

City/County Monthly Update: June 23, 2020

11:00 a.m. – Courthouse Room 157

Commissioners Darin J. Fowler, Daniel E. DeYoung and Lily N. Morgan; Trish Paredes, Recorder

Chair Darin J. Fowler called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

Additional Attendees: Aaron Cubic, Grants Pass City Manager; Mayor Roy Lindsey

The Board and attendees discussed the economy and activities continuing to resemble normalcy. Mayor Lindsay and Mr. Cubic reported on the status of the City regarding Covid-19. The Board mentioned the “Let them Play” initiative they are supporting and the return to school guidelines. The group discussed how the governing body and the City Council can support the school districts and help them stay in compliance through the local public health authority. The Board and attendees conversed regarding flattening the curve for Covid-19 and the rate of actual illness versus testing positive as an asymptomatic carrier. Commissioner DeYoung mentioned moving the River City BMX track to Beacon Park, and that he and Tamra Martin, Fairgrounds Director; Kendra Lellis, Vice-President of Grants Pass Down, and Justin Gerlitz, Engineer for Grants Pass Down, will give a presentation to the City Parks Committee for that project. Commissioner DeYoung has already spoken with the Grants Pass Irrigation District (GPID) about the BMX track project and is working on the mitigation of some of the obstacles that have risen to develop this property. The Board and attendees discussed pop up fruit peddlers and if there were permits involved in these vendors. Commissioner Morgan spoke about 5G and Broadband and the relationship between these and the Collaborative Economic Development Committee (CEDC). Commissioner Fowler spoke about the CEDC’s effectiveness and an idea that Jon Bowen, Tourism President, had regarding a non-profit committee that deals particularly with the relationship of Economic Development and Tourism for the City of Grants Pass and Josephine County. Mr. Cubic explained that the City is having an audit and after the audit, they will take the guidance that is given to them concerning restructuring tourism. The Board and attendees were hopeful for the restaurants operating with the new barriers the City has put up to move the public sidewalk down into the public right of way to increase dining options while still maintaining social distancing. Mr. Cubic spoke about the problems created when public mental health services were deinstitutionalized by the State, and how the City feels any action by them is a reactive approach instead of a proactive approach. The Board and attendees recognized that this issue can only be addressed through state legislators changing State Laws. Commissioner Fowler explained that he has had conversations with Council President Tyler Flaming concerning the addition of more trail systems into the City of Grants Pass.

The meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.