



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Management Update Summary Minutes

OREGON

March 11, 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, Heather Inyama, Toni Whitler, and Matt Lawyer.

Legal Counsel: Steve Elzinga.

Sheriff's Office: Jacob Ramsey, Matt Wilkinson

Business Services: Geoffrey Bonney, Terry Stoner

Public Works: Lani Radtke, Ryan Crowther, Michael Pierce, Carl Lund, Max Hepburn, Brian Nicholas, Scott Wilson, Ausin Barnes, Kevin Thompson, Brandon Reich

Health and Human Services: Ryan Matthews, Tami Cirerol, Wendy Zieker, Carol Heard, Katrina Griffith, Christina Bertschi, Rhett Martin

Sheriff's Office: Mike Hartford, Jacob Ramsey, Jason Bernard

Community Services: Kelli Weese

Justice Court: Justin Kidd.

Human Resources: Sherry Linter.

Information Technology: Gary Christofferson, Steve Brooks

Clerk's Office: Bill Burgess

Finance: Sandra Fixsen

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

INFORMATIONAL:

1. Secretary of State of Security Pilot Program – Drop Site Cameras

-Holly Steele Haselton, Bill Burgess

Summary of Presentation:

- Proposal to install cameras on 14 outdoor ballot drop boxes to address concerns about arson incidents in other areas.
- \$86,301 grant from the Secretary of State to cover the majority of the costs, with the county needing to contribute \$5,550 initially and \$5,354 annually.
- Concerns raised about the stability and liability if the camera company providing the service goes out of business in the future.

Board Direction:

- Request a detailed breakdown of the costs and budget impact to understand ongoing expenses.

2. Intergovernmental Agreement to Create Inter-Agency Auto License Plate Reader Camera System Program with Salem & Keizer Police Departments

-Commander Jason Bernards, Sergeant Andrew Derschon

Summary of Presentation:

- Intergovernmental agreement to allow the Marion County Sheriff's Office to join the existing license plate reader camera program operated by the Salem and Keizer Police Departments.
- No upfront costs for the county:
 - There is a \$10,000 cost to replace the server if needed in the future.
- The Sheriff's Office plans to purchase 10 cameras at \$1,200 each to install in the county's jurisdiction.
- Discussions around the potential liability and placement of the cameras in the county's right-of-way, with concerns raised about the county's exposure.

Board Direction:

- Good to proceed

3. 2025 Police, Corrections, and Nurses Proclamations

-Commander Jacob Ramsey, Commander Jason Bernards

Summary of Presentation:

- Corrections Appreciation Week is May 4th to 10th.
- Nurses Appreciation Week is May 6th to -12th.
- Plan to bring staff from the Sheriff's Office and Health and Human Services Department to the board session for the proclamation readings.
- Will host appreciation events, such as a buffet for corrections officers.

Board Direction:

- Approved.

4. Contract with Pathfinder Network for Mentor Services at New Stabilization Center

-Commander Mike Hartford

Summary of Presentation:

- A \$206,813 contract with Pathfinder Network to provide mentorship, resource referral, mobile and drop-in services, and cognitive behavioral programming for individuals on parole, probation, and in the jail.
- The contract is for one year:
 - Plans to apply for continued funding in the next biennium.
- Concerns were raised about the cost of the contract and the need for more detailed information on the specific services to be provided.

Board Direction:

- Want to better understand if this is good value:
 - The previous contract was less than \$150,000 annually.
- Staff to provide clarification on the services and costs before considering approval.

5. FEMA Pre-Implementation Compliance Measures for Endangered Species Act – National Flood Insurance Program

-John Speckman

Summary of Presentation:

- The default is a permit-by-permit approach for flood plain mitigation requirements:
 - No immediate need for additional mitigation.
- Concerns about potential impacts on property owners, especially those with limited income:
 - If FEMA's requirements are enforced in the future.

Board Direction:

- Possibility of joining a lawsuit against FEMA's requirements to protect the county and its residents.

6. Direction on Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities Public Engagement

-Austin Barnes, Brandon Reich

Summary of Presentation:

- The board was asked for direction on the community engagement plan implementation or exploring legal options if they decided not to move forward.
- Concerns of potential negative impact on the community if the plan is not implemented:
 - The board had previously given direction to pursue this initiative.

Board Direction:

- Hold a work session to discuss options and decide.

7. Battery Energy Storage Facilities

-Brandon Reich

Summary of Presentation:

- A proposal was presented for a battery energy storage facility near the Bethel substation:
 - This would store power and release it during peak times.
- This is a new type of infrastructure that the county had not previously dealt with:
 - The board wants to ensure there is comprehensive understanding of the implications before making any decisions.

Board Direction:

- The board to discuss with legal counsel and staff to explore the potential environmental impacts as well as any necessary regulations for these types of facilities.

8. Contract with David Evans and Associates, Inc. for Bridge Load Rating and Repair and Related Services.

-Ryan Crowther

Summary of Presentation:

- A \$350,000 contract to address load ratings on 51 timber bridges in the county
- The goal is to increase the load ratings to accommodate farm traffic and heavy equipment.

- The contract includes provisions for minor fixes and design work to ensure the bridges' structural integrity.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

9. Contract with DOWL, Inc. for Engineering and Related Services on River Road – Willamette River Bridge

-Ryan Crowther

Summary of Presentation:

- Project to repair the Willamette River Bridge, including structural strengthening and other needed repairs.
- The repairs are funded through the local bridge program and are expected to remove the current load restrictions on the bridge.
- The board was assured that the construction would be planned to minimize traffic impacts, with most of the work occurring under the bridge.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

10. Rees Hill Rd. & Lone Oak Road. – Creekside Secondary Access

-Lani Radtke

Summary of Presentation:

- Discussion around the city of Salem's request to connect Lone Oak Road to Rees Hill Road.
- Safety concerns were raised due to sight distance issues and high speeds on Rees Hill Road.
- The board supported the county's position on maintaining safe conditions and not creating additional safety hazards.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

11. Revisiting the Expansion of Parking Fees within County Parks

-Kevin Thompson

Summary of Presentation:

- Proposal to provide free parking passes for residents of Scotts Mills to address concerns about the new parking fees.
- Scotts Mills park is more of a community park versus a regional park, and they wanted to make the parking passes more convenient for the local residents.
- Suggest residents pick up the parking passes locally or having them mailed, rather than requiring them to come to the county offices:
 - This was to avoid burdening the small community staff.

Board Direction:

- Develop a process to provide free passes to Scotts Mills residents.
- Inform Scotts Mills residents of the free parking passes.
- Approved to move forward.

12. 2025 John Deere 672GP Motor Grader

-Scott Wilson

Summary of Presentation:

- Purchase a new 2025 John Deere 672GP motor grader to replace the current 36-year-old unit.
- The purchase amount is \$399,552.20, funded through a cooperative purchasing contract and approved in the capital improvement plan.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

13. Milton Street NE Proposed Emergency Repairs

-Brian Nicholas

Summary of Presentation:

- Need for emergency repairs on the gravel sections of Milton Street NE:
 - Increased wear and tear due to construction activity in the area.
- Consider adding the road to the county's maintenance program or doing limited paving to improve the conditions:
 - Instead of just grading the gravel sections.
- Exploration of the potential cost-effectiveness of doing limited paving versus ongoing gravel maintenance.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on an expediated basis.
- Consider adding road to the county's maintenance program.

14. Marion County Radio Project, Long Lead-Time Procurements

-Brian Nicholas

Summary of Presentation:

- Update on the 30% design progress for the radio system project:
 - Development of site civil designs and the identification of long-lead items.
- Proposal to buy long-lead items through statewide price agreements and the Sourcwell cooperative purchasing program:
 - Items such as steel enclosures and electrical generators.
- An alternative procurement process requires a public hearing and board approval for the special procurement.
- Concerns raised about cost certainty and the procurement process given the 30% design stage.

Board Direction:

- Follow an alternative procurement process.

15. Mobile Crisis Services

-Debbie Wells, Rhett Martin

Summary Presentation

- Presentation of a \$206,813 contract with Pathfinder Network:
 - Provide mentor services, resource referral, and programming at the new stabilization center.

- Concerns about the cost of the contract, especially in comparison to a previous contract for similar services.
- Previously the program was funded through a partnership between the Health Department and the Sheriff's Office, with each contributing to the costs.

Board Direction:

- Postpone the decision for further discussion and input from the Sheriff's Office.

16. Approve Child Abuse Prevention Proclamation for the Month of April 2025

-Sid Venkatachalam

Summary of Presentation:

- Request to proclaim April 2025 as Child Abuse Prevention Month.
- Previously the proclamation was under the Children and Families department:
 - Now under the Community Services department.
- The proclamation and associated activities would be more appropriately handled by the Children's Behavioral Health division within the Health and Human Services department.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.
- Final review of proclamation wording before formal approval.

17. Consider Purchase Offer for Horizon House, Assigning Signers for Documents

-Tamra Goettsch, Christina Bertschi

Summary of Presentation:

- Update on the Horizon House property acquisition process:
 - Need a property located near Lancaster Drive.
- Need to comply with prevailing wage requirements.
- Discuss ways to structure the contracts:
 - To avoid triggering the prevailing wage rules.
- Plans to work with finance to manage the construction phase and ensure compliance with procurement processes.

Board Direction:

- Consult with legal counsel regarding not triggering the prevailing wage rules.
- Approved the chair as the signing authority.
- Approved to move forward.

18. City of Keizer Community Prosperity Initiative Request

-Kelli Weese

Summary of Presentation:

- Funding for the City of Keizer's Community Prosperity Initiative Program.
- The original proposal included constructing a pavilion at Kaiser Rapids.
- Revised proposal will focus on a parks plan amendment to gauge community interest in the pavilion.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.
-

19. Jail Intake HVAC Replacement

-Terry Stoner

Summary of Presentation:

- Approval to replace the old and problematic HVAC system in the jail intake area:
 - Having issues for the last couple years.
- The project is necessary due to the system's condition and the need for a reliable HVAC solution.
- Agreement with Trane of Oregon

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on the consent agenda.

20. Transfer of Tax Accounts 587742 and 587743 to Land Sale Contract Holder

-John Carlson

Summary of Presentation:

- A gas station and convenience store were sold in 2019 through an action:
 - Originally a 10-year contract; and
 - The buyer has decided to pay it off early.
- The contract was paid off early, and a quick claim deed will be presented for signature.
- The gas station is still in operation.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on the consent agenda.

21. Bring Your Child to Work

-Jon Heynen

Summary of Presentation:

- Planning for the annual "Bring Your Child to Work" event on April 24.
- Various departments have activities planned:
 - A parade, a speed race at Public Works, and others.
- Requests for staff participation and documentation of the event, as well as ensuring the board members can bring their own children.

Board Direction:

- Departments to take pictures throughout the day.
- Add to the board's calendar so there kids may participate.

22. Topics for State of the County

-Jon Heynen

Summary of Presentation:

- Would like there to be a diverse set of topics brought up at the State of the County.

Board Direction:

- Provide final draft of topics for board review.
- Ensure the logistics and format for taking questions are finalized:
 - Including using text-based questions that could be selectively answered.

23. Legislative Update

-Alvin Klausen

Summary of Presentation:

- SB 974 - Requires counties to issue final decisions on land use within 45 days, including the resolution of all appeals:
 - Strongly opposed by board as it is currently written.
 - Land use department had also expressed strong opposition.
 - The board discussed the possibility of trying to amend the language, but the land use department felt that was not feasible.
- AG Workforce Labor Standards Board Bill - Prohibits the termination of agricultural workers without cause:
 - The board noted this is problematic given the seasonal nature of agricultural work.
 - The board indicated the Farm Bureau was also against this bill.
- SB 3518 - Anti-funding, assessment, and taxation support bill:
 - The Assessor and county administrator requested a letter be drafted to oppose this bill.

Board Direction:

- Draft letters of discontent expressing the county's opposition on the following bills:
 - SB 974, SB 3518, and AG Workforce Labor Standards Board Bill.
 - To be reviewed by the board before being sent.
- SB 974:
 - Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) already pushed this bill back into committee:
 - The board still wants to get on the record with their opposition.
- Discussed working with Representative Anderson's office:
 - Try to amend some bills:
 - Make the 45-day land use decision timeline an opt-in option for counties rather than a requirement.

24. Board Session

-Commissioner Danielle Bethell

Summary of Presentation:

- Overview of agenda

Board Direction:

- Agreeable with the agenda.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS and UPDATE

Commissioner Danielle Bethell

- N/A

Commissioner Kevin Cameron

- N/A

Commissioner Colm Willis

- N/A

Other

BOC Staff as Clerks – Commissioner Danielle Bethell

- Various board staff has left or retired who were board clerks.
- Currently three staff members act as clerks.
- Order will appoint Matt Lawyer, Mary Vityukova, Gary White, and Shawnnell Fuentes as back up clerks.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward on the consent agenda.

Stormwater Management Consulting – Matt Lawyer

- Storm water management plan and utility easement locations for Kane's Marina
- The project will be completed with less than \$100,000:
 - Under the county administrator's signature authority.
- The goal of the project is as follows:
 - Ensure future building permits are not held up.
 - Set up a commercial septic system for the Kane's Marina property.
- Potentially use the 170 fund to pay for this project.
- Plan to finalize the contract within the next 14 days.

Board Direction:

- Approved to move forward.

State of the County – Gary White

- Need to figure out who will do the opening prayer.
- How questions will be asked and answered during the event.
- Commissioner biographies have been updated.
- There is \$5,500 in sponsorships at this time.

Board Direction:

- Ask if CAM is able to attend:
 - To be thanked for their work.
 - Can ask them to do prayer:
 - If not Matthew will do it.
- Questions will be texted in.
- Ensure commissioner biographies are updated on the website.
- Ensure the Mayor of Salem has a seat at the event.

Adjourned – time: 12:02 p.m.

Minutes by: Matt Lawyer

Reviewed by: Gary L. White