



Board of Commissioners' Work Session Meeting
April 13, 2021 ~ 3:30pm ~ Room 214

4/13/2021 - Minutes

1. To Watch A Live Stream Of This Meeting, Click The Link Below Or Go To www.klamathcounty.org

2. Call To Order & Those Present

Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Morris, Commissioner DeGroot; Haley Huffman / Admin Staff; Amanda Van Riper / Human Resources; Brandon Fowler / Emergency Management; Jennifer Little / Public Health; Brian Bryson / Sheriff's Office; Rick Vaughn / Tax Collector, Property Sales; Aaron Hartman / Community Corrections.

3. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting

Approved.

4. Amanda Van Riper - Human Resources

1. Sheriff's Office Medical Staff Emergency Hire

Amanda Van Riper addresses the Board regarding the Medical Assistant position. Commissioner Boyd motions. Commissioner Morris seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved.

Amanda Van Riper addresses the Board regarding the RN position. Commissioner Boyd motions. Commissioner Morris seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved.

5. Rick Vaughn/Property Manager - Aaron Hartman/Community Corrections

Commissioner Morris said, I felt it would be beneficial to get the Board in a work session to start talking about the details and thoughts, comments and concerns on this. We probably have several months of some kind of meeting or feedback on this. Thank you to those who worked on the grant application. Commissioner Boyd asks, what will the hotel truly be used for, who will be there and how will we decide who will be there?

Commissioner DeGroot said, I think that is the discussion that we need to have, the questions we need to answer. Commissioner Morris asks Aaron Hartman to share the ideas he has so far. Mr. Hartman said, the vast majority of those room will be for supervision. There is 9 rooms that have kitchenettes so those are self sustainable so nothing needs to be done in them. The other rooms have a microwave and refrigerator and there is also a very large kitchen in the two bedroom apartment so as we do in our other transitional housing, that kitchen would be used to service those other rooms. As in our other homes, there is a shared kitchen and folks are responsible for their own food and

transportation. The folks that come immediately out of incarceration will not go to this housing. We have contacts with KBBH for providing training supportive employment, life skills, behavioral intervention and as they move through those trainings and become successful they will move to a more singular environment so if they move out to the motel, they will have the ability to take care of these things and they will have a job. This will bridge the gap between group living and your own housing environment for people that have questionable history so they can develop a rental history and so they can have sort of a lift up. I think we would need to look in to having the bus line extended out there but at the same time, as it's been said, you can walk anywhere in Klamath within an hour. In this living environment, we will expect them to be paying rent because they will be in their transition back to being a tax paying citizen of the county and so this is the next logical step in transitional housing. Commissioner Boyd said, most of the rooms will be for transitional housing? Mr. Hartman said, 4 rooms will be set aside for future pandemic or fire assistance. We typically run emergency housing beds in all of our other transitional housing situations and those will be available. KBBH has signed an MOU with use for possible use for mental health housing for folks, he'd like to have 5 rooms for that which would be in conjunction with Community Corrections. Commissioner Boyd said, so when someone moves in, the room will be cleaned when they move out and it will need to be cleaned when they leave. Mr. Hartman said yes, we provide the linens and bedding just as in all of our transitional housing, they come in with personal items only. We provide the beds and all that stuff came with this project which made it a slam dunk for me. Commissioner Boyd asks, how many people live in the hotel currently. Mr. Hartman said, nobody. Commissioner Boyd said, it's totally empty? Mr. Hartman said, yes. Commissioner Morris asks, if we had a catastrophic fire and needed more than the 4 rooms, would there be a way to somewhat quickly move your folks out to then quickly fill with fire victims? Mr. Hartman said, it's difficult to say, it would depend on where they are at in the transition. I keep emergency beds open in three of our transitional housing. We couldn't clear out the hotel but we could certainly make space. Commissioner Boyd asks about paying for expenses of operation and shared expense information he obtained from motel operation. Commissioner DeGroot said, as Aaron said, people will be paying rent. We will have to take a look at what an appropriate rent will be for each of those units. Commissioner Morris said, I don't think it's apples to apples with the expenses. Commissioner Boyd further expresses his concern about homeless and emergency housing. Commissioner Morris said, I view this as an opportunity to have a solution that is somewhat flexible emergency housing when needed and will look a little different based on what's happening year to year. Commissioner Boyd said, Public Health should pay for their room. Every single department should pay their way and stand in their own expenses. Commissioner DeGroot and Morris agreed that can be looked at and an interdepartmental agreement created. Commissioner Boyd asks about the RV Park. Rick Vaughn said, there are 13 families occupying 15 spaces. Commissioner Boyd said, what is the plan with that? Commissioner DeGroot said, we need to have a conversation about the rent. Mr. Vaughn said, we are charging the same rent they were paying. Commissioner Boyd said, I received calls on Friday that there was no internet and no washer and dryer. Mr. Vaughn said, do you want me to address that? That person left today and was 13 days in the rears in the rent. Both of my phones received internet outside the trailers and the washers and dryers are still operating. Commissioner DeGroot said, I'd like to try to set the folks up with services to help them obtain their long term housing goals. Mr. Vaughn said, we've talked with most of the people except for two people whom we haven't been able to reach them and one man who is in the hospital in Bend. One has bought property to the north and one bought property in Bonanza and that is the family with the Klamath Union student. On the mail, I'm not sure the Post Office and that we were even aware that they were flushing all the mail through the one address and

we're working on that now. Commissioner Morris said, I feel like helping people get to their next step without having a definitive date is my preference. Commissioner DeGroot agreed. Mr. Vaughn said, I'm also recommended to each one that they keep track of any expenses they incur in case there are any programs that come. He said, I would ask you, let's think about are we really saying no time limit. Personally I think that is a little difficult to manage. Commissioner Boyd said, I agree. Commissioner Morris said, you've gotten so far so quickly, what if we pick a date 3 or 6 months and revisit. Commissioner DeGroot said, I'm good with that and in the meantime, work with the folks to help them meet their goals and also work on what our plan for the RV Park is. Commissioner Morris reiterated we are coming in to help, we are not the bad folks. Mr. Vaughn said, we already have several that are plotting out their next stage now. Commissioner Boyd said, I know for sure, I haven't talked to Bill Gilmore, but he will come in and say the tenants need to provide indemnity to the County. Mr. Vaughn said, we requested that already. I ran the registration agreement by Bill Gilmore and CIS and they had no changes. I also asked him to reach out to insurers to ask the very specific question that could someone with an RV and no power utility get liability. Mr. Vaughn said, Bill has found no one that has anything available for that type of situation, but do have folks that have rental insurance out there. Commissioner Boyd said, I reached out to multiple septic companies about the septic system and have found that they may be in better shape than what I realized in the beginning. Mr. Hartman said, I reached out to septic companies as well and was told that it has been pumped on average 2-3 times a year. Commissioner Morris asks, should we get a list together of the things we need to address? She said, have we formally tagged Aaron with this in a meeting? I think we need to do that. Mr. Hartman said, the Board has not given me the authority. Commissioner Morris said, what if Aaron brings a one page proposal to the Board? The Board was in agreement for Mr. Hartman to bring the one page operating proposal to the Board next week or the week after. Commissioner Morris motions to appoint Director Hartman as the Project Manager/main County point of contact until the project gets off the ground for the next 3-6 months. Commissioner DeGroot seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved. Jennifer Little said, I already have a draft plan of our involvement and I will get that to you. Brandon Fowler said, I'll work with Director Hartman.

6. Other County Business

1. Governor's 10 Point Economic Recovery Plan

Commissioner DeGroot said the reason this is urgent is the Governor is calling for a foreword for funding and the deadline is Friday. What are areas where multiple people could work to strengthen the applications to get some of the dollars directed toward Klamath. There is a potential for a childcare/preschool, job skills, and this last one originated from a proposal I put together a few weeks ago, and that is to revitalize some of the existing housing stock. The Board agreed take some time to consider this item overnight. Commissioner DeGroot said, I'd like to have a conversation in the next weeks around what we will do with the ARP dollars.

7. Adjournment

4:49pm

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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