

## **MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES**

**May 9, 2018**

County Court met at Lifeways, 702 Sunset Drive, Ontario, with Judge Dan Joyce presiding with Commissioner Don Hodge and Commissioner Larry Wilson present. Staff present was: Juvenile Department Director Susan Gregory, Undersheriff Travis Johnson, Lieutenant Rachel Reyna (also a Lifeways board member), and District Attorney Dave Goldthorpe.

### **COURT MINUTES**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of May 2, 2018 as written.

Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of April 24 and April 25, 2018 as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF RETIREMENT**

Commissioner Wilson moved to accept the retirement announcement of Planner Alvin Scott. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Scott's last day of employment will be July 2, 2018.

### **IGA #157288**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve State of Oregon Intergovernmental Grant Agreement (IGA) #157288. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The IGA is for funding not to exceed \$2200 for implementation of the 2018 Farm Direct Nutrition Program (FDNP) for WIC (Women, Infant, and Children) families. See instrument #[2018-1906](#).

### **INTERIM HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR**

Commissioner Wilson moved to appoint Rebecca Stricker Interim Health Department Director effective May 14, 2018. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Duties include those of Local Public Health Administrator (LPHA). See instrument #[2018-1853](#)

### **PROCLAMATION - CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY WEEK**

Undersheriff Travis Johnson explained that the first week of May is National Correctional Officers' Week and as such requested the Court proclaim the week of May 6-12, 2018 as Malheur County Corrections Week. Undersheriff Johnson read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY WEEK MAY 6-12, 2018 BY THE  
MALHEUR COUNTY COURT, OREGON

WHEREAS, since 1984 the Congress of the United States, and the President of the United States have established the first week of May as National Correctional Officers' Week; and

WHEREAS, Malheur County considers the services of the Sheriff's Correctional Deputies to be critical to the interest of the community; and

WHEREAS, Corrections employees model ethical and pro-social behaviors while holding offenders accountable for their actions and reducing the risk of future criminal behavior and future victimization; and

WHEREAS, Corrections Deputies are highly trained and productive members of the County workforce; and

WHEREAS, our County enjoys a high standard of public health and safety and we owe a great deal of gratitude to them. During this special observance we extend a profound thank you to each member of the corrections staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Malheur County Court proclaims the week of May 6-12, 2018 to be Malheur County Corrections Week. We invite all residents to observe this week in honor of our Corrections Deputies who help to protect our health and safety.

The Court signed the proclamation.

### **LIFEWAYS PRESENTATION**

Various individuals joined the meeting and participated in the Lifeways presentation. Those present included: CEO (Chief Executive Office) Tim Hoekstra, CFO (Chief Financial Officer) Steve Jensen, Malheur Administrator Annette Serrano, Residential Service Director Ken Rush, Program Manager Orquidea Flores, Quality Improvement/Accreditation Manager Lacey Salinas, HR (Human Resources) Director Rosie Ramirez, Supported Employment Supervisor Glenn Erhardt, Compliance/Security Officer Chris Mosier-Chrysler, Administrative Assistant Glenda Lockner, Board President Mike Hanigan, Board Director Randy Jensen, and Jamie Taylor and Shere Baxter from St. Alphonsus Health Resource Center.

Introductions were made.

Mr. Hoekstra provided statistics on programs and clients served in Malheur County for 2017. Lifeways has 122 employees for its Malheur program. Programs include: Alcohol & Drug (A&D) Treatment & Prevention; Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team - Malheur; Community Health Improvement (Adolescent Health Access (AHA)); Crisis; Early Assessment & Support Alliance (EASA) Malheur; Forensics; Gambling Treatment & Prevention; In-Home Safety & Reunification Services (ISRS); Jail Diversion Grant; Malheur Outpatient Services; Medical-Malheur; Mental Health-Malheur; Parent Child Interaction Therapy & Child Parent Psychotherapy (PCIT & CPP); Peer Delivered Services; Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment & Prevention; and Supported Employment. Residential Services are provided at five housing facilities in Ontario. Nationally, one in four individuals are affected or directly affected by a mental health disorder. Individuals who struggle with mental health disruption can lose the ability to function and can lose the ability to take care of their basic needs. The severe and persistently mentally ill require either habilitation or rehabilitation. Habilitation is building skillsets that an individual does not have but needs in order to function well in a community. Rehabilitation is to help an individual obtain their highest level of functioning or skillsets that they had but lost in the crises or disruption in their life. An array of services is available, from low intensity to high intensity, to help individuals get to where they need to be. Just over 2600

clients were served by Lifeways; just over 8,300 services were provided to these clients. Services to adult females were slightly higher than adult males. The number of adolescent males served was slightly higher than adolescent females. 334 adults in crisis were served; and 797 services were provided. 90 adolescents in crises were served; and 137 services were provided. GOBHI (Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc.) was the major payer type of services; followed by private insurance and Medicare. Lifeways has locations in multiple towns in both Oregon and Idaho; there are efficiencies gleaned from having multiple locations. Predominately, the largest areas served by Lifeways are Malheur and Umatilla counties.

Glenn Erhardt briefly explained about the Supported Employment program; the program helps break down barriers through the employment process. Staff assists clients with various needs to help them find and keep meaningful jobs. The program works with the clients and the employers. The program currently has 50 clients; a little over 30% are employed; and there is a waiting list for the program. Supported Employment helps people with psychiatric disabilities find and keep jobs.

Annette Serrano briefed the Court on the Prevention program on behalf of Prevention Specialist Lindsay Atagi. Grant funding in-part supports the program and focuses on mental health promotion and prevention; resources are provided to educate the community members about mental health, increase youth protective factors and resiliency to promote mental wellness. Since the program began in 2014, 25 Mental Health First Aid Trainings have been provided; and 20 youth classes have been completed. The Toolbox Project is used in the schools and is a social and emotional learning curriculum delivered to students in various schools of Malheur County. Another part of the Prevention program is through the Alcohol Drug Prevention Education Program and Problem Gambling grant which continues to engage community members in supporting prevention efforts through the Malheur County Drug Free Coalition. September 6, 2018 is the next Hands Around the Park event.

Jamie Taylor briefly explained about the St. Alphonsus Health Resources Center. The program was grant funded about 4 years ago (the grant is ending but transitions are taking place to ensure continued success). The program provides free health care for 30 days to individuals who are high utilizers of the emergency department for readmissions and chronic health issues out of their control. Over 2000 patients have been served by the program. The program helps to identify individuals gap in care and works with them to get their health care in line. The program has been hugely successful and recognized as a national program. It is very important to treat chronic health issues and mental health issues at the same time.

Ken Rush briefly provided an update on the Lifeways Recovery Center (LRC). The LRC is truly a rehabilitation program. 40 persons are housed at a time for 90 days; clients come from all over the state. Group and intensive education is provided; an individual's medical health needs are addressed; and individual counseling is done. The center recently received its CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) Certification.

Board President Mike Hanigan, and Board Directors Randy Jensen and Rachel Reyna shared their thoughts and appreciation for the work of Lifeways and the need for it in the community.

Chris Mosier-Chrysler shared information on the Compliance Department. The annual Compliance Work Plan is based on the seven Elements of an Effective Compliance Program as endorsed by the Office of the Inspector General. It is important that information is protected as well as shared appropriately.

Lacey Salinas visited about quality improvement and accreditation; this is a fairly new special program at Lifeways.

It was also noted that a pharmacy is now on site in the Lifeways facility on Sunset Drive. Having a pharmacy onsite will improve client access and ability to obtain necessary prescriptions.

Undersheriff Johnson and Mr. Goldthrope left the meeting.

Several clients of Lifeways programs and other staff joined the meeting; the clients shared their personal stories.

Ms. Serrano read the Mental Health Month Proclamation as follows:

**PROCLAMATION: MAY 2018 MENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong research that diet, exercise, sleep, and stress management can help all Americans protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

THEREFORE, I, do hereby proclaim May 2018 in Malheur County as:

**Mental Health Month.**

As County Judge, along with my fellow Commissioners, I call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Malheur County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses at all stages, and especially Before Stage 4.

The Court signed the proclamation.

The meeting recessed for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m. at the County Court Office in the Courthouse. Present were Judge Joyce, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Wilson, County Counsel Stephanie Williams, Eric Evans, and Larry Meyer of the Argus Observer. John Braese of the Malheur Enterprise later joined the meeting.

### **REQUEST TO INITIATE FORMATION OF RECREATION DISTRICT**

Mary Jo Evers met with the Court and requested the Court initiate the process to form a recreation district within the 8C School District boundaries. Also present was Ken Hart, Friends of the Aquatic Center Chair Megan Cook, and Juvenile Department Director Susan Gregory. Ms. Evers provided brief history of the matter. Ms. Evers attended the City of Ontario's budget meeting on April 24, 2018 at which time there was a proposal to eliminate funding for the Recreation Department. Ms. Evers requested at the April 25, 2018 budget meeting if the City truly intended to cease funding for the Recreation Department that the City continue to provide funding for a limited duration in order for the citizens to initiate formation of a special district. On April 26, 2018 the City budget committee allocated funding for the Recreation Department for six months (through the end of December 2018). Ms. Evers then started researching the process for forming a special district; she discovered it is too late to get the matter on the November 2018 ballot by initiative petition, and as such is requesting the Court initiate the process in order to get it on the November 2018 ballot. Ms. Evers has drafted a proposed Petition for formation of the special district as well as an economic feasibility study and district budget. Ms. Evers explained she would gather signatures in support of putting the formation of the special district on the ballot just as would have been done in the initiative petition process. The proposed district would continue programs currently provided by the City Recreation Department; additionally the district hopes to reopen the aquatic center and operate it sustainably and also operate the future splash pad (one city councilor has said if the district is formed the city will give the district the pool). Ms. Evers also explained that if the City's sales tax proposal is approved by voters on May 15th then there will not be a need for formation of the recreation district; the City intends to fund the Recreation Department if the sales tax proposal passes. Ms. Evers will request a resolution from the City of Ontario in support of the recreation district at its next meeting, May 15th as if the County will agree to initiate the formation of the special district it will have to start the process at its May 16th meeting. The proposed tax levy for the recreation district would be \$0.55 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, which is the same as the current tax levy for the Ontario Community Library. If the Court denies the request to initiate the formation the group will not be able to move forward with the process until the May 2019 election. Ms. Evers explained that more than 2,000 youth participate in programs of the City's Recreation Department and she believes there is strong community support to ensure sustainability of the programs for the youth.

Commissioner Wilson expressed that historically special districts are formed through the initiative petition process and this request is asking the Court to deviate from the way it has been done in the past. Commissioner Hodge suggested the citizens could raise the additional funds for the City to continue operations of the department through June 2019.

Mr. Evans, Mr. Hart, and Ms. Cook all voiced support for the proposed special district and requested the Court put the matter on the November ballot in order for the voters to decide on the formation of the district.

The Court took the request under advisement.

### **BUILDING INSPECTION PROGRAM**

Ms. Williams visited with the Court about the Building Program. The County's building inspection program is due for renewal starting July 1, 2018. Based on a recent Attorney General's opinion and new rules adopted by Building Codes Division changes may need to be made to the County's program. Alternatively, the county could choose not to operate the building program and rather the State would operate the program; the Court members strongly indicated that they do not want the State to operate the building program. Ms. Williams has drafted a proposed plan for the building program to become a County department, effective July 1, 2018. City/County Inspection Services will close out their books June 29, 2018; and the County will open its books July 2, 2018. The Building Official and Electrical Inspector would be County employees; as well as other staff. It is anticipated that the program would eventually be sustained by revenue generated from the program. Consensus was to submit a plan for a County Building Program to the State Building Codes Division. Ms. Williams will proceed with negotiations with staff at City/County Inspection Services.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session was called in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(a) - Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents with Judge Joyce presiding and Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Wilson present. Also present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Carolyn Anderson. No decisions were made during the session.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session was called in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(a) - Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents with Judge Joyce presiding and Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Wilson present. Also present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Adam Hansen. No decisions were made during the session.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session was called in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(a) - Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents with Judge Joyce presiding and Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Wilson present. Also present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Angie Sillonis. No decisions were made during the session.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session was called in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(a) - Employment of Public Officers, Employees and Agents with Judge Joyce presiding and Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Wilson present. Also present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Lindsay Atagi. No decisions were made during the session.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR**

Commissioner Wilson moved to authorize Ms. DuBois to perform due diligence on the number one candidate for the Health Department Director position and proceed with negotiations. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**COURT ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned.