

County Administration Workshop: March 4, 2025

3:00 p.m. – Board of Commissioners Conference Room

Attending: Commissioners Andreas Blech, Chris Barnett, and Ron Smith; Kassie Austin, Recorder

Chair Andreas Blech called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Department Business

A. Information Technology

1. Mobile Data Terminal Docking Stations

Michael Sellers, Information Technology, explained that the docking stations are for law enforcement laptops. The laptops are for the upgraded windows version. Public Works will be placing the hardware in the vehicles, and IT will finish the installation of the technology. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the expense of the docking stations. Commissioner Blech seconded the motion. Commissioner Smith – yes, Commissioner Barnett - yes, Commissioner Blech – yes. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Back Up Software Licensing Renewal

Mr. Sellers explained that this is a cloud-based back-up for our county servers. This is a vendor that the county has been using. Mr. Sellers stated this is a critical back-up for cyber security. Commissioner Barnett moved to approve the licensing renewal; Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Smith – yes, Commissioner Barnett – yes, Commissioner Blech – yes. Motion carried 3-0.

3. County Personnel Policy; Article 9(3)(B)(e)

Mr. Sellers explained the policy. When a county employee is on leave, or their employment ends with the county, this policy states the board needs to approve assigned individuals access to the email account for the individual in question. Mr. Sellers asked the board how they would like to proceed with how the board approves access. Commissioner Barnett made a motion delegating the chair authority to approve the requests to access emails for individuals that are on leave, or their employment has ended. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Smith – yes, Commissioner Barnett – yes, Commissioner Blech – yes. Motion carried 3-0.

2. Board Business

1. County Vehicle Identification Discussion

Commissioner Barnett would like all county vehicles to have the updated logo on them. He would like the county to look uniformed. Director Dave Streeter requested that the forestry vehicles to be exempt. He had concerns about possible vandalism when his employees are working in the remote forest. Commissioner Barnett stated there should be exemptions. The board agreed that Commissioner Barnett is to do research regarding what the cost may be and bring this matter back to the board with more information.

2. Halting County Vehicle Purchases Discussion

Commissioner Blech stated he has concerns regarding the costs of vehicles. He would like the board to have approval when it comes to departments purchasing vehicles. Commissioner Blech does not want to impede the process of departments purchasing vehicles; however, he would like the board to be notified. Commissioner Barnett made a motion to halt county vehicle purchases and for those requests to be brought to the board.

Commissioner Blech seconded the motion. Commissioner Smith – yes, Commissioner Barnett – yes, Commissioner Blech – yes. Motion carried 3-0.

3. County Surplus Property

a. 77 acres Forest Land known as Martha Mine

Helene Lulich, Real Property Manager, gave the board history on the property, also known as Saint Peter's Mine. The previous board of commissioners discussed selling this property in the past. Mrs. Lulich stated the title company is not willing to insure the title on the property. The mineral claim goes back to 1890. The land transfer is difficult to find, as the county has owned it for the last 60 years. Dave Streeter, Forestry Director gave the history regarding the mineral exploration that has happened on the property. Mr. Streeter clarified that the mine is named Saint Peter Mine. Martha Mine is located on the Bureau of Land Management's Property. Commissioner Blech stated that this was just in informative discussion.

b. County Real Property known as Dimmick Campus

Mrs. Lulich gave an update on the property. This property has been on the market for a while. The board directed Mrs. Lulich to send information over to the board's office and bring this matter back to the board.

4. Transition Planning Decisions

Commissioner Blech discussed the voluntary resignation has taken place. Departments should not expect positions to be backfilled. Those positions will be vacated on Friday. There may be changing job descriptions, and other matters than may need to be taken. Commissioner Blech asked the board to delegate decisions to be appointed to one board member. Commissioner Barnett made a motion for the chair to have authority and implement and approve county organization, administrative, and personnel decisions during this time of transition on behalf of the board. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Smith voiced his concern over cross training. Discussion was held regarding placing a time limit on having the authority of making county personnel and administrative actions. After discussion Commissioner Barnett amended his motion to give the chair authority to implement and approve organizational, administrative, and personnel decisions for the next 90 days and can be extended as needed during this time of transition on behalf of the board. Commissioner Smith seconded the amended motion. Commissioner Smith – yes, Commissioner Barnett – yes, Commissioner Blech – yes. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Other: (ORS 192.640(1)...Commissioners may introduce other matters for consideration by the entire board)

Commissioner Blech stated he feels as though the county owned property at 210 Tacoma is underutilized. Commissioner Barnett is to do some research on the property.

4. Additional Subject Matters from Commissioners: (Commissioners may discuss any topic of interest to the general community)

Commissioner Smith would like to bring up the O&C on a future agenda. Commissioner Barnett would like to have a discussion on how to honor our veterans in a better way, with the potential for giving free park pass to the county parks to our disabled veterans. Commissioner Blech discussed Senate Bill 762 and the deadline to file an appeal is coming up.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.