



Board of Commissioners' ***** Meeting Date ~ Time ~ Room

8/31/2021 - Minutes

1. Call To Order & Those Present

PRESENT: Commissioners DeGroot, Morris and Boyd; Vickie Noel - Finance Director, Michelle Carpenter - Asst. Finance Director, Amanda Van Riper - Director of Human Resources, Chris Kaber - Sheriff

2. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting

Approved as presented

3. ARP Fund Application Update

Vickie explained to the Board how many applications we have received thus far (21) and mentioned that we are still in the process of reviewing them. The grant application window closes today. Asked the Board if they agree to have the eligible applications forwarded to the committee ahead of time to review and if we can let the applicants know they will be asked to come in and do a short (10 minutes or less) presentation to the Committee. The Board agreed to those two items. Per the Board, we will not make any awards until we receive the final rule in case there are any big changes.

Vickie asked if there is an amount of money that they want to award through the committee process. The County has obligated \$1.7 M to date. Commissioner DeGroot doesn't want to obligate any money that we haven't received yet, so we still have around \$4.9 M available. His gut feeling is about \$3.0 M. Commissioner Boyd believes we should use the money for the greater good of the whole County. Doesn't feel we should use the funding for County expenses. It was decided to wait and see what the requests are and then determine after the committee meets.

4. Sheriff's Office Restructure

Sheriff Kaber's restructure was discussed. Commissioner DeGroot would like to start with moving the 2 Lieutenants to Captains, leave the Lieutenant positions open and not fill the two open Deputy positions the Sheriff currently has. He is not sure how we will fund this going forward. The current fiscal year has \$2.3 million budgeted transfer from the Road Fund. He is thinking about 2-3 years down the road. Kaber feels that he has enough in salary savings to fund the restructure. He explained how much administrative burden is being placed on Sergeants and that is not their role. He feels strongly that the Sergeants

should be supervising the Deputies in the field. He also thinks that not filling the Lieutenants positions after the Captains are in place is counter intuitive. Commissioner Boyd is opposed to not filling the Deputy positions. He states that public safety is his main concern and if we eliminate boots on the ground, we are compromising that purpose.

The Sheriff's office has 7 Deputy positions open right now. He will keep 2 positions open until he is sure that he has the salary savings to pay for them. He would like to do an external posting for the Lieutenant positions. Commissioner Morris agrees with this as these first few steps are a pretty good investment in our Sheriff's office.

Motion made to reclass 2 Lieutenant's to Captains at 8% over Lieutenant salary, fill the 2 Lieutenant's positions at 8% over Step 7 of the Sergeants scale, if Sergeants move to Lieutenant, fill the two Sergeant vacancies that are created, and leave 2 Deputy positions vacant. Fiscal impact for this motion would be approximately \$160,000. Commissioner Boyd disagrees with leaving the Deputy vacancies open. It is the same as eliminating them. He feels we need additional Deputies. Motion was amended to allow the Sheriff to come talk to the Board prior to budget hearings if he feels he has the funds to hire the two Deputy positions that are being held. Motion passed 2 - 1, Commissioner's DeGroot and Morris voted aye, Commissioner Boyd - nay. Changes above will be effected September 1, 2021.

5. Chamber Request

The Chamber of Commerce's request that County sponsor a table at the 100th Annual Awards Gala was discussed. The Board doesn't feel we should sponsor a table, but is willing to donate \$600 to the Chamber. Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to donate \$600.00 to the Chamber. Money will be paid from the General Fund Non-Departmental.

6. Grant Administrator - Interview Panel

Vickie stated that we have received several applications for a Grant Administrator. How does the Board want to move forward? Commission Boyd isn't interested in being on the Committee, but would like at least 5 people to be involved because of the number of departments the position will be working with. He feels that Public Health has their grants well in hand and would likely not need an administrator, but Emergency Management does need to move their grants to the Grant Administrator. He wants the departments to know that the County is operating as a team and this position will be working with all departments. It was decided that an interview committee of 5 be set up to do the 1st interviews. Committee will consist of Commissioner Morris, Sandy Cox, Amanda Van Riper, Jeremy Morris and Vickie Noel.

7. Current/Ongoing Finance Work And Projects

Reviewed Ongoing/Current projects within Finance. With Kirby's departure, the ARPA grant applications, the Tourism and Economic Development grant cycles opening and Financial Statement preparation, we are stretched incredibly thin.

8. Other County Business

9. Adjournment

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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