

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Meeting of June 2, 2021  
9:00 a.m., Room 130, Umatilla County Courthouse  
Pendleton, Oregon  
*Public Call in #: 541-728-0275*

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**Commissioners Present:** Chair George Murdock, Vice-Chair John Shafer, and Commissioner Dan Dorran  
**County Counsel:** Doug Olsen  
**Guests Present:** Robert Pahl, Chief Finance Officer  
**Video link or Calling in:** Jennifer Blake, Human Resources Director; Tom Fellows, Public Works Director; Joe Fiumara, Public Health Director; Sheriff Terry Rowan; Capt. Dave Williamson, Sheriff’s Office; [*+ see list of video or call-in, copy on file*].

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CALL TO ORDER: Chair Murdock called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. He reminded all that the meeting is a public forum and there is a call-in option provided. 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. 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. He noted there is a point for public input before business items for other than agenda items.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Awards/Correspondence/Recognition.** None.

**Minutes** – Commissioner Dorran moved to approve the Board minutes from the meeting of 5/19/21. **Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

**Additions to Agenda** – Chair Murdock noted: move item #9 (ARA Stimulus Funding) to # 2, following county budget adoption. Also, to move Purchase Fire (Water) Truck to #6, and add #10, Community Rewards.

**Public Comments** – None.

**Business Items**

1. **Adoption of County Budget - public hearing.** Chair Murdock called the hearing to order at 9:11 a.m. Staff Report was presented by Robert Pahl, Chief Finance Officer. Recommendation for approval was made at the April Budget Committee meeting. Total appropriations = \$117,261,126 and total overall budget = \$123,716,876. Commissioner Shafer appreciated Mr. Pahl and finance office staff’s hard work on this budget. Commissioner Dorran added his thanks for helping with background information and time spent prior to the budget committee meeting. There were no public comments and no more comments from the commissioners. Chair Murdock closed the hearing at 9:14 a.m.  
**Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to approve budget for FY21-22 and adopt Order No. BCC2022-01. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
2. **Stimulus ARA Funding.** Chair Murdock read the background – in its entirety to authorize some spending from the first half of the American Rescue Plan Act stimulus funding, which is one-time funding. Categories of funding include Public Works Department lost revenue, Fair lost revenue, local community investment

projects, and Ordnance Pipeline project. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorrان to adopt Order No. BCC 2021-046. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**

3. Used Water Truck Purchase. Tom Fellows, Public Works Director, presented. This is for approval to purchase a used water truck. Upon issuing a Request for Proposals to purchase a used water truck, one proposal was received from Woodpecker Truck for a 2008 International water truck (low miles) in the amount of \$72,500. This will be added to the Public Works fleet. **Motion made by Commissioner Shafer to approve the purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**
4. Asphalt Paving Machine. Presented by Mr. Fellows. Approval is sought for the purchase of an asphalt paving machine. Upon issuing a Request for Proposals to purchase a used asphalt paving machine, one proposal was received from Humbert Rock Crushing for a 1996 Barber-Greene paver in the amount of \$15,000. The equipment has limited time/hours on it and is in excellent condition. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorrان to approve the purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
5. Equipment List. Mr. Fellows presented. This is for the approval of the annual list for equipment that is needed at the Public Works Department. This list is for FY2021-22 and is based on the budgeting process. The list will allow Public Works to go out for request for proposals for certain equipment. Plus, it allows for quick turnaround time and opportunity to get a desirable piece of equipment. Commissioner Dorrان thanked him for his hard work. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorrان to adopt Order No. RD2021-03. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
6. Fire Truck (Water) Purchase. Mr. Fellows presented. This is for the approval of a used truck that would be for Meacham. This 1999 International Water Truck is from Woodpecker Truck with low mileage and he felt better suited for Meacham (not Public Works). It is a nice set up truck and should be great for fire-fighting. Chair Murdock pointed out that members of the community approached him to advise there is no government structure, but needs are there. Meacham didn't get federal funds but they need a dependable source of water in case of fires. Funding for the purchase is through the ARA for a local community investment project. **Motion made by Commissioner Shafer to approve the purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**
7. Body Armor Purchase. Presented by Capt. Dave Williamson. The request from Umatilla County Sheriff's Office to purchase additional body armor. The request is for between 6 and 7 vests from 911 Supply in the amount of \$7,344.84. They have a 5-year life; this is a planned/budgeted expense. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorrان to approve the purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
8. New Position. Joe Fiumara, Public Health Director, presented. Approval is sought to move forward the start date for the position approved by the Board on February 17, 2021 for an Environmental Health Specialist position from July 1 to June 1. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to approve creation of Environmental Health Specialist I or II effective 6/1/21. Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**
9. Community Rewards – Public Health. Mr. Fiumara presented. This is for approval of a community rewards plan. This is a plan for incentives aimed at individuals to get vaccinations. Although it is an individual choice, there are community impacts. It is proposed to use funds based on a zip code breakdown (chart projected on monitors) with benefits to all communities once threshold was met. He went over the chart by town/zip code and explained an administrative fee to be held by Health Department. Chair Murdock agreed \$10,000 base reward was better than the \$5,000 proposed initially. Mr. Fiumara advised the funding formula is based on the grant amount of \$509,876.40 with the guideline/process to be developed by himself and Commissioner Shafer. It will provide a mechanism for reimbursement of costs for each zip code. Maybe a 2-week window for submitting summary at end of process. 60% vaccinated rate is chosen, which is reasonably attainable in

our county. Question was made by Commissioner Dorran about the process. Mr. Fiumara pointed out of pocket costs would require a community providing a report about an event/plan. There are different ways to get funds – submit plan and get funds first to cover costs, or submitting afterwards. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran;** and he requested further discussion about target to get people vaccinated ASAP. Mr. Olsen advised this program is intended to do this – each community would be incentivized for their citizens to be vaccinated Basically a lottery for non-profits – they would carry out their own program to get citizens vaccinated. Commissioner Shafer gave an example, event planned by an organization for vaccination purpose (i.e. civic organization, chambers, non-profits, and municipalities – not businesses). Chair Murdock spoke to expediency. At some point in time, if meeting a standard is no longer needed, the program won't be relevant. Mr. Fiumara advised that funds expire in December. If somebody reaches the threshold, the pot can be recalculated. If funds are not used, they would be turned back to federal government (where originated). Health department qualifies for some funds to be used vs. sending back. Some communities are really close to the 60% threshold. Commissioner Dorran added as the program is refined maybe a target date could be identified.

Commissioner Shafer noted issue with that is if the state reaches the 70% threshold by i.e. June 28 and the Governor notes target is hit, state would be opened. A lot of ifs, but if that happens, this program wouldn't continue. Mr. Fiumara sees continuing through for incentivizing. Commissioner Shafer didn't want date put on it. Commissioner Dorran would like to see our county get as high a level as quickly as possible. For safety and also for tourism – for folks to make plans to come here. Chair Murdock asked what about writing in element of expediency, maybe adding that for introduction of the plan to expedite vaccinations. Commissioner Shafer agreed; however, he didn't want to leave dollars on the table. Therefore, in rolling out the program, Chair Murdock would add an introduction that "...in order to expedite vaccinations to reach a higher level of vaccinations within the county...". **Motion carried, 3-0.**

10. Property Bids. Presented by Doug Olsen for opening. Sixteen properties did not sell at the county's foreclosed auction for tax foreclosed properties. The customary practice of county is to announce that bids will be accepted for a period of time, in this case, to be submitted by end of day 6/1, then to open bids at the Board meeting with the Board taking an appropriate action. Written bids will be allowed in the future for properties that do receive a sufficient bid. In this instance, there may be four parcels left over, which will be available for anyone to submit a written bid. Each bid was opened and outlined as follows, with action as noted:
  - a. House in City of Echo. Mr. Olsen noted at auction the bid was slightly over \$50,000, so 15% minimum would be \$7,500. The high bid is Infinite Designs LLC of \$25,240. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorran to accept the bid submitted. (Order No. BCC2021-049). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  - b. House in Pendleton, SW 4<sup>th</sup> St.. There were a number of bids submitted Value of \$77,740, so about \$12,000 is 15% minimum. The high bid was submitted from Pierson Pahl for \$33,333. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorran to accept the bid submitted. (Order No. BCC2021-050). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  - c. House on SW 8<sup>th</sup> St., Pendleton. A bid of \$25,001 from Pierson Pahl. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-051). Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
  - d. Property right next door on SW 8<sup>th</sup>. A bid of \$33,333 from Pierson Pahl. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-52). Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
  - e. Small piece of property - a portion of vacated alleyway in Ukiah. A bid from Donald Kindsfather in the amount of \$350. **Motion was made by Commissioner Murdock to accept the bid. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. (Order No. BCC2021-53). Carried, 3-0.**

- f. Next 4 parcels are 4 unimproved lots in Umatilla. The first is tax lot 3000. Bids were received on this lot, with the highest from Ramon and Domitila Ortiz at \$40,699 . **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorran to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-054). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  - g. Tax lot #3100 – part of unimproved lots in Umatilla. High bid is \$7,101 from Pierson Pahl. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-055). Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
  - h. Tax lot 3300. A bid of \$40,792 from Ramon Ortiz & Domitila Ortiz is the high bid. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorran to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-056). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  - i. Tax lot 3400. The high bid is \$7,001 from Cameron Pahl, Portland. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-057). Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
  - j. Lot in City of Weston, tax lot 3400 (Water St.). The highest bid is \$5,121 from Loy, Annette and Charles Knutzen. **Motion was made by Commissioner Dorran to accept the bid. (Order No. BCC2021-058). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  - k. Also in the City of Weston – located on State Street. The highest bid received is \$28,430 from David & Kathy Zinter, Hermiston. **Commissioner Shafer moved to accept the bid. (Order No. bCC2021-059). Commissioner Dorran recused. Seconded by Commissioner Murdock. Carried, 2-0.**
  - l. Mobile home park – Locust Mobile Home Park, Milton-Freewater. At auction, the price was \$375,000. Minimum bid needed to be above \$56,000. Mr. Olsen noted a request has been received from the current property owner to purchase it back (a letter was received to repurchase it). The Board may want to sit on this a bit to be sure the bidder is aware of the situation, but this bid qualifies for action. **Motion by Commissioner Murdock to approve and accept the offer of \$60,000 from Hurst & Son LLC. (Order No. BCC2021-048). Seconded by Commissioner Shafer. Carried, 3-0.**
  - m. The last four properties received no bids. They will be listed on the county website for potential bids.
11. Lifeways Transportation Services. Presented by Commissioner Shafer. Lifeways is requesting from the State of Oregon to be a secure transport provider to facilities. The administrative rules require support of the county governing body with a formal authorized letter. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to approve and provide a letter of support. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
12. Pendleton Grant Application. Mr. Olsen presented. The City of Pendleton is looking to submit an application for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) for assistance to small businesses. GEODC (local development corporation) would administer the grant. A requirement is to have two entities involved. The only potential exposure for the county is if someone does request assistance and may default with funds requested back; then the sponsors have potential liability of repaying that grant. Otherwise, there is no cost to county. **Motion was made by Commissioner Shafer to approve and authorize the Chair to sign the agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Dorran. Carried, 3-0.**
13. Budget Transfers. Presented by Mr. Pahl. There were five budget transfers: Budget Order 2021-72 (General Fund: Jail) requires an increase in Materials & Services of \$84,000 and a decrease of \$84,000 in Contingency. Order 2021-73 (General Fund: Victim Witness Program) requires an increase in Materials & Services of \$6,000 and a decrease of \$6,000 in Contingency. Order 2021-74 (General Fund: District Attorney) requires an increase in Materials & Services of \$27,000 and a decrease of \$27,000 in Contingency. Order 2021-75 (STIF Program) requires an increase in Materials & Services of \$50,000 and a decrease of \$50,000 in Contingency.

Order 2021-76 (Stimulus Reserve Program) requires an increase in Personnel Services of \$1,700,000 and a decrease of \$1,700,000 in Contingency.

**In the matter approving a Budget Transfer pursuant to ORS 294.463 for FY ending 6/30/21:**

**Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Budget Order No. 2021-72 (Program 1540 – Jail). Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**

**Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Budget Order No. 2021-73 (Program 2050 – Victim Witness Program). Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**

**Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Budget Order No. 2021-74 (Program 2022 – District Attorney). Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**

**Commissioner Shafer. moved to adopt Budget Order No. 2021-75 (Program 1014 – STIF Program). Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**

**Commissioner Shafer moved to adopt Budget Order No. 2021-76 (Program 9190 – Stimulus Reserve). Seconded by Commissioner Dorrان. Carried, 3-0.**

**Executive Session** – none.

**Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Dorrان - none.

Commissioner Shafer – none.

Chair Murdock noted the prior action on the ARA relative to emergency services to essential staff was overwhelmingly appreciated.

The meeting adjourned 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melinda Slatt*

Executive Secretary, Umatilla County Board of Commissioners