



Board of Commissioners' Work Session Meeting  
August 14, 2019 ~ 10:00 am ~ Room 214

8/14/2019 - Minutes

**1. Call To Order & Those Present**

Commissioner Boyd; Commissioner DeGroot; Commissioner Morris; Sandy Cox/Admin Staff; Jeremy Morris/Public Works;

**2. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting**

Commissioner Boyd approves minutes from August 7, 2019 meeting.

**3. County School District**

Glen Szymoniak, David, Renee Ferguson, Joelle Harris from Klamath County School District present. Commissioner Boyd and DeGroot explain why they asked district representation to be present today. Glen addresses the Board explains their need for the Crest property and prior discussions with Commissioner DeGroot, they were under the impression that the County was going to do a "land swap" agreement to also help out with future Public Work plans to expand the road and add sidewalks sometime in the future. Rene Ferguson explains that in 2017 their Board decided to make improvements to Stearns school so they started exploring their options which included potential expansion to the Crest property next to the school. Commissioner DeGroot further clarifies the idea behind the "land swap" discussions and square footage exchange. Commissioner Boyd indicates the County will need to have future access to the drain on the property so we can maintain it, will need an easement. Commissioner Boyd questions the money that Property Management put into the clean up of the Crest property and wants to know if Public Works was going to reimburse that particular fund? Jeremy Morris responds that they can not do that. Glen indicates he understands that the Commissioners need to do whats best for the County and if this deal cant happen he understands. Glen/David explain that they are on a time frame because they have to expend the grant funds soon and they would like to start the Stearns project in October. Renee asks about the width of the requested easement for the drain, Commissioner Boyd responds 20 feet. Commissioner Morris is supportive of getting the kids out of the moduals and in a building is willing to help out. Commissioner Boyd indicates that the reason they cleaned up the Crest property next to the school in the first place was because the property was a health hazard. Commissioners will discuss further and get back to them by next Wednesday.

**4. Klamath IDEA - Kat Rutledge**

Darren Rutledge, Kat Rutledge, Betty Riley/Klamath Idea present: Kat gives presentation regarding Klamath's economy/growth and how funding that Klamath County invested in Klamath Idea last year is being used. Reviews future projects. Asks for 20K in funding for a three year commitment. Commissioner DeGroot commends the presentation, would like more time to review the information and talk to Finance about where the funding will come from. Commissioner Boyd indicates that a three year commitment is tough as he and Commissioner DeGroot's terms are up next year and doesn't want to commit a potential

future Board. This will be added to the next Finance meeting for further discussion.

## **5. Jeremy Morris - Public Works**

### **1. FEMA Levee Certification - Railroad Levee Vs Flood Control Vs County Impacts**

Jeremy Morris/Public Works, John Barsalou/City of Klamath Falls, Nathan Cherpeski/City of Klamath Falls, Mark Willrett/City of Kamath, Joe Wall/City of Klamath Falls, Jarod Johnston/ODOT, Moss Driscoll/BLM present: Moss addresses the Board regarding FEMA's preliminary flood maps and the implications of the citizens in the flood plain. They have been communicating with FEMA and have been able to secure a temporary levy seclusion for the Union Pacific Railroad embankment along the river, elaborates on historical contract. Further explains process to get FEMA to permanently certify the levy. Is asking County, City, State to partner and take control of this levy. Jeremy Morris elaborates on the work that may need to take place as well as continued maintenance, will need a group of stake holders similar to a service district and funding. Commissioner Boyd asks why BLM doesn't want to work with Federal partners to take care of this? Moss responds that BLM is not in levy business, gives history since the 64-65 flood, mentality at that time was the land owners would continue the maintenance of the levy, BLM does not have the funding to take on this project. Commissioner Boyd indicates the County doesn't have the funding either. Further clarifies the area in question would directly impact State owned property on Hwy 97? Moss responds, yes. Commissioner Boyd clarifies BLM is here for informational purposes? Moss responds yes, we need to think about how to deal with this issue as we dont want to lose the temporary levy seclusion. Further discussion about FEMA's preliminary flood maps, implications and the land use regulations that the County will eventually need to adopt.

## **6. John Briggs / Chiloquin Ridge Riders**

Dennis Jordan/OSSA, John Briggs/Chiloquin Ridge Riders, Mike DeSchmidt/Forest Service present: Dennis addresses the Board, asking for funding to purchase a tractor/grooming machine \$35k to maintain trails. John and Mike further elaborate on the work that goes into maintaining these trails and the number of people/tourism these trails bring to the community all year long. Commissioner Morris believes this is perfectly suited for the Tourism Grant program. Commissioner DeGroot further elaborates that this Board really supports creation/maintenance of our local trails and the County has a process for these requests through the Tourism Grant Program. Sue Murphy elaborates on the cycle beginning September 1, 2019. John explains they are on a time crunch as this particular piece of equipment wont be around long and if had to buy it new would likely be 3 times the cost, is hoping the County will support this purchase. Commissioners like this type of tourism and what it brings to our community, but really doesn't want to go outside of the Tourism Grant Review Panel as they work hard, encourages the group to go through the program. John further elaborates on reasoning why they cant wait a month or two. Commissioner Boyd states would need to look for where the funding would come from if approved and will get back to them.

## **7. Betty Riley / SCOEDD**

Betty Riley addresses the Board regarding Klamath County applying for a CDBG grant for a housing rehab program. Commissioner DeGroot asks Betty to explain what the program would look like, Betty elaborates. Discussion about how the timeline is tight to get the application in for the current cycle. Commissioners are in support of expediting the process to apply for the CDBG grant this cycle, instructs staff to move forward with publication and hold the Public Hearing on August 27.

## 8. Other County Business

Commissioner Boyd had discussion with Nathan Cherpeski from the City yesterday regarding the IGA for airline funding. Amendment will be made to the IGA indicating the County will hold the bulk of the \$250k and when the City secures an airline the County will issue an initial 25K. As the money is used the County will replenish to keep the retainer at 25K. Mika indicates that the City Attorney is working on that change and will send over to her.

Commissioner Boyd met Bill Schmeck/Winema Electric at the Baldwin Museum this morning to look at the electrical panels. The County needs to put in another subpanel, he will get us an estimate.

Commissioner DeGroot brings back his idea of restructuring our management team. Commissioners Morris & Boyd would like to see the restructure on paper. Commissioner DeGroot will bring something next week.

## 9. Adjournment

11:45

Audio recordings of all proceedings are available at the County Commissioners' office. The meeting facility is handicap accessible. Persons needing materials in alternate format or communication access, should telephone this office at 541-883-5100  (voice/TDD) or the ADA Coordinator at 541-883-4296  at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Klamath County Commissioners' Weekly Calendar is subject to change without notice.

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