



9/29/2020 - Minutes

1. Call To Order & Those Present

PRESENT: Commissioners DeGroot, Morris and Boyd, Vickie Noel-Finance Director, Michelle Carpenter-Asst Finance Director, Dan Golden-Juvenile Director, Amanda Van Riper-Human Resources Director, Jessica Dale-Asst Public Health Director, Rick Vaughn-Tax Collector

2. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting

Not presented

3. Budget Implications Of New Union Contracts

Vickie, Jessica and Dan discussed with the Board the changes to the 737 union contract. Departments are concerned about vacation payouts, COLA increases, medical cap increases, 737 vacation vesting changes and the effect all of these things will have on individual budgets. The following fiscal year will also have a re-opener for salary negotiations following the results of the class & comp study. The reopener will have an impact on the 2021-22 budget as well.

We all discussed how difficult it would be to predict the amount of people that will take advantage of the vacation pay out and that item may need to be visited each quarter to determine if a budget resolution needed to be done. As for the other increases, the Board suggests Finance work with the departments to determine the fiscal impact the union contract will have within each fund. Bring the findings back to the board sometime mid-year and the Liaison commissioner will work with the department to determine whether there will be savings during the year within the personnel section of the budget or whether a budget resolution will need to be done. Additional money needed will come from the General Fund.

In future budgets, Finance will create a code within Workforce for "vacation payouts" similar to the Overtime and the Retirement Payouts already being used. It will be set up so a lump sum can be entered. The expenditure will continue to go into the Salaries and Wages line item within the GL. Vickie will give clear guidance to all Department Heads on how this will work during budget season.

Vickie also discussed the need for improved communications between Finance, HR and CC with Departments Heads when union contracts are ratified. Some department managers have indicated they were caught off guard when they read the new union contract on our website. This will be an upcoming topic in the next Administrative Advisory meeting.

4. CARES Funding

Discussed CARES funding and how to best utilize the remainder of the County allotment. It has been suggested a stipend to County Employees would put money into the local economy. Vickie reviewed the CRF guidance and feels that this would be an ineligible expense. Commissioner Boyd wants to know why the hospital and the Klamath Tribes has been able to give CARES funds to their employees if it is an ineligible expense. Vickie read from the guidance explaining workforce bonuses are an example of ineligible expenses unless considered hazard pay. Hazard pay means additional pay for performing hazardous duty or work involving physical hardship, in each case that is related to COVID-19. This guidance does not apply to most of the County employees, in Vickie's opinion. Vickie suggested Commissioner Boyd consult with County Counsel for his interpretation of the guidance. Commissioner DeGroot stated that he wasn't willing to take the gamble just yet because it could be upwards of \$1.0 M.

Commissioner Morris presented a letter from the YMCA asking for financial assistance from the County's due to losses related to COVID-19. They requested staffing: \$32,000, technology: \$7,500, parent F/A: \$75,000. Commissioner DeGroot made a motion to pay them for the staffing and technology, but not the assistance to the parents as this would need to be offered to all parents in the community. Motion passed unanimously.

A small business grant program was briefly discussed for all child care providers within the County. The "grant" above to the YMCA needs to be open to all other agencies. Vickie will work on getting the word out to the other providers if they need financial assistance for COVID losses. These types of expenses will run through the 2131 "Commissioner Misc Grants" with the COVID task codes.

Vickie shared the 4th round reimbursement amount with the Board. The request was \$333,956.00 for a total cost through 9/11/2020 of \$508,538.96. Vickie will come up with a figure of funds remaining for the Board after estimated costs for the child care project, refrigerator, and IT upgrades that have yet to be reimbursed.

5. PERS Rates 2021-2023 Biennium

Vickie shared the anticipated PERS increases for the 2021-2023 biennium. T1/2 rates will increase from 15.9% to 18.57% and OPSRP rates will go from 8.16% to 12.78%. These new rates will be substantial in the next budget cycle for the Sheriff's Office. The Board requested an impact analysis for 2021-2022.

6. Juvenile Department Overtime Expenses

Dan Golden presented the Board with anticipated budget shortfalls within the Juvenile budget. New 737 vacation buy-back provision \$8,320, holiday OT payments \$8,390 and converting 5 PTE to full-time \$50,000. These items will be in a supplemental budget in October.

7. Justice Court Revenues - Workshare Program

HR received an email from Karen Oakes asking if she can start the Workshare Program. Her department is having revenue loses as a result of COVID and she is looking for ways to decrease expenses. Amanda Van Riper researched the program and presented a synopsis. In short, employees would reduce hours and in place of the lost earnings would be eligible for unemployment benefits up to 70% of lost wages. The Board is supportive of the program, however, would like more information about how many employees need to be in it for the County to be eligible. Amanda will get more information and bring it back to the

October 6th Admin meeting.

8. Current/Ongoing Finance Work And Projects

Reviewed the current list of ongoing Finance projects.

9. Other County Business

10. 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.

305 Main Street 2nd Floor, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

E-mail: bocc@klamathcounty.org Website: www.klamathcounty.org