

WEEKLY BUSINESS SESSION – January 15, 2020

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

Present: 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 9:00 a.m.

Items discussed were as follows:

1. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES:

The Board recognized the following employees for their years of service with the County:

Michael Tucker – Public Works – 5 years
Anthony Gragg – Public Works – 5 years
Wally Hicks – County Legal Counsel – 5 years
Sheriff Daniel – Sheriff's Office – 5 years
Nate Gairan – Community Corrections – 5 years
Julien Silva – Public Works – 15 years
Kasey Kirkpatrick – Treasury Office – 20 years
Steve Works – Community Corrections – 25 years

2. 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 PLACE STUDIOS, LLC and Josephine County for the Fairgrounds Master Plan *(One original Contract returned to Fairgrounds for full execution)*

Tamra Martin, Fairgrounds Director, discussed the process for the Fair Board to create a master plan for the Fairgrounds property and buildings. Mrs. Martin explained in detail the changes to the master plan that the Fair Board is looking at and why those changes will be made. When the master plan is finished it will be a credible source for securing grants and funding in developing the Fairgrounds property further. The contract the Board is considering today is for personal services through Place Studios to help create the master plan.

b. Approval of Order No. 2020-002; In the Matter of Administrative Policies and Procedures for Josephine County for the Purpose of Conducting Business on a Daily Basis: Personnel Policy Manual Revision *(Rescinds and Replaces Order No. 2019-074) (One original Order filed with the County Clerk)*

Arthur O'Hare, Finance Director, specified that Order No. 2020-002 would be approved in lieu of a COLA adjustment, which is considered at the end of each calendar year. Mr. O'Hare expounded on the financial implications that Order No. 2020-002 will have upon the County's budget and where the money comes from in order to fund Order No. 2020-002. The net effect of the 2.5% COLA would have been a \$243K increase in the County budget. The increase to the County budget upon approval of Order No. 2020-002 will be around \$435K, and the differential between the two options is \$192K. Order No. 2020-002 will cost the General Fund \$50K with the difference being absorbed by each department for their non-union employees. Only 30% of the General Fund comes from property taxes, so the cost to tax payers is roughly around \$15K. Mr. O'Hare explained why this Order has been renumbered and is back at a Weekly Business Session and why this order is a smart business decision and benefits the public.

3. REQUESTS/COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS: *(Each person will be given three (3) minutes to speak)*

Sandi Cassanelli submitted her comments via email **Weekly Business Session – January 15, 2020 (Exhibit 1)**. Kevin Faith, Wilderville, spoke in opposition to gun confiscation concerning the Red Flag Law and the window tinting of the Josephine County Sheriff's vehicles that he believes are in violation of Oregon Statute.

4. BOARD MAY REVIEW PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

The Board addressed public comments.

Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 2(a)

Commissioner DeYoung made a motion to approve Contract for Personal Services between PLACE STUDIOS, LLC and Josephine County for the Fairgrounds Masterplan, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Morgan – yes, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 2(b)

Commissioner DeYoung made a motion to approve Order No. 2020-002; In the Matter of Administrative Policies and Procedures for Josephine County for the Purpose of Conducting Business on a Daily Basis: Personnel Policy Manual Revision, seconded by Commissioner Fowler. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 2-1; Commissioner Morgan – abstain, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. **Minutes** (*Draft minutes are available for viewing in the Board's Office*)
 Weekly Business Session – January 2, 2020
 General Discussion – January 7, 2020
 Legal Counsel Update – January 7, 2020
 Weekly Business Session – January 8, 2020
 County Administration Workshop – January 9, 2020
- b. **Department of Revenue ORMAP Intergovernmental Agreement Contract #DOR-003-20 between Josephine County and the State of Oregon for Digitization of Cadastral Maps** (*One original IGA returned to the Assessor for full execution*)
- c. **Josephine County Tree Planting Contract (2020PL-1) between Josephine County and IB Reforestation, LLC** (*One original Contract filed with the County Clerk and one original Contract returned to Forestry*)

Board Discussion and Action:

Commissioner Morgan made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Agenda Items 5(a) through 5(c) as listed, seconded by Commissioner DeYoung. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Morgan – yes, Commissioner DeYoung – yes, and Commissioner Fowler – yes.

6. **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.”)

None reported.

7. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner DeYoung reported on his attendance at the recent Fair Board Meeting and the issues the Josephine County Fair is facing. Commissioner Morgan discussed the different advisory board meetings she had attended. Commissioner Fowler discussed marijuana and hemp grow violations, Board of Property Tax Appeals (BoPTA) training, and his Grants Pass High School student tour.

Weekly Business Session adjourned at 10:19 a.m.


 Trish Paredes, Recorder

Entered into record:

Exhibit 1 – Weekly Business Session – January 15, 2020

Exhibit 1
WBS
1.15.20

Weekly Business Session – January 15, 2020

Today my comments refer to Item 2(b), the Administrative Policy changes for having the County “pick up” the 6% employee requirements for their PERS accounts. Can you tell me how these policy changes will benefit the average citizen of Josephine County?

This will only feather the retirement nests of government employees, and it will add gasoline to the already out-of-control PERS fires. And to top it off, the public is not even told how much it will cost the County to implement these changes. An impoverished citizenry will ultimately have to pay for this, but the County can't be bothered to even tell us how much it will cost.

The flimsiest of reasons stated for doing this is it “will improve the county's effort to recruit personnel into vacant positions.” What a lame excuse for such an atrocious give away! Will that really be the great, deciding factor when someone considers working in a County of abject poverty?

Tell me again how these policy changes benefit the average citizen of Josephine County?

I'll give you a clue, it doesn't!

Submitted for the record by
Sandi Cassanelli