

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

County of Lake

State of Oregon

WORK SESSION

The Lake County Board of Commissioners met in work session Tuesday, January 21, 2025. The following members were present: Chair Mark Albertson, Vice-Chair Barry Shullanberger (via Zoom), and Commissioner James Williams. Also present: Community Corrections Director Jake Greer; Facilities and Properties Manager David Berman; and Commissioners Assistant Tina Burneikis. Number of public present: 2.

9:00 a.m. – The work session was called to order by Chair Albertson. Commissioner Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions: None.

Deletions: Oregon Department of Energy's Energy Resilience Plan Grant.

TIMED ITEM

9:00 a.m. - Transfer Site Closures

Facilities and Properties Manager David Berman explained to Commissioners that since the change in residential disposal fee rates in April 2024, there had been an average of six to eight people per Sunday utilizing the transfer sites in Fort Rock and Silver Lake. The cost to the County to manage the sites was approximately \$300.00 per day. The average fees collected were \$50.00 to \$80.00 per day.

Mr. Berman suggested closing the Fort Rock and Silver Lake sites the first of April, 2025. He noted the Christmas Valley site could be open Wednesdays, making the schedule Wednesday through Saturday, to accommodate resident needs. He noted he had already been putting out flyers in the northern part of the county, and the staff manning the transfer sites had been talking to residents about the proposed change.

Commissioner Williams noted this would be a savings to the County of approximately \$10,000.00 per year. He stated he would like to have community meetings in Silver Lake and Fort Rock before April. He then stated he would conduct these meetings on his own.

Mr. Berman noted the communities of Adel and Plush were managing since the County closed their transfer sites.

Community member, and owner of Gary McCleese and Sons, asked if the local garbage companies could set up dumpsters at the transfer sites.

Mr. Berman stated the sites would still have to be manned, because people would throw away items that were not permitted if someone was not watching.

TIMED ITEM

9:15 a.m. - Lake County Community and Economic Strategic Plan

The timed item was moved forward due to lack of other business to discuss.

Chantal Dugied of Community Solutions Innovators (CSI) stated her non-profit was working to bring economic vitality back to Lake County by requesting funding from outside sources. She noted that she was working with Lake County Resources Initiative (LCRI) in a complementary role. She stated that LCRI worked within their funding scope, and CSI could search for funding outside of those sources.

CSI would be applying for a \$35,000.00 grant to fund planning analysis of the 14 identified population areas within Lake County. She noted they were searching for a strong core group to form a steering committee for the project. It was their goal to make sure all voices were heard and valued.

Commissioner Albertson asked what the grant was specifically for.

Ms. Dugied stated it was for operational funding for gathering information and compiling it into a report.

Commissioner Albertson asked what the intended outcome was of the report.

Ms. Dugied responded the object was to tie together all of the strategic plans from all partners in the County, and ensure they all then tied in with the State Strategic Plan. The hope was to have a valuable plan for stakeholders to utilize when requesting project funding. She noted the application was due February 28, 2025, and their intent was to have the first draft submitted to the USDA the first week of February.

Commissioner Shullanberger asked if \$35,000.00 was the full amount they could request.

Ms. Dugied stated \$35,000.00 was what fit the budget plan, and was not the full amount they could request.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Community Corrections Director Jake Greer told Commissioners the Department of Corrections had notified counties they could contract services with each other, but could not contract services back to the State. He stated this could help counties that take a large portion of funding off the top to provide services.

He noted there was also a proposed Legislative Concept to continue Oregon Health Plan coverage for jail inmates.

He also commended Corrections Work Crew Foreman Kenny Winebrenner for receiving the Jr. Citizens Award at the recent Lake County Chamber Gala.

LIAISON UPDATES

COMMISSIONER ALBERTSON

Commissioner Albertson informed there was a Bill being proposed in the next Legislative session to provide one percent of lottery funds to fairgrounds throughout the state.

COMMISSIONER SHULLANBERGER

Commissioner Shullanberger attended the Weeds and Watershed banquet in Paisley the previous week. He stated it was well attended, and that good information was shared. They had received \$4,000,000.00 per year for three years for stream repair and erosion work.

COMMISIONER WILLIAMS

Commissioner Williams noted SB #73 was being opposed by the Association of Oregon Counties. A Deschutes County Commissioner had proposed the restrictive land use bill after being leaned on by special interest groups. He expected the bill to die.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary McCleese, owner of Gary McCleese and Sons, told Commissioners the County roads were beating up his garbage trucks. He had recently spent \$17,000.00 to replace the transmission in one of his trucks, because the bolts holding the transmission had failed. He stated this was because the County roads were rutted and "washboard" due to poor maintenance. He stated he had never seen the roads in such bad condition in the 25 years he had lived in the county. His garbage trucks weigh 38,000 pounds, and the roads were beating them up.

Commissioner Albertson stated the County Road Department was doing their best to keep up with road maintenance throughout the County. They had gone from 40 employees to 14 in the last ten years, and were expected to maintain the same amount of road.

Mr. McCleese stated he may need to discontinue garbage service in some areas due to the road conditions. Mr. McClease stated he would be suing the County for damages to his garbage truck.

10:12 a.m. - There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Burneikis Commissioners Assistant

Board Approval,

Barry Shullanberger Vice-Chair

James Williams Commissioner

Chair