

MINUTES
UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting of February 19, 2025
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse
Pendleton, Oregon

Commissioners Present: Chair Cindy Timmons, Vice-Chair Dan Dorran and Commissioner John Shafer

County Counsel Absent

Guests Present: Robert Pahl, Umatilla County Chief Financial Officer; Undersheriff Jim Littlefield, Umatilla County Sheriff’s Office; Joe Fiumara, Umatilla County Public Health Director; Charlet Hotchkiss, Umatilla County Planner; Megan Davchevski, Umatilla County Planning Manager; Lieutenant Dustin Erickson, Umatilla County Sheriff’s Office; Captain Kenny Franks, Umatilla County Sheriff’s Office;

Video link or Calling in: Ben Johnson, Matt Hughart (Kittleston), Adrian Pearmine (STV), Jennifer Blake, Chris Svolopoulos (STV), Chris Bame (Kittleston), Tom Holmes (Zan)

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Timmons called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. She 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 - led by Chair Timmons.

Awards/Correspondence/Recognitions - Commissioner Timmons – Milton-Freewater Cemetery District had a brand new trailer stolen about a year ago. Umatilla County worked in coordination with Walla Walla County to retrieve the trailer. They worked in a professional manner, job well done.

Commissioner Dorran congratulated Captain Franks and the Umatilla County Jail team on the award and certification received during the recent jail inspection. This came with the highest honors possible. On behalf of Umatilla County and the Commissioners thank you. This team goes above and beyond.

Commissioner Dorran also congratulated Ben Johnson for receiving Umatilla County Dispatcher of the Year for 2024. Ben also received dispatcher of the quarter for the first quarter of 2024. He has been a dispatcher for 22 years, the last 10 years have been with Umatilla County. His hard work and professionalism were recognized. Commissioner Shafer congratulated Ben as well, reflecting on his own experience working with Ben and what a pleasure it was. Ben acknowledged the support of his team.

Commissioner Dorran awarded Marcus Bernabe as employee of the quarter. He read the nomination letter written by co-workers that highlighted Marcus’ dedication, drive and character. He was thanked for his efforts.

Minutes – Commissioner Shafer moved to approve the minutes from February 2, 2025 board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.

Additions to Agenda – None

Public Comments and Recognition of Visitors – None

Business Items - It was decided to let item #3 present first since they were online.

1. **Harris Park Fees - Public Hearing** Presented by Chair Timmons. Public Hearing opened at 9:46 am. Chair Timmons read the second reading of the proposed ordinance. Harris Park is requesting an increase in the fee schedule for camping at Harris Park. The request is to raise camping fees from \$30 per night to \$35 per night and Cabin fees from \$45 per night to \$50 per night. The fee increase is requested to go into effect March 1, 2025. The first reading of the ordinance to include that fee change was held on January 22, 2025. Chair Timmons called for comment in favor of, opposed to or neutral. There were none in-person or online. Public Hearing closed 9:47 am. **Commissioner Dorran moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-01. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

2. **Public Health Purchase** - Presented by Joe Fiumara, Umatilla County Public Health Director. The Community Health team computer equipment is due for upgrading. Two of these computers are actively having issues and in need of replacement. The remaining items are being replaced as a part of standard updating maintenance schedule. Currently there is budgeted funding through PE13 that can allow for this list of purchases without using general fund. The following items are requested: 5 Laptops - \$1,050 each; 5 docking stations - \$239 each; - 5 Microsoft Office Licenses - \$333.12 each; - 1 Wireless Logitech keyboards - \$24.95; 2 Wireless Logitech mice - \$24.31 each; 1 Wireless Logitech headset - \$99.99; Total: \$8,284.16 **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve purchase of computer equipment totaling \$8,284.16. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

3. **TSP/SS4A Presentation** – Presented by Bob Waldher, Community Development Director. Community Development is ready for the next phase of the Safe Streets for All action plan and the Transportation System Plan. These are the result of grant funding. The consultant team (made up of employees from STV Inc., Kittelson and ZAN Associates) working on both the TSP & SS4A projects for Umatilla County will give an introductory presentation on both projects.

Agenda for presentation will include:

- Transportation system Plan Overview
- Safe Streets For All Action Plan Overview
- Project Schedules & Roles
- Technical Memos #1 & #2
- Next Steps

Adrian Pearmine introduced himself as well as the team attending online. They are collaborating on these projects. The process for the SS4A project utilizes the federal Safe Streets approach; it will go through an in-depth crash analysis looking at locations, fatalities and causes. Extensive public outreach to discuss safety on the roadways is included in this process. There will be recommendations for counter measures to mitigate crashes in the future as well as policy and enforcement strategies and creation of a prioritized list of safety improvements.

The project schedule was reviewed and should wrap up in July 2025 with an implementation plan. The Board's role is to attend presentations and provide feedback leading to adoption of the Safety Action Plan.

Matt Hughart discussed the TSP as having additional steps, looking at existing conditions, analyzing those conditions and developing project solutions and project lists. It will wrap up closer to the end of the calendar year. The findings of the SS4A can be incorporated in that process.

Tom Holmes discussed the engagement goals, including teaching people about Umatilla County's transportation system and asking for their input on improvements needed, listening to the feedback and sharing what is learned. An overview of priority audiences, strategies on communication opportunities and a schedule of events was reviewed.

Chris Bame presented data collection and crash analysis reports showing areas where crashes occurred. For the SS4A project, the focus is on crashes that occurred on County and State roads and resulted in severe injuries or fatalities. There was an increase in fatalities and severe injury crashes in 2022. There is not an answer as to the cause of this uptick.

Adrian asked the Board to provide formal feedback by February 28, 2025.

Commissioner Dorran thanked the team for all of their work. He asked if the data in the higher density crash areas could be broken out into where the vehicles were licensed, Oregon, Washington, Idaho etc.

4. Enterprise Zone Agreement Amendment - The zone sponsors for the enterprise zones in the City of Umatilla have been requested to amend one of the most recent agreements for a long-term enterprise zone abatement. There are two requested changes: 1) remove any ambiguity by defining Capitalized Terms to mean as ascribed in the agreement (as opposed to perhaps some other definition in the ether), and 2) update language to confirm compliance with ORS 285C.409 (exemption period starts once they receive their Certificate of Occupancy) and ORS 285C.412(5) (they will hire no less than 10 employees with wages at or above 150% of the county's median) and OAR Chapter 123 Division 690 (eligibility requirements, facility criteria, and contingencies). **Commissioner Dorran moved to approve amendments to Long-Term Rural Enterprise Zone Tax Abatement Agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

5. Executive Session – Employment/Real Property – ORS 192.660(2)(a,b,e,h) – None

Commissioner Reports: - None

Meeting adjourned by Chair Timmons at 9:53 a.m.

Kelsey Bailey

Executive Secretary – Board of Commissioners