



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Minutes

Tuesday, September 1, 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: Chris Eppley, Jonathan Sanford, Matt Lawyer, Jon Heynen, Alvin Klausen, Toni Whitler, Trevor Lane, and Jan Fritz.

Health and Human Services (HHS): Karin Perkins.

Legal: Steve Elzinga.

Public Works (PW): Brian Nicholas, Brian May, Lani Radtke, Tsige Woldegiorgis, Andrew Johnson, Ryan Crowther.

Human Resources: Salvador Llerenas.

Guest: Kathy Rogers.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Informational

1. Initial Board Review

PW

- **Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Marion County Juvenile Department for Various Tasks and Services**
- **Supplemental Project Agreement Amendment #3 Connecticut Avenue: Macleay Road to Rickey Street**
- **Purchase of Glass Beads for Striping of County Roads**
- **Contract Amendment #1 with Sammy & Shane LLC for Commercial Septic Grant**

-Andrew Johnson, Ryan Crowther, Scott Wilson, and Tsigereda Woldegiorgis

HHS:

- **Case Management System Cross Tenant Access Preparation**
- Karin Perkins

Summary of Presentation:

- IGA with Marion County Juvenile Department for Various Tasks and Services:
 - Legacy agreement with Juvenile has been used for 20 years to support tasks:
 - Styrofoam recycling.
 - Litter patrol.
 - Battery collection.
 - Paint collection.
 - Parks/roadside vegetation maintenance.
 - Public Works to convert current agreement format, clarify scope, and align daily rate with what is being paid:
 - From \$225/day to \$265/day.

- Updated IGA will provide clearer and recognized framework for ongoing and new tasks.
- Supplemental Project Agreement Amendment #3 Connecticut Ave: Macleay Rd to Rickey St:
 - Amendment with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).
 - Add \$544,407 in Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS)-derived federal grant funding:
 - For Connecticut Avenue project.
 - Required local match of \$62,309.
 - Funding will be used for construction as project approaches bid phase:
 - Bidding anticipated in fall 2026.
- Purchase of Glass Beads for Striping of County Roads:
 - Used with road striping paint so markings are reflective and visible at night:
 - Must be applied while the paint is wet.
 - County buys bead from the state Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) statewide price agreement:
 - Existing purchase order balance is insufficient to cover needs through 2027 striping season.
 - Request additional \$135,000 on Purchase Order (PO):
 - Anticipating annual bead use of roughly \$230,000–\$245,000.
- Contract Amendment #1 with Sammy & Shane LLC for Commercial Septic Grant:
 - Permanent on-site septic system under American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)-funded Detroit Commercial Septic Program:
 - Mountain High grocery in Detroit.
 - Original agreement covered only holding tank.
 - Property owners secured an Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) septic permit and easement:
 - On adjacent, commonly owned parcels to construct compliant drain fields.
 - System will be \$103,250 within broader commercial septic grant budget:
 - About \$21,000 already under contract plus about \$81,000 additional.
- Case Management System Cross Tenant Preparation:
 - Oregon Department of Human Services (ODDS) is developing statewide case management system for Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) services:
 - Targeted for early 2027.
 - Requires secure Microsoft cross-tenant access so county staff can log in with Marion County credentials.
 - Cross-tenant access will not merge networks or give the state access to county systems but will allow county users to enter and manage client data in a state-hosted system.
 - Concerns:
 - Cost shifted to counties.
 - Data control, liability, and protection for client information.

Board Direction:

- IGA with Marion County Juvenile Department for Various Tasks and Services:
 - Proceed.
- Supplemental Project Agreement Amendment #3 Connecticut ave: Macleay Rd to Rickey St:
 - Proceed on consent.
- Purchase of Glass Beads for Striping of County Roads:
 - Proceed.
- Contract Amendment #1 with Sammy & Shane LLC for Commercial Septic Grant:
 - Proceed.

- List of those parts of the Commercial Septic Program and how much was spent.
 - E-mail update on status of all projects.
- Case Management System Cross Tenant Access Preparation:
 - Proceed.

2. Marion County Battery Collection Program Update

-Andrew Johnson

Summary of Presentation:

- Curbside-collected household batteries are roughly sorted by Juvenile Department:
 - Garten does detailed sorting/packaging before shipping to battery processor.
 - Garten is exiting this line of business due to facility and fire-safety concerns.
- Juvenile Department interested in taking on detailed sorting role at their own facility:
 - Per pound model with Garten:
 - About \$40,000/year at \$0.44/lb.
 - Day/hourly rate model under interdepartmental agreement:
 - \$260/day, flexible scheduling.
- Costs could increase or decrease depending on actual hours and days needed.
- Upfront costs:
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
 - Outdoor steel work/storage structures:
 - Under \$5,000 each.
 - Fire-safety equipment:
 - Risk management involved addressing lithium-battery and fire hazards.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

3. Legislative Update

-Alvin Klausen

Summary of Presentation:

- Marion County Employees to Speak at Conferences Request:
 - Brandon Reich:
 - Oregon State Bar of Environmental and Natural Resource Section.
 - McMenamins Edgefield on October 15th.
 - Related to land use planning.
 - Greg Walsh:
 - League of Oregon Cities.
 - Salem Convention Center on October 16th.
 - On developing emergency management workshop.
- Meeting with Representative Jules Walters:
 - Discussed Kratom legislation.
- Meeting with Representative Sarah McDonald:
 - Discussed waste management.
 - Commissioner Cameron will attend Willamette Valley Task Force on September 11th.
 - Informed Rep that county is moving forward with evaluating waste-to-energy alternatives and will not wait for task force.
 - Informed Rep that county has existing consultants that could be extended.
 - Haulers have resistance to public-private partnership funding models.

Board Direction:

- Marion County Employees to Speak at Conferences Request:
 - Brandon Reich:
 - Commissioner Bethell will discuss with him.
 - Greg Walsh:
 - Do not proceed.

4. Board Session

- **September 2, 2026 – Agenda**
- **September 9, 2026 – Agenda Draft**

-Commissioner Colm Willis

Summary of Presentation:

- Agenda overview.

Board Direction:

- Good to proceed.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATE**Commissioner Danielle Bethell**

- Invited to Denmark for renewable energy summit:
 - Unable to attend.
- Alvin Klausen project:
 - Fees and processes for timber taxes in Oregon for private property owners.
 - Commissioner to work with Jefferson and Crook counties on legislation.
 - Property tax reset.
- Homeless Alliance Executive Director Resigned:
 - With two weeks' notice.
 - Leaves organization vulnerable with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) contracts.
 - Working closely with Jeremy Gordon (acting administrator) and others to stabilize governance.
 - Likely to bring a proposal for Marion County support in partnership with Polk County.
- Chemeketa Student Resource Hub building ribbon cutting:
 - September 10th at 8:30 a.m.
 - Commissioner Bethell will be speaking.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron

- Effective today appointed to Regional Solutions.
- Potentially may run for Treasurer for Oregon Association of Counties (AOC).
- SKATS meeting:
 - Motion passed to give Aumsville a vote while retaining one vote for all existing members.
 - Only school district and Cherriots opposed.
 - Salem had not yet fully briefed their council.
 - School district is not signatory to SKATS operating agreement despite having a vote.
- Public Work Services awards:
 - September 10th at 8 a.m.

Commissioner Colm Willis

- N/A

Other

Salvador and Jan

-Matt Lawyer

Summary of Presentation:

- Have other topic to present.
- When board is ready have a recess and clear the room.

Board Direction:

- Good to proceed.

CFAA Contract

-Matt Lawyer

Summary of Presentation:

- Coming to board session next week.
- Adding additional funds.
- Prior contract has a protective provision:
 - If State makes substantial changes to external reporting requirements or online forms, County has right to object and not be bound automatically by unilateral changes.

Board Direction:

- Trevor Lane to meet with Steve Elzinga to see if provision is included.
- If everything is in order item to be on consent agenda.

Press Release Regarding Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Rulemaking Petition

-Jon Heynen

Summary of Presentation:

- Working with Steve Elzinga.
- Highlighting the next steps of the rulemaking information.
- Include letter sent to the governor.
- Have support from Shanri-La and Yamhill County.

Board Direction:

- Add into press release that they have heard from the interim OHA director.
- If other organizations are interested in providing comment it is welcome.

Labor Negotiations

-Jan Fritz, Salvador, Llerenas

Summary of Presentation:

- Marion County Employees Association (MCEA)/ Service Employees International Union (SEIU) is planning on attending board session:
 - An invitation was sent.
- HR prepared notice summarizing County's economic package and the response to the proposal:
 - Implement 2% Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and other economic terms for this bargaining unit after statutory cooling-off period.
 - Even prior to contract ratification, to avoid further delays for employees.
 - County health insurance contributions:
 - \$50/month increase through year-end and known 2027 rate impacts.
 - Total investment of over \$11 million for this bargaining unit across the contract term.

- Commitment to creating a longevity pay element to reward tenure.
- Notice will be sent to unions and the mediator within hours and then posted publicly.
- Strike Planning:
 - Executive session the following afternoon to present strike-response plan:
 - Including each department's operational plan and contingencies.
 - After Board review, HR/administration will refine the plan and review at Department Head and Elected Officials (DHEO) meeting next week.
 - Will not publish strike materials to staff until official strike notice is received:
 - Once notice is given, 10-day timeline to potential strike will begin.
 - Even after implementation of County's last best offer, County will continue to meet with MCEA/SEIU as required until a conclusion is reached.
- Board Session Public Comment Management:
- For upcoming meetings, including a likely presence of union members, the chair will:
- Commissioners discussed balancing consistency in time limits with chair discretion to extend time in exceptional situations.

Board Direction:

- Add the dollar amount of the county's contribution.
- Add that estimated total investment of over \$11 million is for one bargaining unit.
- Request stronger language in notice to emphasize that delays in implementing agreed economic terms harm employees and County is acting to minimize harm.
- Ask employees to introduce themselves and who they work for:
 - SEIU versus staff.
 - To avoid public confusion.
- Enforce two-minute public comment time limit.
- Board will not attend DHEO.

Adjourned – time: 10:49 a.m.

Minutes by: Mary Vityukova

Reviewed by: Gary L. White