County Commissioners
Colm Willis, Chair
Kevin Camerion
Danielle Bethell

Chief Administrative Officer
Jan Fritz

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Minutes

Tuesday, October 27, 2026, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Commissioners' Boardroom
Courthouse Square, 555 Court St. NE, Suite 5231
Salem, Oregon 97301

Attendance:
Commissioners: Colm Willis, Danielle Bethell and Kevin Cameron.
Board Office: Chris Eppley, Matt Lawyer, Jon Heynen, Alvin Klausen, Trevor Lane, Toni Whitler, Jonathan Sanford, and Cameron Russell.
Business Services: Kevin Dial.
District Attorney's Officer: Jacqueline Osborne and Tia Bufton.
Health and Human Services (HHS): Karin Perkins, Carol Heard, Laura Sprouse, Susan McLaughlin, Melissa Gable and Phil Blea.
Human Resources (HR): Lori Klemsen, Sherry Lintner
Legal: Steve Elzinga, and Andrew Mittendorf.
Public Works (PW): Brian Nicholas, Ryan Crowther, Stephani Pulvers, Lani Radtke and Tsige Woldeiorgis.

Matchstick Consulting: Nick Jensen.
Guests: Kathy Rogers.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Informational
1. Initial Board Review – Multiple Items

1.a. Consider Contract Amendment #1 with Bent LLC for Mill Creek Road Bridge – Ryan Crowther

Summary of Discussion:
Amendment incorporates change orders one through seven for completed bridge project and adds $243,813.36 to the contract. The largest change involved additional dewatering work after crews encountered an old utility trench that affected the bridge foundation work. The original contract was approximately $2 million.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
PROCEED – Board Session.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT.

1.b. **Consider Utility Construction Agreement with Quest Corporation Doing Business As (DBA) CenturyLink QC on Center Street** – Ryan Crowther

Summary of Discussion:
The agreement would reimburse CenturyLink for relocating or adjusting facilities located outside existing right-of-way on private property. Reimbursable work is estimated at $80,000. CenturyLink will provide design and cost documentation, and work within right-of-way remains at its expense. Commissioner Bethell raised a safety concern about the dark entrance to the bowling alley. Asked staff to consider whether a streetlight could be added during project.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
PROCEED – Board Session.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT.

Task: Assess whether a streetlight should be added near the bowling alley entrance and coordinate with PGE if appropriate.
Assigned To: Brian Nicholas.

1.c. All Roads Transportation Safety Funding Curve Warning Signs and Rumble Strips for the Ehlen/Yergen/McKay Corridor — Ryan Crowther

Summary of Discussion:
The project includes rumble strips, curve-warning signs, and speed-feedback signs. Staff are completing the plans and will pursue approvals from Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and the County before bidding the work. The expected timeline to return with the contract was approximately six months, subject to the approval process.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
PROCEED – Return to Management Update.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Return to Management Update Before Board Session – Return with the contract before the item proceeds to Board Session.

1.d. Consider Change Order with Colton Homes, INC DBA Colton Construction for Time Extension on the Marion County Radio Project — Brian Nicholas

Summary of Discussion:
Requested extension would give Colton Construction additional time to erect radio tower at Whitler site and complete punch-list work. Tower's placement required relocation of an existing microwave link and coordinating that work. An outage affecting the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAPs) took longer than expected. The extension does not add cost.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
PROCEED – Administrative Approval.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Administrative Approval – Brian Nicholas may sign the time extension administratively.

1.e. Consider Extension Contract with Language Testing International, Inc for Language Proficiency Testing Services — Lori Klemsen

Summary of Discussion:
Human Resources proposed a five-year, $30,000 contract with Language Testing International. For oral and written proficiency testing for County positions designated as bilingual. Commissioners directed staff to pursue a one-year renewal instead and conduct a Request for Proposal (RFP) before entering into a longer-term contract. Consistent with the Board's preference for competitive procurement regardless of the contract's dollar amount.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
PROCEED – Administrative Approval.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Administrative Approval – A one-year renewal may be signed administratively.

Task: Complete an RFP before entering a subsequent longer-term contract.
Assigned To: Lori Klemsen.

Task: Remind Finance that Board expects RFP's regardless of contract value.
Assigned To: Matt Lawyer.

1.f. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Oregon Listening Project for Suicide Postvention Support Collaboration Pilot Project — Laura Sprouse and Phil Blea

Summary of Discussion:
Proposed a pilot with Oregon Listening Project. Provide earlier support and resource connections for families and others affected by youth suicide loss. Nick Jensen described project's existing work gathering information through retrospective fatality interviews. Proposal would provide more proactive support before usual five-to-six-month interview period. Commissioners expressed interest but requested a more developed account of pilot's scope, responsibilities, funding, data collection, and relationship to existing services before proceeding with an MOU.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
NEEDS MORE INFORMATION.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Propose follow-up discussion with HHS and Oregon Listening Project. Address pilot's process, responsibilities, funding, and data collection. Request Oregon Listening Project's Oregon Health Authority (OHA) contract and any available draft MOU for review.

Task: Organize meeting and prepare Commissioners' questions in a clear written format.
Assigned To: Jonathan Sanford.

Task: Include Kelli Martin and develop a formal outline of pilot process and responsibilities.
Assigned To: Phil Blea.

Task: Provide the OHA contract and any available draft MOU for review.
Assigned To: Nick Jensen.

1.g. Real Estate Broker of Agent & Appraiser Contract Information- John Carlson

Summary of Discussion:
Removed from the agenda.

1.h. Facility exterior Lighting Policy #810 Proposal - Tamra Goettsch

Summary of Discussion:
Kevin Dial presented proposed policy for scheduling and managing exterior lighting across County facilities. Commissioners clarified the general schedule. Blue in April for Liberty House Child Abuse Awareness, green in November, and white the rest of the year. Unless a special request is approved by the board. The Board confirmed that green lighting could proceed in November while broader policy followed the regular approval process.

Initial Board Review Outcome:
PROCEED – Board Session.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT.
Staff was directed to reflect agreed lighting schedule in the policy.

2. Consider Appointments to the Marion Water Quality Advisory Committee
Matthew Williams
Mark Grenz
Gary White, Chair
-Stephanie Pulvers

Summary of Discussion:
Committee recommended Matthew Williams, an Aurora resident, for a citizen-at-large position. Commissioner Bethell requested more background, and Sherry Linter indicated she had a resume to provide. Mark Grenz was recommended for reappointment as the Home Builders Association representative. Gary White was recommended for another two-year term as chair.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT.

Task: Ensure board receive Matthew Williams's resume and background information.
Assigned To: Sherry Lintner.

3. Consider Contract Amendment #11 with Keller Associates for North Santiam Canyon Sewer Project - Brian Nicholas

Summary of Discussion:
Includes final design work for gate sewer system and cleanup items related to wastewater work in the canyon. Brian Nicholas requested that the amendment be placed on the following week's Board Session agenda as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) closeout.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT.

Task: Place Amendment #11 on November 4, 2026, Board Session agenda.
Assigned To: Brian Nicholas.

4. Opioid Prevention Campaign Draft Update and Review - Susan McLauchlin and Melissa Gable

Summary of Discussion:
Staff presented initial campaign concepts developed by a selected vendor, with existing target populations including pregnant women and people experiencing homelessness. Commissioners requested that campaign also targets youth, particularly high-school-aged youth, and includes youth-focused creative related to kratom use. Commissioners expressed support for messages such as "real risk, real support" and "natural doesn't always mean healthy." Staff noted that vendor would monitor campaigns and adjust advertisements based on performance.

Direction & Follow-Up:
The Board requested youth be added to campaign's target population. A possible future work session was discussed. Alvin was to share legislative materials and draft bills with Susan McLauchlin for review.

Task: Update campaign draft to include youth-focused messaging and high-school-aged youth as a target audience.
Assigned To: Susan McLauchlin

Task: Share legislative materials and draft bills related to kratom and related substances with Susan McLauchlin.
Assigned To: Alvin Klausen.

5. Consider Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee Appointments

Mariah Boyd
Karina Larrondo Soto
-Karin Perkins

Summary of Discussion:
The committee recommended Mariah Boyd for reappointment to a four-year term and Karina Larrondo Soto for a new appointment. Commissioners discussed the importance of including family perspectives, including Spanish-speaking families, and helping advisory committee members understand the committee's role and how concerns that extend beyond County authority may be elevated.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT, unless either appointee wishes to attend; Karin Perkins will confirm.

Task: Confirm whether either appointee wishes to attend the Board Session.
Assigned To: Karin Perkins.

6. Approval of the Sole-Source Determination for Adding the Prosecutor by Karpel Case Management System to the District Attorney's Office, Child Support Division
-Jaqueline Osborne and Tia Buffon

Summary of Discussion:
District Attorney's Office requested approval of sole-source determination for adding Prosecutor by Karpel system to its Child Support Division. Determination is an initial procurement step. The contract and supporting IT security materials would be presented

later. The Board agreed to walk determination onto following day's Board Session to avoid delaying procurement process.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board Session Placement – CONSENT.
Walk-on to October 28, 2026, Board Session.

Task: Ensure sole-source determination is properly noticed as an action item for October 28th Board Session.
Assigned To: Matt Lawyer.

7. Legislative Update -Alvin Klausen

Summary of Discussion:
Coordinating with Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) on County-wide legislative issues and planned to interview local legislators after the election. Legislative concepts were expected to be released in December.

Direction & Follow-Up:

Task: Interview local legislators after the election and develop an update on County legislative priorities and potential areas of support.
Assigned To: Alvin Klausen.

8. Board Session
October 28, 2026 – Agenda
November 4, 2026 – Agenda Draft
-Commissioner Colm Willis

Summary of Discussion:
November 4th agenda draft, Commissioners asked about the Santiam Memorial Hospital Water Storage Agreement. Requested written confirmation that Salem Health had accepted the project before County funds were committed. Staff indicated the item would not be ready for November 4th and could be considered as early as December 2nd. The item was to be removed from the November 4 agenda.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Remove the water storage agreement from the November 4th Board Session agenda pending written confirmation of Salem Health's acceptance.
Task: Obtain written confirmation from Salem Health before advancing the funding agreement.
Assigned To: Matt Lawyer.

<u>COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATES</u>
Commissioner Danielle Bethell
N/A.

Commissioner Kevin Cameron
N/A.

Commissioner Colm Willis
N/A.

Other

Scotts Mills Historic Bridge Kiosk – Jon Heynen

Summary of Discussion:
Jon Heynen brought forward informational material for a historic kiosk to be installed at or near Scotts Mills bridge being replaced. Staff indicated that kiosk was connected to bridge project's historic-preservation requirements and remained under ODOT review. Commissioner Bethell requested a copy of the materials by email.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Task: Email the kiosk materials to Commissioner Bethell.
Assigned To: Jon Heynen

Route 99 Business Closure During Water-Line Work
-Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Summary of Discussion:
Discussed anticipated two-day closure associated with water-line work and business owner's decision not to operate restaurant during boil-water notice. The coffee stand could remain open under specified conditions, but owner had decided not to operate the restaurant. Board directed an expedited payment of $1,000 per day for the closure. Using economic-development funds, so owner could support employee payroll.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Board requested that payment be processed in less than a week, preferably by Thursday or Friday.

Task: Process the expedited payment for the two-day closure.
Assigned To: Chris Eppley.

Ike House Improvements - Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Summary of Discussion:
Asked if Board supported a $300,000 request for Ike House improvements. Including the basement work, using opioid settlement funds. Commissioners indicated support.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Task: Coordinate next steps for $300,000 opioid settlement allocation, including basement work.
Assigned To: Jonathan Sanford.

Commissioners' Day Letter on Alternate Days Off - Jon Heynen

Summary of Discussion:
Jon Heynen presented proposed versions of annual Commissioners' Day letter addressing alternate days off around Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. Commissioners directed that letter to be held while contract language for pending union negotiations was clarified.

Direction & Follow-Up:
The Board asked that matter be discussed at the November 4th executive session.

Task: Work with Salvador on letter's language and ensure matter is addressed on November 4th executive session.

Assigned To: Chris Eppley

OHA Press Release and Rule Changes - Jon Heynen

Summary of Discussion:
Discussed a proposed press release about OHA rule changes concerning dangerous admissions and facility safety. As well as remaining concerns related to drug restrictions. Commissioners requested talking points that explain change, County's public-safety advocacy, and outstanding policy issues. Discussed acknowledging interim OHA director's role and providers who contributed to effort.

Direction & Follow-Up:
Press release expected to follow October 28th Board Session update. Board discussed updating applicable facility rules to address non-prescribed drugs alongside updated alcohol standards.

Task: Prepare press-release talking points addressing rule changes, remaining requested changes and public-safety context.
Assigned To: Jon Heynen

Task: Provide relevant OHA email concerning discharge decisions, with confidential health information redacted.
Assigned To: Steve Elzinga.

Task: Include recent OHA alcohol-standard change and related policy context in press-release materials.
Assigned To: Steve Elzinga.

Task: Update applicable facility rules to address restrictions on non-prescribed drugs alongside alcohol standards.
Assigned To: Steve Elzinga.

Rehousing Update – Matt Lawyer

Summary of Discussion:
Matt Lawyer reported that an individual involved in a long-running code-enforcement matter had been rehoused in a permanent home. Staff noted that some property issues remained, but the Board expressed appreciation for the work that led to the rehousing.

Direction & Follow-Up:
No direction or follow-up needed.

Adjourned – time: 11:01 a.m.
Minutes by: Mary Vityukova
Reviewed by: Gary L. White