

INFORMAL SESSION MINUTES

August 1, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Commissioners’ Office Conference Room

PRESENT: Commissioners Mary Starrett and Richard L. “Rick” Olson present, Commissioner Stan Primozych being excused.

Staff: Laura Tschabold, Ken Huffer, Mikalie Frei and John Phelan.

Guests: Nicole Montesano, New Register.

* indicates item forwarded to formal agenda

Commissioner Starrett called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

* Minutes – see agenda for details.

* Contracts - see agenda for details.

* Committees - see agenda for details.

Public Works Update – John Phelan passed out the repair schedule for the DeJong Bridge project stating that the sections highlighted in blue reflect the bridge’s closure that goes through December. Mr. Phelan stated there have been some complaints about fire protection for the south side of the river, adding they will be addressing this concern with the Sheridan Fire Department. He discussed the Palmer Creek Bridge contract stating they are on schedule for construction to begin in the spring of 2018. Mr. Phelan shared with the board the open positions in his department; one for a mechanic and one for a utility worker. He discussed the work being done with vegetation in the county and the GIS personnel that was hired to do the mapping of all the county’s plants, native and invasive adding that Susan Aldrich-Markham has gone a great job with the project.

Mr. Phelan shared with the board an update on the striping project and Yamhill County 2017 road overlay project with Oregon Mainline Paving, stating they are planning on starting the week of August 21, 2017 and return to complete the project in October. Mr. Phelan stated Eagle Point Road is currently closed and has slipped about fifteen feet. He stated he is going to bring in a large cat and lower both sides of the road hoping to keep it from shifting further, but added that unfortunately they may need to ask to vacate or close the road permanently. Mr. Phelan discussed two roads listed on the 2017 MIP list, Caleb Payne Road and Loop Rd. Both roads were listed to be completed in house but his department is still about two months behind and would like to add these two roads to the Mainline proposal or go out for another bid. He stated they have the money budgeted for the repairs and he would like to see them completed. Mr. Phelan stated that the Stuart Grenfell Park Bridge that is county owned but is maintained by the Parks department has a cap that needs to be replaced.

Commissioner Olson asked that the consideration of submitting a Ford Foundation Grant application for Strategic Doing be put on the agenda as a non-consent item for further discussion. Commissioner Starrett agreed, adding that she felt this appeared to circumvent whatever process the county was moving forward with after issuing a request for proposal for an economic development entity and would be a redundancy in efforts. Further discussion continued regarding the county's role in economic development and grants that the county may or may not apply for including alternatives for fiscal sponsors.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Crystal Cox
Secretary