



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Minutes

Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Commissioners' Boardroom
Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Suite 5231
Salem, Oregon 97301

Attendance:

Commissioners: Danielle Bethell and Kevin Cameron.

Board's Office: Matt Lawyer, Alvin Klausen, Jon Heynen, Jonathan Sanford, Toni Whitler, Trevor Lane, and Kendall Hall

Legal Counsel: Steve Elzinga.

Public Works: Brian Nicholas, Brian May, Lani Radtke, and Stephanie Pulvers.

Health and Human Services: Troy Gregg, Carol Heard, Michael Keuler, Susan McLaughlin, and Kelly Martin.

Community and Economic Development: Sarah Coutley.

Finance: Sanfra Fixsen.

Human Resources: Lori Klemsen.

Information Technology: Gary Christofferson.

Sheriff's Office: Jeremy Landers, and Warren McDaniel.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Informational

1. Security Services for Courthouse Square

-Tamra Goettsch

Summary of Presentation:

- Renewal of existing building security contract for Courthouse Square.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

2. Purchase Order (PO) Agreement Amendment #8 with Correct Rx for Pharmacy Services

-Commander Jacob Ramsey

Summary of Presentation:

- Extend existing contract with Correct Rx Pharmacy Services:
 - Medication for Adults in Custody (AIC).
- Correct Rx:
 - Focuses on generics to reduce costs.
 - Allows return of unused medications for refund.
 - Provides bubble-pack medications to improve nursing efficiency.
- Requested amount for FY 2026–27 is \$460,000.
- Prior year authorization was \$452,849:

- Current year-to-date spend noted as lower, but hospital costs have increased.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

3. Garrett Lee Smith Grant, Pre-Release Information

-Susan McLaughlin & Kelly Martin

Summary of Presentation:

- State-managed prevention grant:
 - Focused on youth suicide prevention and post-crisis support.
- Three-year grant:
 - Anticipated \$115,000–\$145,000 per year.
- County already performs many required activities.
- Grant would:
 - Sustain and modestly expand suicide prevention work.
 - Add limited staff capacity:
 - Temporary or reallocated Full Time Equivalent (FTE).
 - Strengthen transition from hospital back to community services:
 - Especially youth with suicidal ideation/attempts without providers.
 - Enhance collaboration with hospitals, crisis services, providers, and schools.
 - Increase suicide-specific training for providers and medical staff.
- Concern of partnering with youth organizations previously decided not to partner with.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.
- Map systems, gaps, outcomes, and accountability measures.
- Partner selections brought before the board before moving forward.

4. Modernization: Environment Resilience Project Update

-Susan McLaughlin & Michael Keuler

Summary of Presentation:

- One-year update on implementation of Climate and Health Adaptation Plan (CHAP):
 - Five-year Oregon Health Authority (OHA) required plan.
- OHA pass-through funds used to:
 - Fund 10 organizations:
 - With about \$235,000 for extreme heat and air quality preparedness.
 - Distribute resilience materials, health flyers, and hold events and trainings.
- Progress:
 - CHAP is in year 1 of 5:
 - 2 objectives completed.
 - 26 ongoing.
 - 9 projected to be completed next fiscal year.
 - Broad collaboration with dozens of organizations.
- Upcoming work:
 - Heat and Health Awareness Day event:
 - Targeting July:
 - Near Hoopla tournament.
 - Focused on heat illness prevention and resource awareness.
 - Communication campaign on summer heat safety.
 - Senior support by energy-efficiency and cooling improvements in homes:
 - Leveraging Energy Trust and other programs.
 - With attention to non-PGE/Pacific Power utilities and Salem Electric.
 - Intern to convert 64-page plan to online, trackable, accessible document.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward
- Send CHAP document and collaborating organizations to board.

5. Request for Procurement (RFP) for Job Distribution Vendor to Interface with Oracle Fusion

-Lori Klemsen

Summary of Presentation:

- With county's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) the current recruitment tools connection to GovernmentJobs.com will be lost.
- Need a new job advertising/distribution vendor that:
 - Integrates directly with Oracle Fusion.
 - Preserves exposure on GovernmentJobs.com or similar high-traffic sites.
 - Can syndicate job postings to multiple boards with minimal staff effort.
- Past challenges getting qualified applicants for certain specialized positions.
- Desire for more targeted and measurable recruitment performance.
- Vendors must show how they target specific candidate pools and improve outcomes.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

6. Consider Contract PO with Esri Inc. for GIS Support

-Gary Christofferson & Sandra Fixsen

Summary of Presentation:

- Three-year contract PO for enterprise GIS services:
 - With possible two-year extension.
- Done through Department of Administrative Services (DAS) cooperative agreement:
 - Now limited to state agencies, making it unusable for county.
- New contract:
 - Preserves the same Esri services and pricing.
 - Provides direct county contract rather than relying on DAS cooperative.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

7. Veteran Services Office (VSO) Renewal

-Chris Eppley & Gary White

Summary of Presentation:

- Two-year amendment to existing VSO contract.
- Board frustration:
 - Long delays in relocating VSO to more appropriate and accessible space:
 - Downstairs, with independent outside access.
 - Perception of slow progress despite repeated direction.
- Operational goals:
 - Create storefront-style, easily accessible VSO space on ground floor:
 - With direct exterior access for veterans.
 - Improve finding and safety for clients who must navigate deep into building.
- Issues:
 - Need design work, cost estimates, and construction financing:
 - Possibly as part of a broader capital loan package.
 - Limited internal capacity for project delivery:
 - Suggest to contract out the build/remodel work.

- VSO contract includes 60-day termination without cause:
 - Providing flexibility if a new vendor or model is selected.
- Interest in leveraging unspent Veteran Affairs (VA) funds that may become available:
 - After statewide review of underutilized allocations.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.
- Schedule meeting with Tamra Goettsch (Business Services)as soon as possible.
- Project will not be delayed another two years.

8. Shaff Road Sidewalk Improvements 2026

-Ryan Crowther

Summary of Presentation:

- Sidewalk and American with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp on Shaff Road.
- Project scope:
 - 23 ADA ramps at intersections including:
 - Wilco Road.
 - Golf Club Road.
 - Quail Run Avenue.
 - Westtown Drive.
 - Kindle Way.
 - Low bid from Mid Valley Excavation for \$258,202.23.
- Favorable pricing for the ramp quantity.
- Project will complete ADA ramp installations along targeted portion of Shaff Road:
 - Some corners have multiple ramps.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.

9. Initial Board Reviews Public Works (PW):

-Stephanie Pulvers

- a. Extend CWT Training Academy Contract for Erosion Control Training Courses.
- b. Extend Underground Tech Inc. Contract for On-Call Stormwater and Wastewater Repairs
- c. Extend Cascade Water Works Contract for On-Call Stormwaters and Wastewater Repairs
- d. Extend Alpha Environmental contract for On-Call Stormwater and Wastewater Repairs
- e. Solicit Drinking water and Stormwater Testing Services for PW

Summary of Presentation:

- a. Extend CWT Training Academy Contract for Erosion Control Training Courses:
 - Annual two-day erosion control certification course for staff and partners.
 - Compliance with construction erosion permits and MS4 requirements.
- b. Extend Underground Tech Inc. Contract for On-Call Stormwater and Wastewater Repairs
 - Up to \$100,000 for emergency or large stormwater/wastewater repairs.
- c. Extend Cascade Water Works Contract for On-Call Stormwaters and Wastewater Repairs
 - Up to \$100,000 for additional stormwater/wastewater repair capacity.
- d. Extend Alpha Environmental contract for On-Call Stormwater and Wastewater Repairs
 - Up to \$100,000 for specialized or urgent/utility environmental repairs.
- e. Solicit Drinking water and Stormwater Testing Services for PW

- New RFP for lab testing of county drinking water and stormwater per OHA and permit requirements.

Board Direction:

- a. Proceed.
- b. Proceed.
- c. Proceed
- d. Proceed.
- e. Proceed.

10. Proposed Temporary Construction Easement to the City of Salem for McKay Park

-Lani Radtke

Summary of Presentation:

- City of Salem requested using Judy Avenue as secondary construction access:
 - Soccer field improvements at McKay Park/McKay High School.
- County identified small one-foot reserve strip owned in fee by Marion County:
 - Triggering need for county permission for access.
- Construction traffic expected to be limited:
 - No major heavy-haul activity anticipated.
 - Primary work and access remain on Hollywood Drive through the park.
- Street is congested and residential:
 - Neighborhood communication is essential.
- The city must restore road to its current condition after construction.
- Legal advised a formal easement is not strictly necessary:
 - County can instead provide written permission conditioned on restoration.
 - Easement can be pursued later but should not delay project start.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on consent.
- Written commitment from City to restore any damage.
- Notify the appropriate neighborhood association.

11. Legislative Update

-Alvin Klausen

Summary of Presentation:

- Willamette National Cemetery:
 - Multiple constituent emails opposing proposed expansion site in Marion County.
 - Draft response letter:
 - Marion County is honored to be considered for veterans’ resting place.
 - County agrees with concerns that the location is not appropriate.
 - Lists actions county has taken to date in response to proposal.
 - Legal concern:
 - Draft language suggesting federal government can proceed “with or without us” flagged as inaccurate:
 - Federal agencies cannot override all local property rights.
 - There are limits on unilateral federal action.
 - Freedom of Information Act (FOIA):
 - The 12 sites VA says it reviewed.
 - Reasons each site was rejected.
 - Communications between VA’s real estate agent and landowners.
 - Timeline for FOIA response is listed as “to be determined”.

- Outreach to federal/intergovernmental contacts (including at the White House) to draw attention to the FOIA and local concerns.
- Bridge Improvement and Lake Labish:
 - Call with Kirby regarding Bridge Improvement Program.
 - Potential \$40 million of bridge fund improvements.
 - PW has a refined application with 5 bridges listed already.

Board Direction:

- Willamette National Cemetery:
 - Revise draft letter.
 - Share FOIA submission with board.
 - Notify Jay and Nakia to help with federal response.
 - Commissioner Bethell to reach out to White House contacts.
- Lake Labish:
 - Get an application ready for Lake Labish to be submitted next cycle.
 - Coordinate with Commissioner Willis on what his priority is.
 - Look for alternative options as well.

12. Board Session

- **May 20, 2026 – Agenda**
- **May 27, 2026 – No Meeting**
- **June 3, 2026 - Agenda**

-Commissioner Colm Willis

Summary of Presentation:

- Overview of Agenda.
- Land use hearing tomorrow.
- Gold Star family proclamation presentation.

Board Direction:

- Legal will discuss with either commissioners regarding land use hearing.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATE

Commissioner Danielle Bethell

- Met with Tamra Goettsch:
 - Potentially move Business Services to Center Street.
 - Potentially tear down old Juvenile Building.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron

- Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) Breakfast in Silverton:
 - PGE attended and presented transfer line placement.
 - Well attended.

Commissioner Colm Willis

- N/A

Other

Secretary of State (SOS) Agreement

-Steve Elzinga

Summary of Presentation:

- Reviewed three related agreements for SOS’s election security camera pilot.
- Key points from legal review:
 - Early termination is allowed.
 - Video data control:

- Marion County controls the video.
 - SOS has access, including live-stream access.
 - No legal objection to SOS's viewing election-related video.
 - Seen as potentially beneficial for security and oversight.
- Concern:
 - Draft IGA language allowed SOS access to privileged information:
 - Legal does not support.
 - Legal believes this provision can be negotiated, removed or narrowed.
- Funding and timing:
 - Program is a pilot for November election only.
 - SOS will cover all costs through November:
 - County fronts costs.
 - State reimburses by grant.
 - No requirement to participate beyond November:
 - Extensions would be separate decision.
- Budget handling:
 - Clerk's Office will need budget authority to front costs for this year.
 - No automatic commitment to ongoing general fund costs after pilot.

Asher House Letter

-Jon Heynen

Summary of Presentation:

- A letter received stating concerns working with Asher House.
- Received many letters stating that glad county is working with Asher House.
- Partnership with county stopped after an incident:
 - Incident involved Dog Control and county staff.

Board Direction:

- Waiting for memo summarizing situation from Lauren Thielke (Dog Shelter Manager):
 - Currently out.
- Situation is not an emergency.

Community Block Development Grant Disaster Recovery Planning, Infrastructure, and Economic Revitalization (CDBG-DR PIER) & Mill City Pump Concept

-Matt Lawyer

Summary of Presentation:

- All Marion County CDBG-DR PURE projects are progressing.
- Mill City has \$800,000 for a northeast pump upgrade.
- New idea:
 - Use most for full planning/engineering/permitting of larger ~\$2M project:
 - Extending service farther south, then seek additional funds.
- No funding awarded later risk is pump may not be built despite planning investment.
- Benefit is being shovel-ready, fully designed project would strengthen Mill City's position for state or other funding.

Board Direction:

- Discuss planning first concept with Oregon Housing and Community Services (HCS) and test its viability.
- Report back in writing with HCS feedback and recommended next steps.
- Be formally approved by Mill City's council, then submitted to Marion County for approval under the subrecipient agreement.

Adjourned – time: 10:58 a.m.
Minutes by: Mary Vityukova
Reviewed by: Gary L. White