



Board of Commissioners' Work Session Meeting  
April 1, 2020 ~ 10:00am ~ Room 214

4/1/2020 - Minutes

**1. To Watch A Live Stream Of This Meeting, Click The Link Below.**

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

Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Morris, Commissioner DeGroot; Haley Huffman / Admin Staff; Jessica Chastain / IT; Marcus Henderson, Susan Campbell / County Counsel; Amanda Van Riper / Human Resources; Chris Kaber, Brian Bryson / Sheriff's Office; Kathleen Rutherford, via WebEx.

**3. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting**

Approved.

**4. Kathleen Rutherford / Older Adults Program**

Kathleen Rutherford addresses the Board regarding a guardianship program for older adults. Commissioner Morris asks are any of the partners are willing to have a financial stake? She also asked, is this an ask for a partnership or an ask of just the County? Ms. Rutherford said she wasn't sure but could find out. Commissioner DeGroot said it's a worthwhile project but he needs time to think about the funding source. He would like to talk with our DD Director to see if this might fit into his State funding. Commissioner Morris will talk with Mr. Squibb. Commissioner Boyd feels it is a good program and we need to try to help look after these people. Commissioner Morris said, the Board will do a little homework and discuss the finance piece at their next Finance meeting. She asked Ms. Rutherford to check and see if some of the partners would willing to help with the funding.

**5. Marcus Henderson - Union Negotiations**

Marcus Henderson addresses the Board. We received word back from 737 that they are on board with union negotiations for April 8. It will be via WebEx. Our labor counsel needs to reply to them with the ground rules, the Board needs to decide if they'd like media to be allowed in the negotiations. Commissioner DeGroot said he believes at some point they should be open but he's not sure if this round is the best. He's fine to keep things as normal as possible in this round but change things next round. Commissioner Boyd said it's the citizens money and he feels they need to know how it is spent, they should be open to the public and the media. Commissioner Morris asks, could the Board begin as business as usual and then revisit the issue? Mr. Henderson said, formal ground rules are not required but he's not sure if there's any kind of notice that needs to be given to the union that we're ready to open this up the the media/public. Commissioner Boyd said he thought it would be regressive bargaining. He said he was told you could close them but once they were closed, they were closed through the session. Mr. Henderson said he'd like to defer to Adam Collier on that. Commissioner Morris said she'd like an answer before making a decision. Mr. Henderson spoke with Mr. Collier and said once the ground rule is

laid, we can't change the rule. Commissioner Morris said in light of everything that's going on it's important to be spreading positive messages and be cohesive. She feels part of their charge is to uplift the conversation and she fears battling something out in the media presents an opportunity that during normal circumstances would be worth it but it's different under these circumstances now. Commissioner Boyd motions to keep contract negotiations open to the public. He said it will die because no one will second it. He said we have two that want to close it because of the situation we're in today and one that wants to keep it open. Mr. Henderson confirmed he has his answer to give to Mr. Collier.

## **6. BOCC**

### **1. Exception To Policy Request - Sheriff's Office (Continued From Admin Mtg Yesterday)**

Commissioner DeGroot said he feels we all agree that Mr. Fowler has done an excellent job over the last 6 months and has met and or exceeded expectations. He would like to propose leaving his seniority date at his hire date step 4 today and step 5 at his anniversary in 6 months. Sheriff Kaber addresses the Board. He said, he attempted to have Mr. Fowler start at step 5 six months ago. There was understandable resistance and he was started at step 3. Sheriff Kaber said he has really stepped into the job over the last six month, completed the training he needed within six months instead of a year, improved the job, made it bigger, participated in many things, etc. Commissioner DeGroot motions to allow the exception to offer an increase to step 4 to Mr. Fowler and for it not to change his seniority date so he would be eligible for step 5 at his one year anniversary date. Commissioner Boyd seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved.

### **2. Senior Center Roof (Continue Discussion From Finance Mtg Yesterday)**

Commissioner Morris asked if the Board reviewed the memo. Commissioner Boyd said he feels we need to do what we can to reserve the funds that we have. This project isn't slated until 2021 so we have a long time to decide if we're going to help this project. Commissioner DeGroot said, we have some immediate needs now and we'll revisit this once the crisis clears.

### **3. N95 Masks**

Commissioner Boyd said he feels the money should come out of Risk Management. Commissioner Morris said she likes that idea. Commissioner DeGroot said he received an email from Leslie, our Risk Manager and there is reimbursement money coming from SAIF so if the funds came out of her department it would be perfect. Vickie would like Mr. Fowler to take over purchase of the order. Commissioner DeGroot would like to have Mr. Fowler connect with the company to complete the order. Board was in agreement for Commissioner DeGroot to connect Mr. Fowler and the company.

## **7. Other County Business**



Meals for the Mission - Commissioner Morris said the Sheriff's idea, that she presented to the Board discussed yesterday, to use inmate labor to prepare meals for the Mission, the Board felt this was a great idea. Commissioner Boyd said, he spoke with Kent Berry yesterday and he has insurance specifically for this and they would like to work with Lt. Bryson. Commissioner Boyd asks how it would work. Lt. Bryson said the jail cook and inmate labor would make sack lunches on Fridays for the Mission to hand out to people over the weekend. He said it's the same meal they give to the work crews, approved by a dietician. Lt. Bryson said they will start the program next week. It will be about 160 sack lunches per week. Sheriff Kaber said, once the jail population increases and/or things calm down we will revisit this and it will come to an end. He said, because we have reduced our inmate population by close to half due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we have the food money in our budget and we are already paying the cooks. Lt. Bryson said we saved about 200 meals a day with the inmate population decrease.

Meetings - Commissioner DeGroot suggested holding all meetings except the Tuesday Business Meeting via WebEx. Commissioner Boyd said he thinks it is a great idea and the Board should put out a press release accordingly. The Board discusses having daily meetings to stay informed. Commissioner Morris asks do we want to recess this and open it back up Thursday or Friday and do we want to do it WebEx. Commissioner DeGroot said definitely WebEx. Commissioner Morris said she'd like to set a meeting for Friday at 1:30pm. Board agreed to recess this Work Session to Friday, April 3 at 1:30pm.

Budget Hearing Presentations - Vickie Noel asks if the BOCC would like Department Heads to present their budgets via WebEx or in person. Commissioner Morris said she prefers face to face but she knows these are times when everyone is making sacrifices. Commissioner Boyd said there will be at minimum 10 people in the hearing without having any department heads. He said he doesn't think that the Board has a choice, Department Heads need to present via WebEx. Commissioner DeGroot said we need to give our community partners on the Budget Committee the opportunity to attend via WebEx as well. Commissioner DeGroot said he feels it's important for the three of them to set an example to stay home and stay safe. Jessica Chastain asked that guidance be given to the directors that they be in their office to present their items because they have better internet connection in their office. The Board agreed to have Ms. Chastain send Ms. Noel and email to send out to Department Heads with WebEx tips and requiring them to present their budget hearing presentation from their offices to ensure the best presentation environment. Ms. Chastain will also create a WebEx tutorial to send out.

## 8. Adjournment

Recessed at 11am until Friday, April 1 at 1:30pm.

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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