



SHERMAN

COUNTY

Court Agenda

February 3, 2021

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Additions to Agenda

1.0 Appointment Schedule

- 1.1 9:00 a.m. Gracen Bookmyer – Circles of Care
- 1.2 ~~9:15 a.m.~~ 9:18 a.m. Carrie Pipinich – Mid-Columbia Economic Development District
Quarterly Report
- ~~1.3 9:30 a.m. Sol Jacobsen~~
- 1.4 ~~9:45 a.m.~~ 9:42 a.m. Rod Asher – Weed Department
- 1.5 ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 10:20 a.m. Jennifer Lee
- 1.6 10:30 a.m. Mark Coles – Road Master
- 1.7 ~~10:45 a.m.~~ 10:42 a.m. Debbie Hayden – IT proposal
- 1.8 ~~11:00 a.m.~~ 10:50 a.m. Fair project, Pillar Fee Proposal – Bryce Coelsch

2.0 Action Items

- 2.1 IGA between Sherman County and Gilliam County (BOPTA)
- 2.2 Association of Oregon Counties dues
- 2.3 LCAC Committee Assignment

3.0 Discussion Items

- 3.1 CEDS priority list
- 3.2 Board of Health public member

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- 3.3 STIF grant application
- 3.4 Commissioner Reports and updates
- 3.5 Kent Water project

4.0 Consent Agenda

- 4.1 Minutes of January 20, 2021
- 4.2 Claims – January 2021
- 4.3 Treasurer’s Report – November 2020

5.0 Future Agenda Items:

6.0 Public Comment

- 6.1 Ballot Referral – Mike McArthur



**SHERMAN COUNTY COURT
REGULAR SESSION
SHERMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM**

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 3, 2021

Opened Court:

Present: Commissioner Joan Bird, Judge Joe Dabulskis, Commissioner Justin Miller, Administrative Assistant Tammi Gaskey

A quorum was present. No news media was present.

Additions to Agenda

1.0 Appointment Schedule

1.1 9:00 a.m. Gracen Bookmyer – Circles of Care

Present: Gracen Bookmyer, Dan Aldrich, Kari Silcox, Audrey Rooney

Gracen Bookmyer, Circles of Care, discussed what Circles of Care is and what it can do for Sherman County. Circles of Care is based out of Wasco County and it is a volunteer based outreach program to assist senior citizens with everyday tasks such as shopping, light chores, yard work, friendly check-ins, etc.

Commissioner Bird asked about insurance. Gracen stated that volunteers were insured. Gracen stated that when a volunteer does shopping for a Circles of Care participant, the volunteer picks up the grocery list and method of payment, does the shopping and brings back the groceries and receipt. During COVID, there is no transporting of Circles of Care participants.

Gracen talked about how this program is great for high school students and getting them involved in community service. Gracen said that volunteering could also be used as community service hours if a student needs to complete hours for school. Gracen suggested that high school students could do yard work and even teach some senior citizens how to zoom so that they can stay in touch with their family and friends. The focus of Circles of Care, presented by AGE+, is to ensure seniors have access to services that support them in their aging and further bridge generational gaps while strengthening community.

Kari Silcox said that she would reach out to some community contacts to see if a few people would like to take the lead on this idea here in Sherman County. The leads would then make sure that volunteers received training and connect senior citizens with the volunteer that was the “perfect” fit for the need.

Training consists of reading a volunteer handbook, watching videos and taking quizzes. Training takes a couple of hours and can be done on-line.

Circles of Care also gets the community involved by having community conversations. This is where bigger conversations start. You can discuss the needs of the older generation, the gaps in meeting those needs and how to go about finding resources to fill the gaps.

1.2 ~~9:15 a.m.~~ 9:18 a.m. Carrie Pipinich – Mid-Columbia Economic Development District Quarterly Report

Present: Carrie Pipinich, Audrey Rooney, Ross Turney

Carrie Pipinich, MCEDD Senior Project Manager, gave an overview of her quarterly report. Carrie stated that MCEDD continues to work closely with the Regional Solutions Team (including the regional workforce entities, Business Oregon, Department of Environmental Quality, and Oregon Department of Agriculture), the Chambers, Ports, Small Business Development Center, and other partners to coordinate information about tools and resources being activated for local businesses and employees related to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Carrie announced that MCEDD is hosting several business trainings in the coming months focused on business resiliency. Topics include Digital Marketing Strategies, Taking your Business Online, Cyber Security for Small Businesses, Planning for Business Resilience, and Preparing for Accessing Capital. MCEDD hosted five training sessions in the last quarter with another round of trainings beginning later in February. Additionally, MCEDD is hosting a Lender’s Roundtable Wednesday, February 3 at 1pm virtually.

Carrie discussed the Sherman County Rental Incentive program. She stated that MCEDD has had one completed application for the Rental Incentive program focused on the duplexes in Grass Valley that was supported. Staff received an additional inquiry for the program for new rental units but no application has been received. Staff is beginning to work on the exploration of additional programs to support removal of dilapidated housing and incentives for new housing construction outside of the rental market.

Carrie mentioned that staff is working through a round of outreach calls to check in with the Cities and other entities about potential projects or opportunities to support related to economic development. Staff requests input from County Court on entities it would be good to touch base with!

Carrie gave an update on the Grass Valley waste water feasibility study. Staff met with the City several times to discuss their final selection for an engineer. They have hired Curran McLeod and are working with Ed Hodges. Staff worked with the City to draft an application to Business Oregon’s Water/Waste Water Program for \$20,000 to support the feasibility study. The engineers reviewed and gathered information from DEQ for submission, which has been completed. Staff continues to engage with the City regarding planning for community engagement around this topic. With COVID-19 restriction in place, finding a good strategy for this effort may prove challenging.

Carrie also gave an update on the City of Rufus. Staff engaged with the City of Rufus to discuss current projects. They were focused on moving forward with their alternatives analysis to update their backup well as it has been having issues with flow for several years. They are also exploring resources to repair or re-roof the Community Center at the old school as they have been having leak issues.

~~1.3 9:30 a.m. Sol Jacobsen Deputy Report~~

1.4 ~~9:45 a.m.~~ 9:42 a.m. Rod Asher – Weed Department
Present: Rod Asher, Audrey Rooney, Jennifer Lee

Entered into Executive Session in Accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel

Entered Executive Session at 9:44 a.m.
Exited Executive Session at 10:00 a.m.

During Executive Session Weed Department personnel was discussed.

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to authorize advertising for the open full-time position in the Weed Department.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Commissioner Bird would like to keep dialogue open about Weed Department job descriptions prior to fiscal year end 2020-2021.

1.5 ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 10:20 a.m. Jennifer Lee – Travel Oregon Grant

Present: Jennifer Lee, Mark Cole, Audrey Rooney

Jennifer Lee came to County Court and presented an idea for a grant that she wanted to file on behalf of Sherman County. The grant was due at Noon on February 3rd, 2021 (day of County Court). The grant was to fund 6 projects that all had to be completed within 6 months of the grant award.

Project 1: Update Travel Oregon's map of Sherman County;

Project 2: Update Sherman County's online Business Directory;

Project 3: Submit updates to Google, Bing and other business-listing platforms to reflect current Sherman County openings;

Project 4: Support remaining retail merchants and regional farmers with construction of an outdoor/socially distanced Main Street Promenade, to include business-district cleanup, façade improvements, outdoor retail and dining, lighting, trash/recycling, and full-service hygiene stations;

Project 5: Signage;

Project 6: Digital Footprint Audit to include Sherman County's Visitor pages, social media, and local websites including w/RV Parks & historical sights.

Jennifer stated that she had sent an email to the City of Moro on Monday, February 2nd. Jennifer also sent an email to The Dalles ODOT regarding signage on I84 and had not heard back yet.

The consensus of County Court was that there wasn't enough time to research and do due diligence on this grant and the many projects within the grant. County Court did ask Jennifer if she knew of any grants like this coming up in the future. County Court asked Jennifer to keep her eyes open for future grants and to come to County Court with enough time to research and reach out to the other

agencies/city governments that would be involved to see if the projects were something that all agencies were interested in, could work on together and could be completed in the timeline set out in the grant.

1.6 10:30 a.m. Mark Coles – Road Master

Present: Mark Coles, Ross Turney, Audrey Rooney

Mark Coles, Road Master, talked to County Court about the need to purchase a chip spreader.

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Judge Dabulskis, to approve the purchase of a chip spreader not to exceed \$116,000 including shipping.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

1.7 ~~10:45 a.m.~~ 10:42 a.m. Debbie Hayden – IT proposal

Present: Debbie Hayden, Ross Turney, Audrey Rooney, Bryce Coelsch

Debbie Hayden, Financial Director, came to County Court to present a proposal from Acctech Solutions. The proposal includes a onetime install and setup fee of \$1,800 to set up AZURE on all Sherman County servers. Plus an AZURE backup for all servers for a monthly fee of \$600.

Adding AZURE to the County servers is an added layer of protection against hackers. If a server gets infected with a virus, the backup should be ok.

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the onetime install and setup of AZURE on each server for \$1,800 and the monthly AZURE Backup Cost for all servers for a monthly fee of \$600 and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

1.8 ~~11:00 a.m.~~ 10:50 a.m. Fair project, Pillar Fee Proposal – Bryce Coelsch

Commissioner Miller asked Bryce Coelsch to come to County Court to give an update on the fair project.

Bryce Coelsch, Fair Board member, talked about the process to hire an engineering firm. The Fair Board selected Pillar Consulting Group, Inc. Pillar Consulting Group, Inc presented a proposal for engineering services in support of the new Multi-Use Barn at the Sherman County Fairgrounds. Services include:

A. Project management of design and construction;

B. Planning application;

C. Civil engineering;

D. A-sheet drawings;

- E. S-sheet drawings;
- F. Mechanical electrical and plumbing design;
- G. Reimbursable expenses

Next steps are to finalize designs and start construction.

County Court told Bryce Coelsch that the Fair Board has their support to move forward on this project.

Recessed at 11:00 a.m.

Reconvened at 11:06 a.m.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 IGA between Sherman County and Gilliam County (BOPTA)

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Sherman County between Sherman and Gilliam County for the provision of independent assessment services necessary to assist the Sherman or Gilliam County Board of Property Tax Appeals in the performance of their functions upon request, and authorize County Court to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.2 Association of Oregon Counties dues

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Association of Oregon Counties dues in the amount of \$8,463.37.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.3 LCAC Committee Assignment

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Judge Dabulskis, to nominate Commissioner Miller to be a member on the Sherman County Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC).

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 CEDS priority list

The County Court reviewed the list of CEDS priorities from last year. They discussed the list and talked about projects from the list and if they had started, where they were in the process of completion and

what might be added to the list, or needs to be removed from this list. Georgia Macnab will be attending the Feb. 17th County Court Session to discuss the list and get the County Courts CEDS priority list.

On the 2020 list, it was discussed to change #2 to say Fiber upgrade to Biggs Junction.

- 1 - Work Force Housing for Sherman County;**
- 2 – Fiber upgrade to rural areas of Sherman County;**
- 3 - Backup Power/Emergency Generator Purchase for City of Wasco, City of Rufus, City of Moro;**
- 4 -Waste Water Study for City of Grass Valley;**
- 5 - Event Center for Fair Board;**
- 6 - Kent Well for Kent Service District;**
- 7 - Back up well upgrade for City of Rufus;**
- 8 - Road Resurfacing Project for City of Wasco;**
- 9 - Exterior Building Repair and Paint Project for Wasco Events Center;**
- 10 - Water System/Telemetry Upgrade for City of Moro;**
- 11 – Facade.**

3.2 Board of Health public member

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Judge Dabulskis, to appoint Roger Whitley for a two-year term to the Board of Health.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.3 STIF grant application

Marnene Benson-Wood, Transportation Department, turned in a STIF grant application and Judge Dabulskis signed it. Additions to the grant include one extra route that will go to Hood River that will add approximately \$1,600 in additional costs annually.

3.4 Commissioner Reports and updates

Judge Dabulskis – Attended BOPTA trainings; NORCOR meeting; OHA weekly call; Senator Findley call; 911 Compensation Board meeting; toured NORCOR; STOP meeting; Oregon Parks meeting regarding Starvation Lane.

Met with Tina Potter – Tri-County Community Corrections.

Met with Mark Coles – Road Master.

LJDACT meeting – There will be blasting along 97 towards Biggs Junction. Delays can be up to 20 minutes. Judge Dabulskis talked to Dana Pursley-Haner about the route for the ambulance during the blasting. The ambulance driver may want to consider taking Fulton Canyon to the hospital Monday-Thursday.

Commissioner Miller – Attended County College; Center for Living conference call; Weed District meeting; toured NORCOR.

Commissioner Bird – Attended Judge Dabulskis’ County employee meeting; zoom meeting with Mid-Columbia Community Action Executive Director; Mid-Columbia Housing Authority; met with Director Kenny LaPoint from Mid-Columbia Community Action Council; Mid-Columbia Community Action Council board meeting; Toured NORCOR, Executive Session for Center for Living; Sherman County Library meeting.

3.5 Kent Water project

No updates at this time.

4.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Minutes of January 20, 2021

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the minutes of January 20, 2021, as corrected.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Claims – January 2021

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Judge Dabulskis, to approve the Claims for the month of January 2021, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.3 Treasurer’s Report – November 2020

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the month of November 2020, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

5.0 Future Agenda Items:

When is the Sherman County Road Committee going to meet?

6.0 Public Comment

6.1 Ballot Referral – Mike McArthur

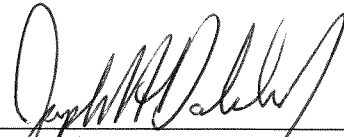
Mike McArthur submitted a letter as public comment regarding method for electing county commissioners.

County Court discussed the letter and decided that there was not enough time to thoughtfully process this request in time for the upcoming election.

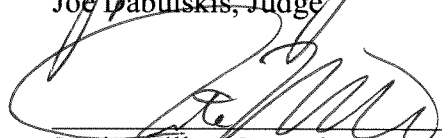
Mike's letter was also discussed with Jeff Wallace, County Council. Jeff thought that more research needed to be done on this topic and to research further which election (General Election ballot or Primary) these types of changes are to be decided. There may be some limitation on who can vote, and on what measures, in the Primary Election. Also Jeff stated that any proposed ballot measure would need to subject to legal review, probably by both county counsel and the Secretary of State, as to its legal sufficiency and appropriateness.

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 12:09

Sherman County Court



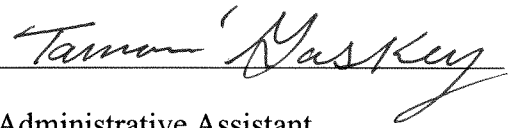
Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 

Administrative Assistant
Tammi Gaskey