

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION

4:00pm, CBAB, 601 State Street, Hood River, OR - 1st Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

Chair Oates called the work session to order. Present: Commissioner Perkins, Commissioner McBride, Commissioner Benton, Commissioner Joplin, Counsel Davies and Administrator Hecksel.

Historic Columbia River Highway Update – Terra Lingley – Shared a PowerPoint on the project and handed out save the date for the current leg of the trail ribbon cutting in August 2019.

The upcoming segment, they will submit their NSA land use planning application later this year.

Terra noted that all the existing trail segments are open after the Fire.

Discussed the issue of taking Ruthton Park back since it will be used as the terminus for the trail and since the county has closed the park due to lack of funding.

Hood River County Future Financial Sustainability Discussion

Chair Oates stated that during the budget committee meetings he expressed his concern over taking the additional reserves to fund the short falls. The BOC had another work session after the budget committee meeting and since then he has had some further thoughts and if the commission decides to go back out and try for another levy.

Perkins – if the BOC agrees that we are going back in November for another levy try he is ok with spending reserves. Concerned with comments from those that helped us with the campaign around that we are not making major cuts since it didn't pass. If we are going to go out in November feels we need to try and keep the shell together until after that. If we decide to go back out in May or later, he feels we need to make cuts now. He wants to hear from other Commissioners and wants to hear more from the Sheriff. Does it make sense to hire and fill positions if we are uncertain about our funding over the next few years.

Joplin – agrees. Lots of thoughts but it surrounds when we decide to go back out. During the budget meeting she voted to use the additional funds after she originally proposed to only use 50% of those revenues. But then after that we voted to eliminate the 3rd year we had established the year before. She voted no on that action. Should the two questions been reversed she would have voted no on using the additional funding. Her strategy was that we had another year, but now that June 2020 will be the end date, she would have started the process of a steeper decline in funding. She feels like she could settle with the proposed budget like it is if we decide to go out in November but further than that it is not responsible and creates a level of instability for the organization to function in that short period of time.

McBride – an aspect that is affecting decisions now of using the additional funding, some of the assumptions made and decision made was the ending fund and beginning fund, after discussion with Administrator the beginning fund balance will be less than was anticipated. He is also uncertain that going out for another measure, he can talk about it and voice his position, but he doesn't have a professional opinion and feels we

need a professional opinion on what we should do. He is supportive of asking again but he is not sure when and how to have that happen.

Benton – Agrees with McBride regarding going out again he doesn't have a good feeling of when to go and feels that we need professional help to determine when it would have the best chance of succeeding.

He has reached out to Strategy 360 and knows that the SO has a contact and Strategy 360 has worked with the gentleman Sheriff is familiar with and has been talking with. 360 is interested in working with the county. The budget questions since we don't have enough information tonight and we have to make a decision on the budget assumes he will support what the budget committee put forward but will have that discussion during the public hearing. Feels we need to look at what can we do right now to move in the direction of reducing expenses assuming we don't find funding. He doesn't feel that terminating or not funding things is the way to go if we are going to go back out.

Feels we need to discuss a level of service in each dept, a hiring freeze and communicate those out and have departments start making those changes and making HRC look like it will if we don't have funding.

Without professional help he is not sure when it makes sense to go back out and doesn't feel good to make position cuts without an idea of when we should go back out.

Chair Oates asked Sheriff English to come to the table.

Hecksel – shared the ending fund and beginning fund balance update. There were several areas where spending was larger than anticipated due to unforeseen expenses such as medical costs for inmates at NORCOR, legal counsel costs, law enforcement OT, a jury trial that had several witnesses from out of state and some other areas. This creates less of a beginning fund balance. Estimated between \$100-150,000 but we won't know the real impact until next June 2020 at the end of the FY. During a year there are a lot of things that can affect the ending fund balance and it is possible we won't be that far off.

We will be doing budget adjustments at the end of the special year e-mail poll meeting.

Sheriff English- the staffing on the books is full staff but 2 weeks ago we had one deputy graduate the academy so he will not be up and 100% until Sept. and we have one on medical leave.

Sheriff stated last time he was before the Commission he stated he felt that people will start leaving and he has been made aware that 3 employees in the Sheriff's office have started looking. It takes a full year to get a deputy trained. If we get vacancies, doesn't feel it would make sense to refill them because it takes a year to schooling training etc., and if we do not know the funding of the county it will not be responsible to fill those spots knowing they could be cut. He will be instituting changes in service starting in July to ensure the safety of the deputies. In order to operate at the level, we are today it requires a lot of OT, which is not responsible, fair etc., to stop that we need to modify the services being provided. He as well as the undersheriff are pulling shifts on the road due to shortfalls. Plus, the capital expenditures are going to be necessary to ensure the safety of officers.

Regarding the next move for the county he met with Mark Weiner and a polling firm and he was able to ask a lot of questions related to their opinion on the county position and feels they would be willing to work with us

moving forward if the commission decides to move forward with another ask. Feels that if the BOC wanted to move forward with a public safety levy in November feels confident, they can be ready.

Joplin asked SO to talk more about what the changes he referenced really mean and the staffing reductions due to other situations. You referred to reducing services keeping in mind staff safety and statute required services.

English says he will focus on statutory requirements and focusing on reducing liability of the county. Exact adjustments have not been 100% decided, however possible areas for change include a reduction in investigation capacity, might lose the drug traffic investigations. Detectives looked at reports on Child abuse reported cases from DHS was over 500 reports. The office is required to investigate child abuse.

Two areas that are paid for is the contract with Cascade Locks and the marine/school resource deputy. The marine deputy cannot work patrol during the marine time. So, the reductions would come into patrol services because that is what they would be forced to do.

They are looking at adding a car during the day shift because of the Court transport requirement. They need to reduce the OT that is currently happening there. We are mandated to provide the transport. Going to meet with the judges to see if there is anything that can be done to reduce the load. Most of the changes will come at patrol. Trying to minimize and we are left with 9 patrol deputies at this point (with two out) and that is before anyone leaves.

Joplin – asked if the county has liability if we are not able to provide statutory required services the Sheriff is speaking to.

Counsel Davies – the potential liability would come in negligence claims and other than the gen liability coverage through our insurance carrier is what we have.

SO – said the real exposure is around search and rescue – that is statutorily mandated. There is case law about law enforcement not responding to calls and someone dies, and those are terrible and the lawsuit found in favor of law enforcement. But SAR, civil and the court room safety is also mandated. We need to concentrate on those mandated services.

Oates –if the BOC moves forward and looks at another option soon but a smaller ask will it benefit the Sheriff or is it too little/too late. English stated if the solution guarantees funding to public safety it will help.

English said that when the commission is ready to have that discussion about going to another ask, he is happy to share what he learned from the expert he has been talking with.

Perkins - if we go back out for a single ask, there are few things that concern him, one is that an operating levy is only good for 5 years and needs to be renewed by the voters – that is not a long-term stable funding scenario. If we go out for something less than the \$.89 it is only stabilizing a few things for county government but not everything so we will need to look at what services, we are going to reduce. There is no way around it.

Benton said he agrees and feels that we need to start that process at the next meeting and start building the suite of services the county can offer given the existing budget we have so when we are at the budget next year we know where we want to go. Like Perkins said if you go out for \$.89 cents not sure we can provide the existing services, so we need to look at reconfiguring the county and look at each of the services the county provides and

have that conversation. Another reason why he is not in favor of just making cuts in this budget, but we need to look at the county as a whole and determine what level of services the commission wants to support.

2 areas of discussion: what will county look like if we don't have funding and what it will look like if we do get funding, feels those need to happen before we go out again, if that is the course decided upon.

Joplin said that many departments have earmarked funding for the services they provide, like the State will give funds for VSO services if you provide a certain match and you cannot adjust the formula. It is an all or nothing option.

Feels we need to identify our priorities and craft a budget around that but even with that feels we will be hard pressed. Perkins said yes, the funding is fixed for certain areas but then the question is do we have that dept or do we not? Joplin agrees that is more the conversation rather than trimming departments because we have been doing that.

Perkins said even if we get additional funding it will not be enough to cover the current level of staffing and services, it is not sustainable we need to look at making changes to services provided.

McBride – all due respect, feels we have guidance from the county administrator on the items that would likely be cut if we were not able to come up with additional funding and those are on the choices list presented during the budget process. While we may modify that and move a percentage out of that the major choices, we would make next year are obviously in front of us. Some choices are entire departments but there are some choices within the depts.

McBride asked the sheriff about the discussions he has had with Weiner.

Sheriff said the discussion with Weiner surrounded around targeting the funding, public safety. We were told that when you start pitching multiple functions to be covered that leaves choices in the vote and if someone doesn't support one of the options they vote no, and everything loses. Much discussion around how to perfect the crafting of the measure title and question because everyone will read those you have to capitalize on it as well as discussion about language that should be put into the summary.

Dates were discussed – pros of next May being a presidential cycle were discussed, talked about the likely demographic during that election are the ones you want for the type of measure we put out. The con would be the turn out could hurt you and with all the other issues on the ballot the cost to push your message is more because there is so much hype around the election in general.

He asked about November as being bad since people get their tax statements then. They did not recommend we shy away from November necessarily. When pressed they felt November was probably acceptable. Generally, when you are putting a levy together you typically want a year but with all the education and prep that has already been done the word is out there that an issue exists.

We need to clearly define what the voter is buying, and it is something that they want to buy. Regarding polling – generally you find your messaging from that but in our case further polling might not be needed.

When the polling was completed in 2017 the issue of not being able to obtain a sample, the group he heard from has done a lot of rural areas and feels they could get a sample. It is more difficult in our area but is might be possible. Oates asked for a time frame on polling. Matt does not know the answer to that. If the commission wanted to hear from the group, he could get in touch with them.

McBride – on the idea of rewriting the title, question and summary would it be the impression that the ask would be for new things or existing things? Matt said it could be both. McBride said he struggles and wants a professional to tell them what to ask for and know much of that money would go to the cut list, but we are pointing to public safety. Matt said he didn't say there needs to be consequences as the consequences are already happening.

English believes that even if we add positions, those are to sustain the services we have to provide we are not providing services that people don't need to have. We are going backwards. It is reinstating and sustaining. In order to cover one post, you need 5.5 staff working 8-hour shifts. Frankly we are looking for some general fund independence because his department cannot handle the ups and down. Not to discount any other department. He is looking for sustained funding which will free up some funds to the GF for other areas.

Perkins – to McBride's comment, you are putting the levy on when filing the cut list. Perkins said in his mind you still must make those cuts, but we have capital expenses that must be made to deal with building deficiency and ensure safety of the employees.

Hecksel – stated the previous poll done in 2017, cost about \$15K and takes about 6-8 weeks. Joplin said the filing date for November election is August 16th and we eliminated the majority of the PIO money in the FY 19/20 budget.

Benton said we need to have conversations with professionals to determine if polling would be needed and if we are not going back out then we can start having the budget meetings again and start making cuts.

Joplin said working with a consultant will cost about \$20-30K. Is it realistic to squeeze that cost out of this budget?

English said that some of the polling and other consultant work can be and is more appropriate to be picked up by the PAC. The crafting of messaging etc. is PAC costs. But then PAC must be funded and feels that a lot of the resources for the PAC are no longer there. But that might be another reason to go back out in November because the cost is less.

Oates asked English to check with Weiner if he would be able to meet in the short period of time. Benton said that he spoke with Strategy 360 who has worked with Weiner and she would also be able to come up and perhaps they could coordinate with Weiner.

Basic questions: when we go, for how much, and where the funding goes.

Perkins feels we have a lot of good information from the last vote and we just need to refine and doesn't see this being a \$30K endeavor.

Hecksel said that if you are going to be talking with consultants it is best to have a scope of work, so they know what you are asking for. The BOC should think about what you would want a consultant to do.

Perkins -we want to know when the most advantageous time to go out is, have them review of our experience, how much to ask for and where will it go, review title, question and summary.

Joplin – suggests having a work session and pay for their time and work with us for a few hours.

Chair allowed Ann Harris and Nicole Strom with OSU Extension to speak. They were advocating for full extension funding and offered to partner on a money ask if they can.

Oates asked for a special meeting.

Joplin is interested in starting to look at some of the meatier pieces of looking inside the county to develop policy on what the priorities are.

Consensus to hold a work session on July 1st at 3pm, to talk with Weiner and Strategy 360 to review past ballot measure items and provide guidance moving forward plus Commission will discussion policy development, around: trails, hiring freezing, reassignment of duties from empty positions – the BOC has to determine what service levels will be reduced/retained. Prioritize what services the Commission wants the county to be providing.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BUSINESS MEETING

6:00pm, CBAB, 601 State Street, Hood River, OR - 1st Floor Conference Room

MINUTES

Chair Oates called the business meeting to order. Present: Commissioner Perkins, Commissioner McBride, Commissioner Benton, Commissioner Joplin, Counsel Davies and Administrator Hecksel.

Any item or issue not on the agenda you have a question, comment or statement about please bring up under Items from the Public

CONFLICTS OR POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO/FROM THE AGENDA

Correction: Date for the year end meeting will be June 28th not June 29th as stated on the Consent agenda. (3rd bullet point on the 2nd page of the agenda)

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

Patricia Huff, Friends of the Oak Grove Park- she sent a letter to the Commission last week and she re-read it for the record. Asking for continued maintenance of Oak Grove Park by allowing the Friends of Oak Grove to continue to pay for the maintenance of the park starting July 1 – Dec 31, 2019.

Invited the commission to come by and see the park – things are really looking good.

Patricia Huff said they are ready to write a check to the commission tonight to keep the maintenance going.

Debby Chenoweth- Chair of The Heritage Council. Understands the present budget proposal has funding for the museum and it is much appreciated. Reported they just received a grant from the Ford Foundation to come up with a financial strategy for funding of The History Museum after June 30, 2020 asking the county funding to continue to allow for this work to be completed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Windmaster Sewer Service District Budget FY 2019-2020

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the FY 2019-2020 Windmaster Sewer Service District budget as presented.

Chair opened the hearing and asked Hecksel for comment. Hecksel said there are 4 hearings to adopt this evening for the upcoming FY budgets. The sewer district is for most part a shell to keep in place on the chance the county wants to do phase 2 in the future. There is minimal responsibility for the county in regard to this budget. Noted there are no taxes associated with this budget.

Chair Oates asked the Commissioners for questions of staff and hearing none he called for public testimony. Hearing none he closed the hearing and asked for Commissioners deliberations.

Commissioner Benton made a motion to adopt the FY 2019-2020 WMSD budget as presented. McBride seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

Windmaster Urban Renewal District Budget FY 2019-2020

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the FY 2019-2020 Windmaster Urban Renewal District budget as presented and levy taxes for July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020.

Chair opened the WMURD and asked for staff report. Hecksel stated the budget has been prepared consistence with the plan in place. Hecksel noted there are taxes associated with this budget.

Chair asked for public comments and hearing none he closed the hearing and asked for deliberations.

Commissioner McBride moved to adopt the WMURD and levy taxes for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 as presented. Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

911 Communication Service District Budget FY 2019-2020

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the FY 2019-2020 911 Communication Service District budget as presented and levy taxes for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Chair opened the hearing and asked for a report. Hecksel stated there have been no major changes from past budgets and this is the budget that was recommended by the Budget Committee.

Oates called for public comments, and hearing none he closed the public hearing and asked for commissioner deliberation

Joplin made a motion adopt the budget as presented and to levy taxes July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. Commissioner Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

Hood River County Budget FY 2019-2020

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the FY 2019-2020 Hood River County budget and levy taxes for July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020.

Oates called the public hearing to order and asked for a staff report.

Tina Ruffin, Budget & Finance Director – the information presented to the Commissioners is the materials related to budget approved by the Budget Committee.

The proposed budget includes discontinuation of maintenance of day use parks and the de-funding of a Forest Tech 2 that dealt with forest trails. There were also few errors identified through the process that were corrected and included:

Omitted the medical costs for prior administrator and cleanup of debits and credits – these increased the county budget by \$18K+/- . If there are other questions, she is available.

Oates called for public comment on the Hood River County budget.

Keith Bassham, Portland Drive, Hood River – question the part that the Oak Grove Park friends is talking about is that in this part of the budget. That was confirmed. Keith stated that the Friends of Oak Grove Park has done a great job with the maintenance of the park and hopes the commissioners take their offer to continue with the maintenance for another six months.

Oates asked for clarification from staff as to when the commission could deal with the proposal from the Friends of the Oak Grove Park. Hecksel stated that it could be part of the motion to accept the revenue and related expense into the budget at the time a motion is made.

Mary Ellen Barrilotti, Reed Road, Hood River – as part of the fees schedule there is STR on the fee schedule – feels there is some confusion with the fee and asking for clarification. STR renewal fee is \$260 every 2 years and then STR application fee for administrative at \$514 and EFU STR admin application is more than \$1910 just to apply and the B&B is only at \$1030 and commercial use in a home is \$1030 – why the differences?

The new fee that seems to be proposed there will be an annual license fee of \$280 is that different than the application? Do they have to pay a license fee and permit fee? Brought this up because it was related to fees which are part of the budget. Hecksel said he would need to check with staff to get those clarifications and the Director is not here right now.

McBride asked if that could be pulled from the consent agenda. Confirmed that can happen.

No other comments and chair closed the hearing and asked Commissioner deliberations.

Benton asked Hecksel for additional information about his statement about numbers changing since the last budget meeting. Hecksel said that statement has to do with the estimated ending fund balance. The projections were done by department heads earlier this year and as we get closer, we are realizing less carry over than anticipated. We budget very close; he cannot say we won't hit it but we are dealing with discrepancies. On the

Revenue side – unanticipated revenue those were received and were part of the budget committee discussions. There is nothing that we are away of that will positively project the beginning fund balance.

Hecksel guessing the ending fund balance will be \$100K less than was projected during the budget meetings.

Hecksel stated that he would advise the Board to not alter the budget based on the ending fund balance since he is not able to provide exact figures numbers. Perkins would take that and feel more conservative. Joplin said that if the budget committee have had that information during the budget committee different decisions would have been made resulting in a different outcome. This is significant when we are down to counting small incremental amounts.

Joplin said if the ending fund balance is \$100K less it exceeds the budget resolution. Hecksel said you will not know until the end of FY 2020 there is a lot of things that can happen over the course of a year that would affect that estimate, you would not adjust your budget based on something that is not certain.

Perkins said we can pass the budget in front of us but that doesn't mean we spend that money. Over the next several weeks we will be talking about how the departments look and we could have a hiring freeze or any other modification the BOC deems appropriate to not spend the money.

McBride asked if there is a 10% rule and if so to help him understand that. Hecksel explained that if there is an increase of 10% more than a budgeted fund you must have a public hearing.

Oates asked for options with Oak Grove Park – Hecksel stated that Diwan will provide numbers to The Friends of Oak Grove Park this week and they can write a check– we don't have a definitive number right now. Recommendation when adopting the budgeted to adjust revenue to allow for funding from the Friends of the Oak Grove Park to accommodate the maintenance of the park for the six-month July 1 -Dec 31, 2019.

Benton, agrees with Les that we can pass this and obvious there will be a lot of things happening over the next six months –

Oates agrees, and understands that if we go along with the proposed budget it doesn't mean we have to spend it.

Perkins – since many folks were not here for the work session, he shared that the BOC will be looking at options for how to spend money or not, and will be looking at and asking more questions about going out for additional funding.

Joplin asked what the typical beginning fund balance has been in the years? Hecksel said that this does happen, and it is not usually that you find out these things over time.

Oates said that really brings up the fact that we need to have a larger contingency than we carry.

Joplin asked how we would implement a hiring freeze. Hecksel said you would just provide direction. Joplin asked if there are current vacancies? Hecksel said 8-10% vacancy or maybe 12%.

Chair asked for a motion.

Benton moved to adopt the Hood River County Budget and to levy taxes from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 and to accept the donation from the Friends of Oak Grove Park as revenue with offset expenses for Oak Grove Park maintenance for 6 months starting July 1st. Perkins seconded the motion.

Perkins – wants to re-state while we are passing a budget that has all those transfers in it, that does not mean we will spend it and we will be doing work to reduce the budget in the short time.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

REPORTS

Perkins - noted that PPL is the emergency response for fires that affect power lines. And if there is a fire in the area threatening power lines, they will cut power to the community. Therefore we are talking about energy planning and looking at micro grids to order for our community to be self-sufficient.

This would affect HREC. Perkins there is a lot of work that needs to be done to make the community resilient and make people aware.

Joplin - spending a lot of time on leadership change at the MCCFL. They are hiring a headhunter to assist with finding a new Exec. Director since Barb Seatter as left. There is interim leadership in place.

McBride - met with MCCAC and brought on a new member and one issue that came up is the new equity pay law in Oregon. Hecksel noted we are also aware of the new law and are doing work on it already.

Visitors Advisory Committee – Barbara Briggs was there working to bring an understanding between the new chamber mgmt. and the Board and lodgers who are the main source of TRT funding the Chamber receives. The lodgers want to see more money put into bringing awareness to their services. April – Oct they are booked but to improve their shoulder season they want more direct marketing. They are seeing 10% on what they are putting in. Feels they are moving in a direction that will result in how the visitor council and chamber interact and give more power to the visitor’s council to make decisions. If that doesn’t work the lodgers gave notice, they would disassociate themselves from the Chamber and they would seek to set up their own entity taking the lead. They gave the changes a year to show results

Met with HRATS reps talking concerns about the future related to trails on county forest.

Oates – attended a RIACT meeting recently but mostly discussed the metro region projects, interesting but not related to us. The Region 1 Manager stopped by and mentioned he had been looking further in the Nobi corner project and the cost will be higher than anticipated but feels they could cover it.

Oates said we received a request from the Port of Cascade Locks for a letter of support for a grant related to mobility in that area. Hecksel will be putting out a letter to the BOC for consideration.

Mentioned that former Commission Chair and a Commissioner passed away this past week – Rodger Schock.

Administrator – 3 retirements are happening June 28th (correction: only 2 retirements on June 28th).

Shared that since the prevention departments drug free community grant was relinquished, we must lay off one individual that worked that program. Their last day is also June 28th.

Last month there was an intergovernmental agreement on the consent agenda regarding irrigation at the museum property. After the meeting last month when this item was pulled from the agenda the Port decided to cover the costs for the next six months, they will be taking on the expense of repairs and replacements.

Public Works – road crew we are short staffed for the summer season and in conversations with Mikel, the department will not impact paving but signing, ditching, ROW maintenance will all be affected during this summer season. Engineering techs have been interviewed with no one on board yet.

Perkins asked how many of the recently lost road crew carried CDL's. Diwan said all of them. Diwan said we will not be able to replace that many people in time for winter, snowplowing will be affected.

CONSENT ITEMS

- ✓ Approve minutes from the following Commission meetings: January 17, 2019, March 4, 2019 and April 25, 2019.
- ✓ Authorize the Prevention department to submit a Youth and Community Development grant which will support prevention and intervention for youth ages 6-24 if the grant is awarded. If awarded authorize the Administrator to sign the IGA once approved by legal counsel.
- ✓ Authorize the County Administrator to sign the necessary Communications Bean Path Easements related to the Indian Hill radio site for 911 Communications once approved by legal counsel.
- ✓ Authorize the Chair and Commissioners to sign the final Log Cabin PUD plat as presented.
- ✓ Confirm the e-mail poll approval authorizing the Chair or Administrator to sign the required document related to the ESG grant to be received by Mid-Columbia Community Action.
- ✓ Approve and end of the fiscal year meeting for June 29, 2019 most likely to be conducted via an e-mail poll to accommodate end of the year budget adjustments as needed.
- ✓ Approve the Resolution adopting the fee changes to be effective July 1, 2019.
- ✓ Approve a 15 Ft wide perpetual sewer Easement to the City of Hood River across 2N10E 3D TL 800 and authorize Chair Oates to sign the necessary document(s) once approved by the County Surveyor and legal counsel.
- ✓ Approve participating in ODOT's Fund Exchange program for the 2019 paving season, authorizing the County Administrator to sign the final Agreement once approved by legal counsel.
- ✓ Approve applying to the Oregon Health Authority for a Sustainable Relationships for Community Health grant for FY 19/20 and authorize the Administrator to sign the Agreement, if the grant is received, after review from legal counsel.
- ✓ Approve changes to Section 15 & 31.16 of the County Personnel Code as presented.

- ✓ Authorize the Vice-Chair to sign the letter to ODOT regarding appointment of Chair Oates as Hood River County's local governing body representative on the R1ACT.
- ✓ Approve declaring PW Equipment #00036 as surplus, authorizing it to be sold at auction.
- ✓ Approve the selection of medical, dental, vision, and other employer paid benefits plus employee paid optional life, long term disability and short-term disability offerings through OEBC to qualified employees during the 2019-2020 benefit period; Oct 1, 2019-Sept 30, 2020.

McBride made a motion to correct the date of the end of the FY meeting and to pull the fee schedule from the consent to get a few questions answered regarding community developments fee brought up by Ms. Barlotti earlier in the meeting. Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

Benton said he is concerned about the budget impact pulling the fee schedule off the agenda will have for the enviro health budget. Hecksel said we can approve the fees, but he will need to bring the answers to the questions back to the commission.

Benton made a motion to approve the fee schedule as presented. Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

Hecksel said we will set aside time at the next meeting to clarify the questions surrounding the community development fees.

ITEMS FROM THE WORK SESSION

Hood River County Future Financial Sustainability

A meeting is set up for July 1st at 3pm. Hecksel will reach out to the consultants to see if they are available and if not, we will still meet to start work on identifying the commissioners service priorities.

Agenda for July 1st will be trails discussion surrounding current budget and how we are doing things. Issues we foresee having to deal with sooner rather than later.

Joplin would like to see what positions in the budget are not currently filled in each dept, cost associated with each position and the duties performed.

McBride asked from a legal perspective he would like to know what the restrictions are when working with nonprofits, volunteer groups working on county property etc., what liability do we need to be aware of and what are the restrictions.

Joplin said there was a discussion about funding collection on behalf of the county by another entity at trailheads etc. How does that happen? What do we need to have in place in order to allow that? How do we manage our liability in that situation?

Oates said we have been going through and tightening belts and we have a payroll structure that is not keeping employees here and feels that we need to start having wage discussions. Do we need to adjust pay schedules to keep people or do we want to continue to shoestring things together and hope employees stay?

McBride – other complications in the pay area are union employees pay scales are negotiated. Perkins said we can restructure pay upwards without too much issue he would guess.

Benton – the Sheriff Office talks about not sending deputies out by themselves at night due to safety concerns. Look at all departments to see where they can increase efficiencies even if that means impacting services to the general public, i.e. change the way you are interacting with the public – change counter hours etc. Can we look at our operation and change things even if that means service level loss to the public, but employees are able to function without the impacts from the public.

Perkins - goes back to what we as the county look like as an organization. Joplin feels dept heads have strained their employees to provide services that have always been done.

Hecksel – heard the BOC talk about prioritizing services. In the past he has found this type of work invaluable and asked the BOC if he brought a list of items (tasks) would the commission be willing to prioritize the tasks. Consensus by the BOC they would like to see that.

Joplin asked if Hecksel can provide an outline of the process they will go through. Feels the prioritizing process would be great and sounds like we need to spend time and be thoughtful on doing that.

Oates thanked Jeff and Tina for the budget work they have done during this budget process.

NEW BUSINESS

Administration

Windmaster Sewer System Conveyance to City of Hood River

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the County Administrator to sign a letter to the City of Hood River which conveys the Windmaster gravity sewer system mains to the City.

Hecksel this has been in the works since November 2017 – when this was discussed then an issue came up when we went to complete this conveyance. Agreements in place require the county to convey the system to the City of Hood River. The letter represents an understanding between the city and county we have come to an agreement with how to move this forward. When development/planning permits are issued by the county we will notify the city when in the WMSD health hazard overlay zone, when changes are sought, we will do that as well and not sign off on permits until the city sign off has occurred. When permits are not involved,

Benton said Jeff has done a lot of work on this and everyone is aware of the issues now and Jeff represented it perfectly.

Perkins made a motion to approve convey the Windmaster gravity sewer system to the City of Hood River. Commissioner Joplin seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Chair moved the commission into executive session per ORS 192.660(2)(a) Personnel and 192.660(2)(d) at 7:30pm

EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION ITEM:

Chair called the regular meeting back to order at 7:45pm

New Business

Joplin made a motion to authorize Chair Oates to sign a contract with Gail Fisher Investigation as presented by legal counsel. Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote on the motion was as follows:

Perkins – yea
Joplin -yea
McBride – yea
Benton – yea
Oates -yea

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT – Chair Oates adjourned the meeting at: 7:47pm

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS/EVENTS (Note: The below is not an inclusive listing, and all dates and times subject to change with or without notice as required)

Jun 17	4:00/6:00pm	HRC Board of Commissioners Mtg., 601 State Street, HR (time subject to change)
Jun 18	7:00pm	HR Library District Board Mtg, 502 State Street, HR
Jun 19	3:00pm	County Staff Meeting, 601 State Street, HR
Jun 25	2:00pm	County Safety Committee Meeting, 309 State Street, HR (4 th Tues. ea. month)
Jul 1	1:00pm	Tri-County Mental Health Board, Mid-Columbia Center for Living, TD (1 st Mon. ea. month)
Jul 3	2:00pm	HRC Water Planning Group, 601 State Street (1 st Wed. each month, generally)
Jul 10	5:30pm	County Planning Commission Mtg, 601 State Street, HR (2 nd & 4 th Wed. ea. mth, generally)
Jul 15	4:00/6:00pm	HRC Board of Commissioners Mtg., 601 State Street, HR (time subject to change)
Jul 16	7:00pm	HR Library District Board Mtg, 502 State Street, HR
Jul 17	3:00pm	County Staff Meeting, 601 State Street, HR
Jul 23	2:00pm	County Safety Committee Meeting, 309 State Street, HR (4 th Tues. ea. month)
Jul 25	5:30pm	County Planning Commission Mtg, 601 State Street, HR (2 nd & 4 th Wed. ea. mth, generally)