a water campus storage reservoir and distribution system.
- The phasing diagram is altered to fit within the budget, with some elements deferred to phase two.

### **4. Canyon Project Amendment**

-Chris Einmo

- The amendment includes final design of the wastewater treatment facility and the need to start spending ARPA money on the force main.
- The final price of the overall contract is \$10.1 million, including engineering and other services.
- The project aims to meet the ARPA deadline for spending by the end of 2026.

### **5. PacificSource Health-Related Social Needs Provider Service Agreement**

- Christina Bertschi

- The agreement has been polished and is ready for approval.

### **6. Recruiting People with IDD Lived Experience**

-Karin Perkins

- The IDD program's plan to offer employment opportunities to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- The program aims to hire two part-time regular positions to support IDD processing.

### **7. Apartment Complex Project Discussion**

-Ryan Matthews

- Concept of an 18-unit apartment complex for transitional housing and treatment.
- The complex would serve various populations in need of stable housing and wraparound services.
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## **8. Emergency Preparedness & Resilience Funding Opportunity**

-Wendy Zieker, Michael Keuler, and Lisette Cervantes Almonte

- Opportunity to receive up to \$422,000 from the Oregon Health Authority for mini grants.
- The grants would address public health metrics related to heat and respiratory conditions.

## **9. Wildfire Special Assessments**

- Brooke Skidmore

- Discussion on the wildfire special assessment program, which started this year under Senate Bill 1545.
- Approved 1,660 applications, with 9 denied and 7 incomplete.
- Concerns about mailing address discrepancies and primary residence issues.
- Challenges in administering the program
- Difficulty in administering the program due to property owners changing mailing addresses and dishonest applications.
- Applicants can appeal to the tax court if they believe their property is their primary residence.
- Concerns about issuing checks to properties with mailing addresses not matching the primary residence status.

## **10. Wildfire Hazardous Tree Removal Project**

-Matt Lawyer

- Board interested in project for about a year.
- Struggled with RFP and Intent to Bid.
- Legal concerns about 3-party agreement
- Board willing to consider grant opportunity
- Plan:
  - Notify landowners/jurisdictions.
  - Allow them to get bids and apply for grant.
  - County as fiscal agent.
  - Contracts between landowners/jurisdictions and contractor.
  - City of Detroit can apply for grant to remove commissioner's tree if hazardous.

## **Action Items**

- Schedule a meeting with the sheriff's office to investigate the illegal dumping issue on Dykeman Lane.
- Provide the board with the project proposal for the OHA emergency preparedness and resilience grant funding prior to submitting it to OHA.
- Review the list of approved wildfire special assessment applicants to verify primary residence status and issue denials as appropriate, allowing applicants to provide evidence if needed.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATES

**Commissioner Danielle Bethell**

- N/A

**Commissioner Kevin Cameron**

- N/A

**Commissioner Colm Willis**

- N/A

OTHER

**Adjourned** – time: 11:14 a.m.

**Minutes by:** Mary Vityukova

**Reviewed by:** Gary White

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