MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Summary Minutes

August 19, 2025. 9:30 AM

Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Salem

5th Floor, Suite 5232, Commissioners Board Room

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Danielle Bethell, Kevin Cameron, and Colm Willis.

Board's Office: Alvin Klausen, Trevor Lane, Rand Feres, Chris Eppley, Heather Inyama, and Matt Lawyer.

Legal Counsel: Steven Elzinga.

Public Works: Carl Lund, Ryan Crowther, Kevin Thompson, Brian May, Tsige Woldegiorgis, Brian Nicholas, and Shane Ottosen.

Health and Human Services: Teri Morgan, and Carol Heard.

Commissioner Colm Willis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL:

1. Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

-Carl Lund

Summary of Presentation:

- Grant supporting rural and tribal transportation planning and preliminary engineering.
- The grant is not for construction, but for planning and preliminary engineering:
  - A maximum award of $2.5 million per project.
- Several project ideas considered:
  - River and Brooklake Roads feasibility study:
    - Potentially problematic due to partial urban location.
  - Silverton's Howell Prairie Road:
    - Intersection at the safety corridor.
  - Silverton Road and 81st Avenue.
  - A county-wide fish passage plan:
    - Inventory and prioritize culverts for fish passage compliance and streamline emergency repairs.
  - Bike trail from rest stop to Gates:
    - Deprioritized due to existing funding for planning and the restriction to non-construction activities
- Awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, and only two applications are allowed.
- Focus on projects that have no funding.
- Selecting projects that are clearly rural to maximize eligibility.
- Only two applications are allowed.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward:
    - Application for Silverton’s Howell Prairie Intersection.
    - Application for county-wide fish passage plan.

2. Consider Changes to Certain Marion County Solid Waste Rates
-Brian May
Summary of Presentation:
- Subsidized solid waste rates for government and school district customers at Browns Island:
    - The current rate is $5 per yard for these customers.
    - It is $15 for commercial customers.
- Impact on county departments, especially those funded by the general fund:
    - Desire to avoid increasing their costs.
- Need to consider the budget cycles of partner agencies and avoid sudden financial impacts.
- The rationale for aligning rates was to ensure fairness and eliminate the perception of subsidizing certain customers.
- The rate will increase to $15 but it will be done in phases:
    - It will increase to $7.50 per yard in October.
    - It will increase to $15 per yard by July 1, 2026.
- Done in phases as some may not have the budget for immediate full increases:
    - Communicate changes to affected partners.

Board Direction:
- Approved to move forward.

3. Contract Amendment #1 with Knife River for Parkdale Park Improvements Project
-Ryan Crowther, Kevin Thompson
Summary of Presentation:
- An amendment need due to additional grant-funded work exceeding the 25% threshold for board approval.
- Added work included:
    - Additional concrete walks.
    - Installation of bollards to restrict vehicular and motorcycle access:
        - Issues with motorcycles using the park as a track.
    - Other minor improvements to enhance user experience.
- Distinction between:
    - Change orders:
        - Routine adjustments for quantity or minor changes.
    - Contract amendments:
        - Substantive changes or increases over 25%.

Board Direction:
- Approved to move forward.
- Ongoing summaries of change orders and amendments for transparency.

4. Contract with North Santiam Paving Co. for North Fork Road Milepost 3 Slide Repair
-Ryan Crowther
Summary of Presentation:
- Contract for landslide repair at North Fork Road Milepost 3:
    - Funded by the Road Fund and not by grants.
- Slide previously blocked the road for a day and remains at risk for further failure.
- Stone buttress and retaining wall to stabilize the area and protect utilities:
    - Power lines and an access road.
- Will require a one-lane closure with portable traffic control for about 1.5 months.
- Contractor is eager to begin work before the rainy season to prevent further instability.
- Important to communicate with local residents:
    - Those who use the road for recreation or access.
- Use of temporary traffic signals versus flaggers discussed.

Board Direction:
- Approved to move forward.
- Coordinate with local groups and media for public awareness.

5. Contract Amendment #5 with Slayden for Brooks-Hopmere Water Improvement Project
-Brian Nicholas
Summary of Presentation:
- Update on negotiations for site work to raise elevation due to flooding concerns.
- The amendment is necessary to keep the project on schedule and meet American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) deadlines.
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- Negotiations for the amendment were ongoing at the time of the meeting:
    - Goal to finalize and complete negotiations within the week.
- Target to bring amendment for approval before September 15:
    - Keep the contractor on schedule for earthwork starting in mid-September.
- Concern about ensuring the project is not delayed by waiting for board approval:
    - Tight ARPA timelines.
- The importance of expediting the process and maintaining clear communication about project status and financial details was emphasized.
- Process for negotiating the guaranteed maximum price (GMP):
    - Need to keep the project moving forward to avoid delays.

Board Direction:
- Approved to move forward.
- Provide detailed breakdown of costs and funding sources:
    - Clarification on how the project is funded.

6. Recovery Month Proclamation
-Carol Heard, Teri Morgan
Summary of Presentation:
- Proposal to designate September as Recovery Month in Marion County.
- The proclamation aims to increase awareness, reduce stigma, and support recovery from substance use and mental health disorders.

- Plans include a boardroom presentation with recovery stories and use of purple ribbon.
- Plans include a boardroom presentation with individuals sharing their recovery stories:
    - Each speaker allotted about three minutes.
- Purple ribbon as a symbol for Recovery Month.

Board Direction:
- Approved to move forward.
- Publicize the proclamation

7. Capital Futbol Club (CFC) Fee Waiver Authority
-Steve Elzinga
Summary of Presentation:
- Review of fee waivers/refunds for Capital Futbol Club:
    - Approximately $61,761.66.
    - An additional $11,500 potentially waivable:
        - Pending further legal research.
- Impact of the refund on the planning department's revenue:
    - Significant portion of the fee is the zoning review fee.
- Considered whether to refund the full amount:
    - Weighing the value of staff time for additional legal research.

Board Direction:
- Approve refunding the clearly refundable amount ($61,761.66).
- Do not pursue additional legal research for the remaining $11,500.
- Coordinate with departments and communicate the decision to the applicant.

8. Legislative Update
-Alvin Klausen
Summary of Presentation:
- Three Basin Rule Public Comment Letter:
    - Two versions of the letter prepared:
        - One is on behalf of the board.
        - Another is for community members to use for their own engagement.
- Update on Three Basin Rule Amendment & Oregon Department Environmental Quality (DEQ) Process:
    - Initial draft was considered overly complex, after feedback, the language was simplified.
    - New draft allows in-ground infiltration for wastewater disposal:
        - Benefits Detroit and similar communities by providing a feasible path for small package treatment plants within city limits.
    - Technical and financial implications for Detroit, including the potential for more affordable, localized wastewater solutions.
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):
    - Public comment period is open until October 6.
    - HR 4669 (Fixing Emergency Management for America Act):
        - Change emergency management funding from reimbursement to direct grants to counties, bypassing the state.

    - Potential benefit is faster response times and reduced admin burdens.
    - Implications of these changes to local projects and emergency management:
    - Working with legal and planning departments to review the EIS and will coordinate with the floodplain group for a unified response.

Board Direction:

- Three Basin Rule Public Comment Letter:
    - Board review draft letters.
- Update on Three Basin Rule Amendment & Oregon Department Environmental Quality (DEQ) Process:
    - Support current direction of the proposed rule amendment.
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP):
    - Print and distribute HR 4669 memo for board review.
    - Continue monitoring and ensure that county interests are represented.

10. Board Session Agenda Review
-Commissioner Danielle Bethell
Summary of Presentation:

- Overview of board session agenda:
    - Presentation on the Vietnam Memorial.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

<u>COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATE</u>
Commissioner Danielle Bethell

- N/A

Commissioner Kevin Cameron

- N/A

Commissioner Colm Willis

- N/A

<u>Other</u>
4D Recovery Grant Discussion
Commissioner Danielle Bethell
Summary of Presentation:

- They are a youth substance use provider;
- Support a new facility opening in conjunction with a recovery high school on Portland Road.
- Received funding for peer support work but lacked funding to hire providers:
    - Necessary for providing case plans and direct services.
- The grant would use opioid settlement funds to cover staffing costs for one year:
    - Allow the program to become billable and self-sustaining in the future.
- Urgent as the facility is set to open soon and needs to hire staff promptly.
- Reporting requirements were addressed:
    - A year-end report detailing the number of people served and their zip codes.

    - Information on potential billable revenue if the program were already eligible to bill.

Board Direction:

- Approve the grant for 4D Recovery using opioid settlement funds:
    - To support clinical staffing for one year.
- Expedite contract processing to meet the facility's opening timeline.
- Require a detailed year-end report from 4D Recovery.
- Ensure the contract clearly specifies the use of funds and reporting requirements.

Homeless Alliance Discussion
Commissioner Danielle Bethell
Summary of Presentation:

- The homeless alliance is facing challenges due to conflicting requirements between federal and state funding sources:
    - The federal government requires performance standards and expectations for service delivery.
    - The state requires services to be provided without expectations or standards.
    - This conflict is creating sustainability issues for the alliance.
- Their budget has been significantly reduced:
    - Focusing mainly on staff time and support services through the Council of Governments (COG).
- They are still required to provide trainings under its agreement with the state.
- Need free space to conduct these trainings:
    - They are for community partners.
    - May include topics such as mental health for providers.
- Allow using county facilities provided there is no conflict with county operations.
- The health department may also provide or host some of the trainings:
    - Particularly those related to mental health and trauma.
- The board expressed support for using county space for alliance trainings, with the understanding that scheduling and content approval processes are followed.

Board Direction:

- Allow the homeless alliance to use county facilities for required trainings:
    - Subject to availability and scheduling coordination.
- Require all training curriculum to be reviewed and approved by the board and Homeless Alliance Vice Chair (Danielle Bethell).
- Encourage collaboration with the health department for relevant trainings.

Radio System Project Discussion
Brian Nicholas
Summary of Presentation:

- An update regarding the design confirmation for a five-channel trunked system.
- The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has given verbal approval for the design:
    - Moving forward with confirming the design and frequency allocation.
- The House Mountain radio tower is in poor condition:

    - Replacement is included in the project's purchase order.
    - Considered removal due to a $2.5 million project funding shortfall.
- Important to replace the tower rather than deferring the cost and risking future system reliability:
    - Critical for coverage in the canyon area.
    - One of two sites providing sheriff's radio coverage in that region.
- Shortfall does not include the cost of replacing the House Mountain tower:
    - An additional $250,000.
- Replace tower so future funding can be focused on purchasing subscriber units (radios) for agencies joining the system.
- Five weeks away from advertising for site civil improvements:
    - Ongoing efforts to finalize costs and confirm the total funding gap.
- A user fee structure is being developed for agencies joining the system, and that outreach to city partners (e.g., Hubbard, Silverton) is ongoing to secure site agreements and participation.

Board Direction:

- Replace the House Mountain radio tower as part of the current project.
- Continue outreach to partner agencies and finalize user fee structures.
- Prioritize getting law enforcement agencies on the new system with available subscriber units.
- Maintain regular updates as project costs and funding needs are finalized.

Emergency Response Resource Sites

Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Summary of Presentation:

- The site includes:
    - Multiple Conex boxes and a large shelter.
    - Weather-secure storage, electricity, internet (with Starlink backup), and a month's supply of propane.
    - FM/VHF radios.
    - Supplies and equipment can be transferred to other locations as needed.
- The site is not intended for housing people.
- For setting up operations, distributing aid, and coordinating disaster response.
- The Silverton site is part of a statewide initiative:
    - 29 similar sites funded by the legislature with $10 million in total:
        - $2 million for tribes.
        - $8 million for other recipients.
- Each site costs approximately $175,000 to establish.
- The Silverton site is located near an elementary school:
    - Chosen for accessibility and partnership potential.
- The city's involvement was limited:
    - Community organizations are seen as viable partners for future sites.
- The important to have a designated, well-equipped location for post-disaster operations.
- The site's proximity to schools and open fields allows for potential expansion:
    - Tent setup, use of gymnasiums, etc.
- Current grant requires a three-year commitment to maintain the Silverton site:
    - Then local partners are responsible for ongoing upkeep.

- Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) is committed to replenishing supplies as they are used:
  - A system is in place for resource sharing between sites.
- Concerns about the longevity of supplies (e.g., water, generators):
  - Need for regular maintenance.
- Strategic placement of resource sites, considering factors such as earthquake resilience, accessibility, and the ability to serve large populations.
- Fairgrounds, rodeo grounds, and schools identified as potential sites due to their facilities and open space.
- The need for helicopter access and the ability to distribute aid quickly highlighted.
- Need clear, actionable plan for the first 24-48 hours after a disaster:
  - Including designated collection and distribution points.
- Need similar technology at other county sites:
  - Especially areas where broadband or radio may be unavailable in a disaster.

Board Direction:

- Explore additional emergency resource sites in the county:
  - Especially in high-risk or remote areas.
- Follow up with local partners and state agencies to identify potential locations and funding sources.
- Develop a sustainability and maintenance plan for any new or existing emergency resource sites.
- Assess current technology capabilities at county emergency sites.

Adjourned – time: 11:14 a.m.
Minutes by: Mary Vityukova
Reviewed by: Gary L. White