

WEEKLY BUSINESS SESSION – April 22, 2020

9:00 a.m. – Anne G. Basker Auditorium via Zoom
600 N.W. Sixth Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Present on Zoom: Darin J. Fowler, Chair; Daniel E. DeYoung, Vice-Chair; and Lily N. Morgan, Commissioner; Trish Paredes, Recorder

These are meeting minutes only. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words.

Pursuant to notice through the media and in conformance with the Public Meeting Law, Darin J. Fowler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Items discussed were as follows:

1. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS IN CONSIDERATION OF:

BOARD DECISIONS UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS WERE MADE AFTER PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED

a. Approval of Contract for Personal Services between Josephine County and Valley Fire Service, Inc. for the Incident Management Team regarding the COVID-19 Emergency (One original Contract returned to Finance for full execution)

Sandy Novak, Assistant Finance Director, explained that this contract is for three Valley Fire Service, Inc. employees who have been providing services to the Incident Command Center for Josephine County. This contract allows Josephine County to reimburse these employees for the work that has been completed.

b. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Rogue Valley Council of Governments for Grant Administration Assistance (One original IGA filed with the County Clerk and one original IGA returned to Public Health)

Commissioner Morgan discussed the process Josephine County has undergone to hire a grant writer and how Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) will be providing these services in the interim until a candidate is chosen for this open position.

2. REQUESTS/COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:

a. Please submit your comments via email to hcc@josephinecounty.gov

Lynda Spangler submitted her comments via email (Exhibit 1).

3. BOARD MAY REVIEW PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

The Board addressed public comments.

Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 1(a)

Commissioner Morgan made a motion to approve Contract for Personal Services between Josephine County and Valley Fire Service, Inc. for the Incident Management Team regarding the COVID-19 Emergency, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Morgan – yes, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 1(b)

Commissioner DeYoung made a motion to approve Intergovernmental Agreement with Rogue Valley Council of Governments for Grant Administration Assistance, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Morgan – yes, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

a. Minutes (Draft minutes are available for viewing in the Board's Office)

Weekly Business Session – February 19, 2020

Weekly Business Session – April 15, 2020

County Administration Workshop – April 15, 2020

b. Resolution No. 2020-012; In the Matter of Participating in the County Assessment Function Funding Assessment (CAFFA) Grant (One original Resolution filed with the County Clerk)

Board Discussion and Action:

Commissioner DeYoung made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Agenda Items 4(a) through 4(b) as listed, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Morgan – yes, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

5. **OTHER: (ORS 192.640(1))** “. . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.”)

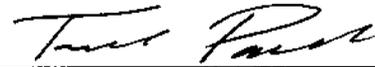
Commissioner Morgan reviewed **Commissioner Boice from Douglas County’s Letter to Governor Brown (Exhibit 2)**.

6. **MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Morgan discussed our County’s response to Covid-19 and the action the State and legislature have taken as well as the local resources that are available to aid in meeting the needs of our citizens. Commissioner Fowler discussed one Fire Protection Committee position that needs to be changed. Commissioner Morgan made a motion to allow County Fire to change their representative on the Fire Protection Committee, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Morgan – yes, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

Commissioner Fowler also discussed the vulnerable community and how their reaction to this pandemic needs to be cautious as the County and State begin to loosen regulations regarding Covid-19. Commissioner DeYoung discussed financial aid that local businesses have received thus far.

Weekly Business Session adjourned at 9:50 a.m.



Trish Paredes, Recorder

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Entered into record:

Exhibit 1 – Lynda Spangler’s comments

Exhibit 2 – Commissioner Boice from Douglas County’s Letter to Governor Brown

Exhibit 1
WBS 4.22.20

Trish Paredes

From: Lynda <konospan@cpros.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 1:50 PM
To: Board of Commissioners
Subject: Opening up Josephine County

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Please verify links by hovering over them!

I would like this message to be submitted at the next BCC meeting as a public comment;

Commissioners,

I was deeply dismayed to read Commissioner Morgan's suggestion that Josephine County suspend the state wide shelter in place orders and open up Josephine County for business. Opening the county for business is an invitation to people living in "hot Spots " to come here for rafting, fishing and other forms of recreation bringing covid with them. In the long run our economy, and the health of our citizens will suffer greatly with such a plan. The Citizens and the businesses of Josephine County have been successful in flattening the curve because, for the most part, we have practiced social distancing, hand washing and wearing masks. In order for Government to be successful it must have the trust of the people. Endangering the health of our citizens by not following the science in this pandemic is a cavalier attitude that does not instill trust. If the Commissioners really want to help the economy they will work to find additional funding to make sure small businesses survive the downturn. They will make sure unemployed workers have food and are not evicted. We are in this together; please do not open up Josephine County,

Thank You
Lynda Spangler

Exhibit 2
WBS
4.22.2020



**DOUGLAS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

CHRIS BOICE TIM FREEMAN TOM KRESS

1036 SE Douglas Ave., Room 217 → Roseburg, Oregon 97470

April 22, 2020

Honorable Governor Kate Brown
Office of the Governor
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Governor Brown,

Thank you for organizing the call yesterday and providing a forum for County Commissioners to express our concerns and ask questions. As you well know, the main topic of conversation centered around allowing Oregonians an opportunity to get back to work and to get the economy moving again. You have said that you were in favor of a regional approach in reopening the economy as long as certain criteria were met.

We understand the concern of an increase in COVID-19 cases once restrictions are eased and agree that a strategic approach in getting things reopened is necessary. On the call, you and your staff outlined three necessary planning steps needing to be in place before a regional approval would be considered. Those steps included three components of Gating Criteria, three components of our Core State of Preparedness, and a three phase reopening strategy.

The three components of Gating Criteria included a declining number of people with symptoms, a declining number of cases, and adequate hospital capacity. In Southwestern Oregon, there have been very few cases, but where we have seen the most cases, there certainly has been a reduction in reported cases since the peak. We have seen a decline in the number of tests being administered as the number of people with symptoms has decreased. We also believe that we have adequate testing and hospital capacity, as well as thorough contingency planning should cases begin to increase at any point.

The three components of Core State Preparedness included Robust Testing and Contact Tracing, Healthcare System Capacity, including PPE and surge Capacity, and Plans for Health and Safety. As you know, Douglas County implemented the first Drive Through Testing opportunity in the State, Douglas County has also funded a team of epidemiologists who have worked diligently to trace contacts of all cases of positive test results. Coos, Curry, Jackson, and Josephine Counties each still have very few cases and capacity to test anyone with symptoms in the foreseeable future.

All five counties currently have healthcare capacity to manage the case load and beyond, but if other medical procedures are not allowed soon, they may not have, as hospitals have limited ability to bear the financial burden of being out of business. Our plans for health and safety are to still require social distancing, including the requirement to wear masks and heighten sanitation requirements for any situation where social distancing can't be maintained (beauty salons, barber

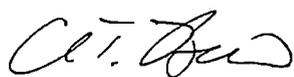
→ Information (541) 440-4201 → Fax (541) 440-4391

shops, etc.), to encourage those who can to continue to work from home to do so, to require anyone who is sick to stay home, and to provide free testing to any person referred by a medical professional. We will constantly monitor conditions and immediately to limit and mitigate any rebound in reporter cases.

We are asking your consideration to consent to a Phase 1 reopening in Douglas, Coos, Curry, Jackson and Josephine Counties effective 4/25/2020 under the Federal Guidelines.

Sincerely,

**DOUGLAS COUNTY, COOS COUNTY, JACKSON COUNTY, JOSEPHINE COUNTY & CURRY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**



Chris Boice, Chair



Tom Kress, Commissioner



Tim Freeman, Commissioner

Melissa Cribbins, Coos County
Commissioner

Bob Main, Coos County
Commissioner

John Sweet, Coos County
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Colleen Roberts, Jackson County
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Bob Strosser, Jackson County
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Darin Fowler, Josephine County
Commissioner

Daniel DeYoung, Josephine
County Commissioner

Lily Morgan, Josephine County
Commissioner

Chris Paasch, Curry County
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Court Boice, Curry
County Commissioner

Sue Gold, Curry County
Commissioner