

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Meeting of July 3, 2024  
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse  
Pendleton, Oregon

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**Commissioners Present:** Chair John Shafer, Vice-Chair Timmons and Commissioner Dan Dorrn

**County Counsel** Absent

**Guests Present:** Robert Pahl, Umatilla County Chief Financial Officer; Bob Waldher Community Development Director; Dan Lonai, Umatilla County Administrative Director; Paul Wolverton, Criminal Division Captain; Gina Miller, Code Enforcement

**Video link or Calling in:** None

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Shafer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He reminded all that the meeting is a public forum and there is a call-in option provided. There is time on the agenda to provide input (or for hearings) to provide comment. The meeting is being video and audio recorded and minutes will be taken. Also, meetings are now live-streaming. Comments will become part of the meeting record and ask that they be three minutes or under. If persons wish to speak before the Board, please identify yourself and state where you live in order to be heard on the record – also note if you are speaking on behalf of others.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Chair Shafer.

**Awards/Correspondence/Recognitions.** Commissioner Dan Dorrn read a message from Captain Primmer in dispatch, commending telecommunicator Carrie Roberts for a recent incident. She worked with professionalism and urgency. Job well done!

Commissioner Timmons we are getting many thank you notes from the Junior Show.

Quarterly employee of the month was presented by Commissioner Timmons. Sunshine Mason was recognized for her unwavering dedication, compassion and support have made a profound difference in the lives of those that have served out country. Congratulations Sunshine, photo taken, and Umatilla County swag given.

**Additions to Agenda** – None

**Public Comments and Recognition of Visitors** – None

**Business Items**

1. **Fee Ordinance Amendment** – Updates to the County Fee Ordinance are before the Board for Second Reading. Chair Shafer opened the public hearing at 9:07am There have not been any changes since the First Reading on June 5, 2024. No comments from the public, no questions from the board. Public hearing adjourned at 9:08am **Commissioner Dorrn moved to adopt Ordinance No.2024-04. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

2. Sheriff's Office Purchase - Presented by Paul Wolverton, Criminal Division Captain. The request is to purchase replacement body armor for several deputies. The body armor listed is consistent with our current uniform standard issue, and from our current supplier. The purchase will be eligible for Federal reimbursement program and receive reimbursement for 50% of our body armor costs. The body armor, carriers and associated gear are for Criminal, Corrections and Civil Division. The expiration on the newer vests is 5 years, they are, lighter weight, more ergonomic, previously it was 3 years. The reimbursement program 50 is through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve purchase of Sheriff's Office body armor in the amount of \$21,892.00. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

- 3-5 Electric Utility Vehicles Purchase – Presented by Bob Waldher Community Development Director. This is for the request to purchase electric utility vehicles. Umatilla County has been awarded \$77,740.00 through the Department of Energy EECBG voucher program. Previously a vehicle was approved not to exceed \$55,500, with a potential \$7,500 refund. The Community Development Department is managing the EECBG funds and seeks approval to utilize the remaining funding for the purchase of two electric utility vehicles from Blue Mountain Power Sports. The two utility vehicles are as follows: 1) 2024 Evolution Carrier 6 Plus Shuttle for use at county fair and other community events, and 2) 2024 Evolution Turfman 800 for maintenance purposes at Harris Park. Chair Shafer asked that we address the 2 items separately.

The first proposal is for a 2024 Evolution Turfman 800 for \$13,995. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve the Turfman 800 Utility Vehicle purchase in the amount of \$13,995.00. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Discussion ensued,** Commissioner Timmons believes that it is a little too soon to invest in electric vehicles, there are still too many flaws and questions. Though she is supportive of a vehicle to help Harris Park. **Carried, 2-1**

Second is for a 2024 Evolution Carrier 6 Plus Shuttle for use at county fair and other county events. There was a smaller amount of money left, not enough to purchase another electric vehicle, so it was thought this would be the next best use of the funds, to get these utility vehicles to support County events. Mr. Waldher explained the grant requirements in depth and discussed the uses for the items presented. **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve the Evolution Carrier 6 Plus Shuttle purchase in the amount of \$13,495.00. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer.** Commissioner Timmons question if we have some means to move this? Do we have a trailer for it? Commissioner Dorran reported there is not a dedicated trailer for this, but we do have trailers that could carry it. **Carried, 2-1**

6. Burn Ban – Presented by Gina Miller, Code Enforcement. Staff is requesting that the Board enact the annual Non-Agricultural Burn Ban. Many nearby jurisdictions have already imposed burn bans in their areas (CTUIR, City of Pendleton, Umatilla County Fire District 1, Oregon Dept of Forestry). This burn ban will not affect agricultural burning in Umatilla County, only residential burning. We are requesting you enact today July 3, 2024 at 12 noon,. **Commissioner Dorran moved to adopt Order No. BCC2024-05 and and enact the annual Non-Agriculture burn July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1200 hours. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Planning Program Organization – Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director. The Community Development Department is looking to the organizational needs of the Department. This request will provide stability by implementation of an Assistant Planning

Manager effective immediately. We are requesting authorization of an Assistant Planning Manager R28 or R30 DOQ. Future attrition will require review of all positions prior to refill. **Commissioner Dorrان moved to approve Authorization of an Assistant Planning Manager R28 or R30 DOQ. Seconded by Commissioner Timmons. Carried, 3-0.**

8. Exempt Salary Adjustments - Presented by Chair Shafer. A cost of living adjustment is proposed for Exempt and Admin salaries effective July 1, 2024, which will follow highest COLA increase across CBAs. **Commissioner Timmons moved to set the COLA increase for exempt and administrative salary schedule to follow the highest Cola increase across CBA's. Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Shafer: I would like to welcome Kelsey Bailey to the team.

Commissioner Dorrان: I want to wish everyone a happy 4<sup>th</sup>. A lot of celebration all around Umatilla County. Good recognition of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July

Commissioner Timmons: The Veteran Services stand down at Wildhorse was a success. There were lots of people and vendors, they did a great job. The other commissioners agreed.

Meeting adjourned by Chair Shafer at 09:32 a.m.

*Kelsey Bailey*

Executive Secretary – Board of Commissioners