



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2007

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County of Lake County
State of Oregon

WORK SESSION

The Lake County Board of Commissioners met in Work Session on Tuesday, January 2, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. The following members present: Vice Chair, Bradley J. Winters, Ken Kestner and Dan Shoun. Also present: Administrative Assistant Bob Pardee.

Commissioner Winters presided as Vice Chair.

The Board reviewed the Regular Session Agenda.

*Additions: Resolution #2006-108 Unanticipated Funds-Marine Fund
Signature Authority Discussion
Letter from Assessor RE: Cash Handling
Letter from Teamsters RE: Contract Negotiations*

Public Comment: None

Commissioners Shoun and Commissioner Kestner thanked everyone for attending indicated that they are happy to be in office.

Mental Health Advisory Status

Eric Shpilman introduced himself and explained the documents presented relative to the organization. He then gave an update on the Mental Health Advisory Board. He is hoping for direction from the Board at tomorrow's Regular Session.

Commissioner Winters asked who will need to adopt the new bylaws.

Mr. Shpilman indicated that it is up to the Board to approve and/or adopt these bylaws if changes are necessary.

Maxine Hoggan indicated that the County Commissioners must approve the bylaws, and an Advisory Board must then abide by those bylaws.

Currency / Cash Handling

Phil Israel, Lake County Assessor, updated the Board regarding the legalities of accepting hundred dollar bills due to fear of counterfeit bills being in circulation. There were concerns regarding personal liability if a counterfeit bill is received. He then indicated that there is a Federal Statute that requires that all legal currency be accepted.

Mr. Israel is looking for a policy statement relieving employees from personal liability if counterfeit money is received. He is also looking to know what relief is available to the individual taxing districts if counterfeit money is received for payment.

Commissioner Winters summarized by asking the Board to make a statement and/or policy in tomorrow's meeting.

Conditional Use Permit #1091 for Lance and Rebecca Richardson

Planning Director Lisa Bowler presented attachments to the findings.

Sheriff

Sheriff Phil McDonald presented the recommended request for qualifications from Lumbard-Conrad & Associates Architects (LCA). Sheriff McDonald is seeking permission to hire LCA to begin the process of reviewing the design and needs of the jail for Bond, Budget, Design, Public Information, etc.

Sheriff McDonald then indicated that his goal is to design a facility that would allow the existing staff to operate the jail so that he would not need to add more staff. Since 1989, the daily average has gone from five inmates to thirteen inmates housed per day. The existing jail is an original part of the construction of this Courthouse in the 1950's. He then reported that inmates with lesser sentences are consistently turned out before the end of their sentence because of the intake of new inmates.

Paul Havel indicated that Senate Bill 1145 had a negative impact on the County's ability to provide adequate bed space in the jail. Sheriff McDonald also indicated that other increases in inmate occupation of the jail are tied directly to Drug Crimes, Assault, etc.

Commissioner Kestner asked if this would address Juvenile issues. Sheriff McDonald indicated that it would not. He then indicated that there are several reasons for that, including the fact that his goal is to operate the new facility with existing staff. We currently have no Juvenile staff, so this proposed consulting firm can help assess the current needs.

Commissioner Winters expressed support for looking at all aspects of the legal system, including looking at the operational aspect of including Juvenile Services in a new jail facility.

Discussion followed regarding the cost related to the amount of prisoners housed; 1,145 prisoners cost Lake County approximately \$138,000 per year to house in Klamath Falls. This is completely separate from Juvenile costs and from additional costs for transportation of inmates to Klamath Falls.

Mike McArther from the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) asked if Lake County received any monies that were available from the State or Oregon when Senate Bill 1145 was put into place.

Sheriff McDonald indicated that he was not the Sheriff then, but that he believes that Lake County never applied for any funding that was available.

Mr. McArther explained how this worked previously when he was a Judge in Sherman County. He suggested contacting Paul Snider at AOC and Max Williams or Scott Taylor of the Department of Corrections for information on available funding.

Discussion followed regarding how Senate Bill 1145 has impacted the County, and how the County is funded from the State as a result.

Fifteen minute break at 10:50 a.m.

Meeting resumed at 11:05 a.m.

Sheriff McDonald reviewed the contract to provide the inmate telephone system. This contract has expired, and has been continued on a month to month basis. This system costs the County nothing; in fact, the County gets a 25% commission on the gross.

The new contract is proposed to be a six year contract because Securus Technologies is going to update the hardware and software to the newest, state of the art version they have. This will provide better tracking and follow up services. This will also allow the inmates to purchase a calling card, since the current system is collect call only.

Commissioner Winters asked if Legal Counsel Bailey has reviewed the proposed contract with Securus. He then instructed Sheriff McDonald to forward the contract to Legal Counsel Bailey, and to make sure that County Procurement and Bid procedures are followed.

Juvenile Crime

Mr. Shpilman updated the Board with an addition for tomorrow. It is a Request for Proposal for Juvenile Services.

Mr. Shpilman will bring Mr. Pardee the applications for the Mental Health Advisory Board. Commissioner Kestner indicated that he would prefer to see these positions advertised and not have people appointed from phone calls.

Business Department

The Board reviewed Resolution #2006-108 regarding the Dog Lake Boat Ramp Pass through dollars that are related to a grant that came from the U.S. Forest Service through the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. There is no liability to the County.

The Board reviewed various procedures regarding Payable and Receivable Signature authority.

Commissioner Shoun indicated that he is not against signing each check. He is concerned that he may be in various parts of the County and he doesn't wish for there to be any kind of hold up when checks are issued.

Commissioner Kestner indicated that he is willing to be set up with signature authority for payables, as long as appropriate tracking measures are in place.

By Consensus of the Board, Commissioner Kestner will have signature authority for Payables.

By Consensus of the Board, Commissioner Kestner will have signature authority for Treasuries accounts.

Further discussion followed regarding the frequency with which Payables can be paid. Recently it was twice a month in concurrence with the Regular Board meetings. Business Manager, Robin Drinkwater suggested that the Business Department would like to process payments more quickly.

Commissioner Kestner asked Mr. McArther how other counties do this. He indicated that the County's Department Heads are responsible for processing payments.

Road Department

Road Master Rick DuMilieu reported that in mid February, when the 115th Congress meets, there will be more discussion regarding the Safety Net. He is working on many scenarios with the Road Department in an attempt to foresee any issues that may come up as a result of this loss of funding.

Mr. McArther indicated that February 15, 2007 was the target signing date, but if it is not added before then, there will be another set of issues to contend with.

Discussion followed regarding the issues around reauthorization of the Safety Net, and how to best support the Safety Net issue.

Commissioner Shoun indicated that it is worth looking at two cash sources, without the Safety Net and using the Reserves, for the first year. He then feels that the Board needs to look at funding for coming years as a separate projection.

Commissioner Winters discussed how the Safety Net payment has allowed Lake County to operate at a reduced level over the years.

Commissioner Shoun indicated that a significant issue to support is the ability to increase the amount of timber cut in the forest. This will stimulate more revenue and economic impact than the Safety Net payment alone.

Mr. McArther will be traveling to Washington, D.C. soon, and he reported that the AOC website will have updates sometime at the end of the week.

Work Sessions

Commissioner Shoun asked if this was an appropriate time to discuss having weekly Work Session instead of just twice a month.

By consensus, the Board will meet in Work Session each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

Budget Committee

Commissioner Kestner suggested that the most recent Budget Committee be carried one more year in order for the new Board to have the experience of the sitting committee's assistance in this year's budget planning.

Discussion followed regarding new blood, new ideas versus keeping people around that have been on the Board for an extended amount of time.

Ms. Drinkwater indicated that the very first thing that needs to be accomplished in the Budget process is to appoint an Advisory Board. This will require an invitation to the public for interest.

Nuisance Issues

Mr. Pardee updated the Board with the implementation of how nuisance complaints are handled. Mr. Pardee then reviewed the existing issues and complaints.

*Six minute break at 12:25 p.m.
Meeting resumed at 12:31 p.m.*

Halls Safe

Commissioner Winters reviewed the contract with Halls Safe, and their request for a deed. He then reviewed what the State of Oregon uses as qualifications for a forgivable loan and terms that can be stated in order to use it for creation of jobs.

Commissioner Kestner asked why Halls Safe wants this forgiveness now and not at the end of the contract.

Commissioner Shoun asked why a company bringing in these jobs wouldn't just pay the full contract and then seek reimbursement at the end of the term of the contract. Commissioner Shoun indicated that he doesn't think that the County should be in the loan business.

Commissioner Winters indicated that a representative from Halls Safe will be before the Board tomorrow to answer these questions.

Discussion followed regarding the Halls Safe request, as well as general discussion regarding job creation.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Winters updated the new Board regarding:

The rotation for the third Wednesday of the month Radio Interviews is as follows: Commissioner Winters is to do January's interview, Commissioner Kestner is to do February's interview and Commissioner Shoun is to do March's interview.

The rotation for the North Lake Chamber of Commerce meetings is as follows: Commissioner Shoun is to go to January's meeting, Commissioner Kestner is to go to February's meeting and Commissioner Winters is to go to March's meeting.

The Board reviewed all the various meetings and Liaison assignments. They agreed that the Klamath Lake Education Training Institute (KLETI) & 911 Liaisons need to be appointed at tomorrow's Regular Session.

There being nothing further to come before the Board, the Lake County Board of Commissioners Work Session adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert R. Pardee
Administrative Assistant

Board Approval,

Bradley J. Winters
Vice Chairman

Ken Kestner
Commissioner

Dan Shoun
Commissioner