

WORK SESSION MINUTES

5:00p.m. Hybrid: in person (601 State St., Hood River, OR) and via Zoom

Chair Euwer opened the work session. The chair noted the wildfires have prevented the first presenter from attending this evening.

Wildfire Preparedness & Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Presenters called away for fire response, this presentation will be rescheduled.

Instead of hearing the wildfire preparedness presentation, County Administrator introduced the new county Public Works Director, Cori Wiessner.

Columbia Gorge Community College Update

Kenny Lawson, CGCC President – has been in the position for just less than a year.

Shared a PowerPoint (see packet for full details)

MCEDD Brownfield Revitalization Program

Lindsay McClure, MCEDD (HRC Energy Council) and Leonard Farr with Sten Tech who is working with MCEDD on this program. Lindsay went through a presentation (see packet for full details).

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

6:00p.m. Hybrid: in person (601 State St., Hood River, OR) and via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Euwer called the meeting to order. Present: Commissioner Muenzer, Commissioner Babitz and Commissioner Weathers (virtually), Counsel Davies and Administrator Williams.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

Administrator Williams asked for the recommendation for item D on the consent agenda be modified to state: “Approve signing the final Porter Subdivision Plat after final review by the county surveyor.”

CONFLICT OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No conflicts or potential conflicts to declare.

***PUBLIC COMMENT** (Registration required. Limit 3 minutes per person)

No comments online or in the room.

REPORTS (County Administrator, and Commissioners)

County Administrator Report – Allison Williams went over her written report that is included in the packet.

Commissioner Weathers – will be attending MHEA NORCOR meetings, NORCOR is looking at options for funding sources and streamline opportunities.

Commissioner Muenzer – participated in the Odell community plan, it was well attended and staff did a good job. He will also be attending the Wildfire community mapping presentation in The Dalles that will come out sometime in October. The irrigated lands were addressed.

He attended the Planning Commission meeting this last week and toured the Mt Hood Town Hall.

He would like to request a report that comes from the Wildlife services Agreement on the consent agenda. A report back in Spring before budget decisions are made for the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Babitz asked Commissioner Muenzer to talk about what he heard at the Odell Community meeting he attended.

Commissioner Babitz – attended the AOC Board of Directors meeting in Salem last month. Much of the meeting surrounded planning for the upcoming legislative session in 2025. A copy of the AOC legislative priorities has been included in the packet.

He asked the Commissioners to look at the priorities and if there were areas the commission would like to be more involved in to please share that with him. The final determination of the topics is made at the AOC Annual conference in November.

AOC Committee meetings are open to any commissioner to attend, the meetings are online and in person.

[AOC Legislative Priorities](#) –

MCCAC – cooling shelter was opened in The Dalles, and cooling packets were delivered in Hood River and the Library locations in Hood River County, when open, can serve as a cooling area. The cooling center in The Dalles has closed since conditions have moderated.

Chair Euwer – also attended the Odell meeting and the Planning Commission meeting regarding the Parkdale Plan. Attended a MCEDD meeting and attended the RIACT meeting and heard about the projects in Hood River which is the Dee bridge. This is not an ODOT project, but ODOT has some funds available through region 1.

Commissioner Babitz follow up – Hood River White Salmon bridge project: old bridge – incident resulting in serious damage to the bridge. Repairs are happening with evening closures to accommodate this and is only open to personal vehicles no trucks currently.

Other discussion relating to the bridge and who is responsible for removing the old bridge when a new bridge has been completed.

[Department & Program Quarterly Reports](#)

1. CONSENT

- A. [Grant Opportunity: MCEDD Brownfield Revitalization Assistance](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the Budget & Finance Department to submit two nomination forms for MCEDD's Brownfield Revitalization Assistance program.
- B. [Request to Surplus a County Building Department Vehicle](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Declare a 2016 Ford Escape used by the building department as surplus and authorize staff to sell the vehicle with funds being returned to the building department budget.
- C. [Surplus old desks and office supplies from Forestry Dept.](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Declare desks, and misc., office supplies as surplus, authorizing the Forestry staff to dispose of the items as allowed in the Administrative Code.
- D. [Subdivision Plat Sign Off](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Approve signing the final Porter Subdivision Plat for recording.
- E. [Qualification Based Services Request for Proposal Hood River Courthouse, Sheriff's Office, and County Administrative Building Space Program Consolidation and Analysis.](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Board of Commissioner review and consent to proceed.
- F. [USDA Wildlife Services in Hood River County Contract for Services](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Approve and sign Contract for Services
- G. [Administrative Code Change - Grants 4-A](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Approve changes to Section 4A of the Administrative Code as presented.
- H. [ORMAP Intergovernmental Agreement with Hood River County \(#DOR-060-24\)](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Authorize county administrator to approve and sign the ORMAP Intergovernmental agreement #DOR-060-24.
- I. [Board of Commissioner Meeting Minutes](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Approve meeting minutes from May 20 and June 17, 2024.
- J. [Surplus Printers](#)
RECOMMENDATION: Declare 14 printers as surplus and authorize them to be disposed of as allowed per the administrative code.

Commissioner Babitz made a motion to approve the consent agenda with modification to the recommendation for item D – to approve final Porter Subdivision Plat contingent on final review by county Surveyor and also asking for an annual report from USDA on item F. Commissioner Muenzer seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Commissioner Weathers - yes
Commissioner Muenzer - yes
Commissioner Babitz -yes
Chair Euwer -yes

Motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Safety Levy Renewal

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the Resolution referring to the proposed renewal of the Public Safety Levy to the electors at the November 2024 general election and instruct counsel to submit the Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement to the County Clerk.

Commissioner Babitz made a motion to approve the recommendation as written. Commissioner Weathers seconded the motion.

Discussion.

Commissioner Babitz asked where we are at with the legal review of all the wording on the Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement. Counsel Davies has reviewed the ballot title and explanatory statement as submitted. If this is adopted this evening, legal will file with the county clerk, the ballot title is then published in the newspaper which starts a 7 day challenge period. Once that is over, legal will file an 801-election form with the county clerk's office.

The explanatory statement challenge is the same period. If there are any challenges to the language, go to Circuit court.

The deadline to file the ballots is August 7, 2024.

Commissioner Babitz would like to review some words in the documents, necessary he wants to change but thinking about changing.

There was a lengthy discussion on word changes in both the ballot title and explanatory statement. Discussion around removing language that speaks to the number of staff that will be maintained, generalizing language around 24/7 patrol, moving forward in the ballot summary and description that this is a renewal levy at the same rate that exists now, not a new levy. Stating staff reductions in the Sheriff's office and other departments in the county may be necessary if the levy renewal is not approved. Remove reference to COVID from the explanatory statement.

After revision, it was confirmed by counsel that an amended motion could be taken tonight to include the changes discussed or a special meeting can be set to review the modifications and consider approval.

Commissioner Babitz made a motion to table this item until Thursday, July 18th at 4pm. Commissioner Muenzer seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Commissioner Weathers - yes

Commissioner Muenzer - yes

Commissioner Babitz -yes

Chair Euwer -yes

Motion carried.

B. [2024 Commissioner Committee Assignments](#)

RECOMMENDATION: Review and confirm commissioner committee assignments for 2024.

Commissioner Muenzer noted the CL Action Team – he reached out to Jim Hurlburt but no call back, believes this committee is no longer functioning. He has reached out to the city and port and will be attending council meetings and other community meetings in Cascade Locks.

Chair Euwer – will continue to attend CREA meetings as well as the MCEDD Board meetings until Chad has the opportunity to speak with Jessica Meta at MCEDD and then those will transfer to Commissioner Muenzer.

Chair Euwer asked to transfer the MHTH group to Commissioner Muenzer. Muenzer accepted.

Chair Euwer notes the Region 1 Act board needs a refresh of the appointments, and the structure of the Board isn't really happening as it should be done.

Babitz brought up Regional Solutions. Chair Euwer stated she meets with Nate Stice each month, and she will ask him what may be happening on that front, she would like to continue to meet with Nate but is not sure an appointment is necessary.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Euwer adjourned the meeting at 7:40pm.