

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

October 18, 2017

County Court met with Judge Dan Joyce presiding with Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Wilson present. Staff present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois.

Also present was John Braese of the Malheur Enterprise.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Department Director Angela Gerrard met with the Court. Ms. Gerrard discussed a grant opportunity for the County to participate in a regional grant to improve Communicable Disease Control. The legislature passed Public Health Modernization legislation a couple of years ago; this grant is an opportunity to collaborate as a region to increase capacity for Communicable Disease Response as described in the Public Health Modernization Manual. Grant requirements include that the partners, at minimum, be two counties and one non-county entity; the counties considering partnering together are: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Hood River, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler; and the non-county entity is, Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (EOCCO). The North Central Public Health District (Gilliam, Wasco, Sherman counties) has agreed to be the lead agency and would be the fiscal agent administering the funds and completing the reporting requirements; they would also serve as the employer of the grant-funded staff. Partner counties would be required to participate in a Steering Committee to govern the grant work plan (Public Health Directors); and key staff who currently work in communicable disease would attend grant-sponsored communicable disease control training (travel and per diem expenses would be included in the grant) and be involved in communications with the staff hired for the grant. The grant proposal includes hiring an epidemiologist, communications specialist, and disease investigation specialist. The Epidemiologist would improve understanding of the impact of communicable disease at the local county level to help target prevention efforts, including disparities in communicable disease; and assist as needed in the case of outbreaks. The Communications Specialist would improve prevention messaging to providers, agencies, and the public; and assist as needed in the case of outbreaks. The Disease Specialist would build local capacity for investigating disease and outbreaks; and assist as needed in the case of outbreaks. Not only will the grant provide training in Communicable Disease Control to key county staff, it will also improve cross-jurisdictional communication and CD (Communicable Disease) control efforts on a region-wide basis. Partner contributions will be in-kind staff time for the Public Health Director to attend the Steering Committee meetings (estimated at two hours per month); and Communicable Disease in-kind staff time to attend trainings.

Judge Joyce and Commissioner Hodge questioned if Ms. Gerrard had the time to commit to the grant requirements; she explained that her time commitment would be fairly minimal and that the key staff involved would be those already working in Communicable Disease Control.

Commissioner Wilson questioned if the communicable diseases included more than sexually transmitted diseases; Ms. Gerrard confirmed it is all types of communicable disease, those transmitted sexually have seen an uptick recently but the trainings and such will be a benefit to all communicable disease control. If it becomes difficult for staff to participate in the grant, the

County could withdraw from the grant, but it would no longer receive the benefits of the grant services.

Consensus of the Court was to be a partner in the grant.

Ms. Gerrard also discussed the vacant staff positions at the Health Department. Currently vacant is: Registered Nurse (RN), Registered Dietician (contract position), and the WIC Coordinator (includes duties of WIC Training Supervisor, and Breastfeeding Coordinator). After consultation and discussion with Ms. DuBois, it is proposed to hire one RN (duties to include Immunization Coordinator, Family Planning, and Communicable Disease); and contract with a 0.5 FTE (18.75 hrs.) Registered Dietician - duties to include dietician services as well as fulfilling the WIC Training Supervisor role. Additionally, current WIC Health Specialist(s) will decrease their time spent in direct client service and become the WIC Coordinator and/or Breastfeeding Coordinator at approximately 0.6 FTE; and a 0.6 FTE (22.5 hrs.) Health Specialist will be hired to maintain time in WIC direct client services.

Judge Joyce asked if cross-training was taking place; it is as much and where possible. At Commissioner Hodge's request, Ms. Gerrard explained the duties of the Breastfeeding Coordinator. Ms. Gerrard also explained how the walk-in services operate in the WIC department.

Consensus of the Court was to proceed with advertising/hiring of one RN and a 0.6 FTE Health Specialist; and contract with a 0.5 FTE Registered Dietician.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of October 4, 2017 as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Crossing Permit #40-17 to Oregon-Idaho Utilities to place 4000' of buried fiber optic cable along existing cable to provide service to T-Mobile tower on Succor Creek Road #687; Crossing Permit #41-17 to Idaho Power to replace a pole on Twilight Drive #1042; and Crossing Permit #42-17 to Idaho Power to replace a pole on Sugar Avenue #888. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Brian Wolfe met with the Court and provided a staffing update. There are currently three Jail Technician vacancies and two dispatch vacancies. Lieutenant Hunsucker will retire November 30, 2017; Sergeant Harriman will promote to Lieutenant and be the Emergency Services Coordinator and the dispatch supervisor. Additionally, Deputy Widmer will retire from Dispatch December 7, 2017.

ODOT has offered the Sheriff's Office a mobile home that is currently located at Basque Camp; the County will have to pay the moving expenses. The Court was receptive to accepting the mobile home and placing it in Jordan Valley as a residence for a Jordan Valley deputy as needed.

PUBLIC HEARING - SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Judge Joyce opened the public hearing for consideration of Supplemental Budget Resolution R17-38. Notice of the hearing was published in the Argus Observer. No public comments were received. Judge Joyce closed the hearing. Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Resolution #17-38: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The supplemental budget allocates funds from the State that are received but not anticipated when the adopted budget was prepared; additional State Veterans/SB1100 funds were received and will be allocated in the CVSO (County Veterans Service Officer) Expansion Fund budget. See instrument #[2017-4048](#)

COURT ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.