

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

November 2, 2016

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

Also present was John Braese of the Malheur Enterprise.

TRIENNIAL REVIEW - EXIT INTERVIEW

Danna Drum from Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division met with the Court for an exit interview on the Health Department's recent Triennial Review. Also present was Health Department Director Angie Gerrard and Nursing Supervisor Rebecca Stricker. Ms. Drum explained that the Triennial Review reviewed 16 areas to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations and requirements related to public health funding. Additionally, the triennial review is an opportunity to identify areas for improvement and areas of strength. In 2015, almost \$550,000 was allocated to Malheur County for public health activities; the majority of the funding is federal funds. Over 71% of all pregnant women in the County are served by WIC (the state average is 41%); and over \$900,000 in WIC (Women, Infant and Children) dollars are spent by participants at local retailers for healthy foods. The County's HPV (Human Papillomavirus) immunization rates increased by 50% due to the Health Department's special project; and school-age children in the county are 98-99% up-to-date for vaccines. Other areas of strength of the Health Department include: community collaborations; development of new revenue streams; conducting client satisfaction surveys and providing excellent customer service; coordination of home-visiting referrals; competent oversight of 11 public drinking water systems and strong documentation of licensed facility inspections by Environmental Health staff; public health preparedness staff working regionally and have a strong relationship with local Emergency Management; and the department has a positive word-of-mouth referral for sexually-transmitted disease services.

Areas for improvement included a review of the Civil Rights self-assessment with the Local Public Health Authority; internal inventory controls, and certification of a pool operator course by an Environmental Health staff member; all these issues have been resolved or are in process of being resolved.

There is currently one unresolved area and that is in the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (TPEP). Statistics show that 23% of Malheur County adults smoke cigarettes; Middle/High school students use more non-cigarette tobacco products than cigarettes; \$14.2 million is spent on tobacco-related medical care; \$11.3 million in productive losses due to premature tobacco-related deaths; most smokers want to quit but need support to do so; and TPEP provides community support so users aren't alone in making the choice they already want to make. Appropriate, designated staffing must be in place for TPEP; at least 75% of planned activities in two consecutive quarters within one fiscal year must be completed; Ms. Gerrard previously presented options she had developed to the Court; and a staffing plan to address the matter must be submitted to the State by November 30, 2016.

Challenges of the Health Department include: adjusted clinic hours in order to meet other public health needs; syphilis outbreak in the county and follow-up is time consuming and doesn't leave much availability for proactive communicable disease outreach. The review found that the staff is working hard and doing great work, but are likely at capacity with little wiggle room.

Ms. Drum also visited with the Court about public health modernization efforts. Public health modernization will ensure basic public protections critical to the health of all in Oregon and future generations - including clean air, safe food and water, health promotion and prevention of diseases, and responding to new health threats. House Bill 3100 (2015) required all Health Departments in the state to assess themselves on how foundational capabilities and programs are provided and what additional resources are needed. Results of the assessments show programmatic gaps in the current public health system. Additional State funding resources are needed to help build the public health system capacity. Regional public health modernization planning meetings will be held from September 2016-January 2017; the purpose of the meetings is to engage stakeholders in moving forward a new model for public health, identify barriers and opportunities for collaboration across jurisdictions, and to begin the process of developing local public health modernization plans. Recommended priority areas for 2017 include communicable diseases, environmental health, emergency preparedness, health equity, population health data, and public health modernization planning.

Ms. Drum answered various questions from the Court members; there will also be a breakout session on public health at the upcoming AOC (Association of Oregon Counties) Annual Conference. The Court noted that more funding for public health is needed.

Mr. Braese left the meeting.

Surveyor/Engineer Tom Edwards joined the meeting.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Court Minutes of October 26, 2016 as written. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

OWYHEE LAKE ROAD FLAP

The Court again discussed the requested increase for the Owyhee Lake Road FLAP project. It is a planning project for the Owyhee Lake Road corridor and funding is through the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP). Western Federal Lands Highway Division is doing the preliminary work towards developing the corridor plan and now believes that the plan should involve a more in-depth geotechnical discussion than was originally planned; an addition of \$50,000 to the overall project cost is recommended; which will increase the County's match by \$5,135. Mr. Edwards said he would contact the Project Manager at Western Federal Lands regarding the request.

MOU - JUNTURA CUT-OFF ROAD

Ms. Williams explained that the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with Harney County and EP Minerals was revised after the Court signed it a couple of weeks ago. Commissioner Hodge moved to approve the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between EP

Minerals, LLC, Harney County and Malheur County for the Juntura Cut-Off Road project. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Special Public Works Funds, Strategic Reserve Funds and Immediate Opportunity Funds have been awarded to rebuild Juntura Cut-Off Road. A copy of the MOU will be returned for recording. See instrument #[2016-4071](#)

QUITCLAIM DEED - VIELMA

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Quitclaim Deed to Steven and Ida Vielma for Ref. # 9828 and Ref. #903407. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Court allowed the Vielma's to buyback the property as it was currently in tax foreclosure. See instrument # [2016-4041](#)

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Court was adjourned.