

AGENDA ITEM FOR ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING

( ) Discussion only

( X ) Action

FROM (DEPT/ DIVISION): Douglas R. Olsen  
County Counsel

SUBJECT: HELP Grants

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|--|---|
| Background: The Helix Enhancement Launch Program board is recommending funding of grants from the community benefit plan for 2025. The grants are before the Board for approval. | Requested Action: Approve grant and adopt Order No. BCC2025-026 |
|--|---|

ATTACHMENTS: Minutes; Proposed Order

\*\*\*\*\*For Internal Use Only\*\*\*\*\*

Checkoffs:

- ( ) Dept. Head (copy)
- ( ) Budget (copy)
- ( ) Fiscal
- ( X ) Legal (copy)
- ( ) (Other - List:)

To be notified of Meeting:  
Robert Pahl

Needed at Meeting:

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Scheduled for meeting on: June 4, 2025

Action taken:

**Friday, May 30, 2025**

**Committee members present:** Brad Bixler, Jack Bascomb, Dan Dorran, Kylie McClintock and Bobby Corey.

Committee chair, Jerry Terjeson resigned from the HELP Committee. Bobby Corey expressed interest and was asked to join.

HELP Committee Officers were discussed and a motion was made to have Bobby Corey – Chairman; Dan Dorran - Vice-Chair; Brad Bixler - Secretary.

Brad Bixler **moved:** To approve the HELP Committee members  
**seconded:** Jack **Seconded** **Vote:** 5-0 to approve

**Committee chair, Bobby Corey called the meeting to order at 4:05 am.**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2024 HELP Committee meeting. Jack Bascomb seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

**Old Business:**

The committee reviewed the 2024 HELP projects.

Brad Bixler reviewed the Helix School District 2024 HELP projects. The District originally requested money for the locker room renovation, but the estimate came in too costly. We received the seismic grant which we hope to use some of that money to help renovate the locker rooms at that time. The sod work was completed by McLaughlin Landscaping and Lawns Plus.

Kylie McClintock stated that the City of Helix is still trying to spend their 2022 through 2024 HELP money. Kylie said that they have submitted a request for the money they gave the City Hall of \$25,000 and the money used to install the mini-split the Depot Building. They also purchased a valve exerciser and are looking at getting a part-time assistant for Jeff Iles. Kylie said that they requested \$34,711.82 from the County.

**New Business:**

Brad Bixler presented the Helix School District 2025 fund request for \$102,354. The District would like to use the funds not spent from the past HELP (\$52,000) grant to help renovate our new Ag Science building. The District will be working with KNCC to facilitate the remodel.

Jack Bascomb moved: To approve the Helix School District's 2025 HELP fund application requesting \$102,354. Dan Dorran seconded: Vote: 5-0 to approve

Kylie McClintock said that the City is asking for 50,000. The City is working at trying to determine the best course of action to take care of Greasewood Creek drainage. Last summer they started the process of trying to remedy the issue. The City applied for a large grant from FEMA, but the grants have since been shut down. The analysis that they

***New Business (cont.)***

originally had is now out-of-date. They need to do another study. They may be able to make an appeal to FEMA to have someone dig out the ditch. The remaining \$42,000 would be used toward an engineer and getting an analysis completed.

They also want to put in a flagpole at the City Hall. She said the pole and flag would cost \$254. They will need to get a contractor to pour the concrete and electrician to wire lighting. She said that they would like to keep this project at no more than \$8,000.

Brad moved to approve the City's 2025 HELP fund application requesting \$50,000. Dan seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

The next meeting will tentatively be set in May, 2026.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brad Bixler  
HELP Committee Secretary

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UMATILLA COUNTY

## STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Approval )  
of Grants of 2025 Helix ) Order No. BCC2025-026  
Enhancement Launch Program )

WHEREAS on January 1, 2002, the Helix Enhancement Launch Program (HELP) was formed by the Board of Commissioners;

WHEREAS HELP was established to distribute private charitable donations for community improvements projects within HELP's Service Area, including funds from Community Services Fees under the Oregon Strategic Investment Program, with a current balance available for awarding of new grants of approximately \$100,000;

WHEREAS the HELP Board reviews grant requests for the funds and makes a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for review and approval;

WHEREAS the Helix School District grant from 2024 funds in the amount of \$52,000 for locker room remodel was not used as the cost of the project exceeded funding, so this amount is added to 2025 available funding;

WHEREAS the HELP Board has made recommendations for recipients of the 2025 grants for the community service fees for NextEra Stateline 3 and Eurys Combine Hills II projects, interest on the funds, and also from unspent funds from previous grant years.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners approves the following for distribution of HELP funds:

1. Helix School District - \$102,354  
Ag Science Building Renovation
2. City of Helix - \$50,000  
Greaswood Creek Drainage Engineering/Analysis;  
City Hall Flagpole

The projects and improvements are to be completed by December 31, 2026. Each recipient shall execute acknowledgment for awarded funds. Funds will be distributed on reimbursement basis to recipients upon request and verification by recipient.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Celinda A. Timmons, Chair

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Daniel N. Dorran, Commissioner

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John M. Shafer, Commissioner

ATTEST:  
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDS

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Records Officer