



10/25/2022 - Minutes

1. Call To Order & Those Present

Commissioner Henslee, Commissioner Minty, Commissioner DeGroot; Haley Huffman / Admin Staff; Vickie Noel, Nilda Pena / Finance; Brandon Fowler / Emergency Management; Dan Golden / Juvenile; Jeremy Morris / Public Works.

2. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting

Approved.

3. Status Of Emergency Management Budget

Vickie Noel addresses the Board. In closing the 2022 funds, I realized the only funds that came in for Emergency Management were the EMPG funds and the County match which left a deficit of \$92,833.81. We can't record revenues after August 31 in that year and after that the revenues become part of the next budget year. I've been talking with Brandon Fowler about why this happened. He provided an email about pending grants. Brandon Fowler addresses the Board, the State Emergency Management Department has been in transition over the last year and they are behind on our grant reimbursements.

Commissioner DeGroot said, on the Ready, Set Go, we haven't billed for it yet but it's from last year's budget. Mr. Fowler said, we didn't do alot for it last year and there's pieces of it across several years. For our previous fiscal year, even if the revenues had come in, we're still under \$40,000. Mr. Fowler said, we didn't expect the Keno money and we didn't budget for that much last fiscal year. Commissioner DeGroot said, what are we going to have to take from the General Fund to balance last fiscal year. Ms. Noel said, \$92,833.81.

Mr. Fowler said, my belief is the 76 that we still had pending and the 39. Commissioner DeGroot said, it's not 76, it's 53. Mr. Fowler said, right. Commissioner DeGroot said, so we'll make up some of that in this fiscal year but definitely not all of it so we will have to fill that with General Fund Non-Departmental funds, but some of that could be a loan to the department? Mr. Fowler said, I don't believe there's a gap. Commissioner DeGroot said, show me because I don't understand. Commissioner Henslee said, I'm looking at real money. How do you expect to make up the gap in real dollars, Keno aside? Mr. Fowler said, I didn't bring all of that and I should have. There was a small gap of about \$5000-\$6000 that we didn't have reimbursement money coming. Commissioner Henslee said, what do you expect this budget to be at the end of June. Mr. Fowler said, I expect we'll be \$5000-\$6000 out. Commissioner Henslee discusses line items. Commissioner DeGroot said, I still see a \$40,000 delta and you say a \$5000-\$6000 and I'm not seeing it. Mr. Fowler said, I didn't detail all the revenue just the reimbursements that are outstanding.

Commissioner DeGroot said, you can see where I'm concerned, this looks like we're completely upside down. Mr. Fowler said, I understand. Commissioner DeGroot said, are

you saying you have more revenue outstanding than what you listed here? Mr. Fowler said, yes but those are the only ones we're missing reimbursement for. Ms. Noel explains, in the \$80,000 federal grant revenue, there are other things besides his regular EM grant. We recorded it as unavailable revenue because the last two quarters came in too late to put in this fiscal year. There will be \$44,461.00 available in the current fiscal if we do a loan situation of the \$92,000. The \$44,461.00 belongs in 22 fiscal year but it's not in that fiscal year. Commissioner DeGroot said, if we were to loan Emergency Management the \$92,800. The department would be able to pay back the loan when these reimbursement came in. If that was a cycle that was allowed to continue, you'd be operating your department on a line of credit. Mr. Fowler said, yes if the reimbursements continue to lag. Commissioner Minty asks, what direction does the Board want to give? Commissioner DeGroot said, the \$92,800 needs to be setup as a loan awaiting the reimbursements. Ms. Noel said yes. The Board was in agreement. Ms. Noel said, it's very important that we bill within 30 days, it would be helpful for me. Mr. Fowler said, I typically do the reimbursements at the end of the quarter. Ms. Noel said to Mr. Fowler, Veterans have the same that you do but they bill exactly 30 days after the end of the quarter and that would be helpful if you do that. Commissioner Henslee asks, is it typical that are grant manager doesn't run grants in all the departments and is there some expected regular communication between the departments and Finance. Commissioner DeGroot said, every department runs their own grants. The Grant Manager for us is a new entity. I think we should setup a process for regular communication between Finance and the departments. Commissioner Henslee said to Mr. Fowler, I would highly encourage better communication between you and/or someone in your office and Finance. Mr. Fowler said, I understand that completely and we'll work on that.

4. Economic Development Fall 2022 Grant Applications

Commissioner Minty motions to accept the Economic Development Grant recommendations as presented. Commissioner DeGroot seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved.

5. Tourism Fall 2022 Grant Applications

Commissioner Minty expresses concern about Ski Klamath not being recommended for funding. Commissioner DeGroot expresses concerns about the Klamath Trails Alliance request already being funded through the Spence Mountain purchase. Commissioner Minty motions to accept the recommendations from the committee for full funding of the 7 entities. Commissioner DeGroot seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved. The Board was in agreement to further discuss the Ski Klamath and Klamath Trails Alliance requests. Ms. Noel said, we're on a really tight timeline on this, Marketing 102 is this week. I don't think Drew would need to come, but if you're thinking about funding Ski Klamath, to be on the safe side, we should have them come to Marketing 102. The Board was in agreement to encourage Ski Klamath to listen to this meeting and come to the Marketing 102 class.

6. Public Health - Funding Request From Opioid Settlement Funds

Ms. Noel said, Jennifer Little is in need of \$18,750 for medication and would like it out of Opioid Settlement money. Commissioner DeGroot said, I'd like to have a more broad discussion of the Opioid Settlement funds. It's annual payments over several years. Dan Golden speaks about the need for the Juvenile improvement building project million dollar match and the importance of Ms. Little's request for vital medication needed throughout the

whole system. Commissioner Minty motions to fulfill the Public Health request of \$18,750 for the 250 boxes of Narcan out of Opioid settlement money. Commissioner DeGroot said, I'm not prepared to second it. I'd like to have a conversation about the total dollars. Commissioner Henslee said, I'm not going to second it either. Not that I think your motion is bad, I think it's wonderful, but is this a one time hit? I'm 100% behind this and we've got to come up with this million dollars for Director Golden, but if we're going to nickel and dime this money we won't be able to reimburse the million dollar match with it. Commissioner Minty said, I don't really care where the money comes from, I just want to fulfill this request. Ms. Noel said, the total settlement will be approximately \$1.7 million and that includes the City allocating their funds to Klamath County. Commissioner DeGroot said, if we setup a loan with these funds for the Juvenile Department, what is the repayment time limit? Ms. Noel said 10 or 15 years. Commissioner DeGroot said, I suggest we allocate 100% of these dollars towards that loan until it's repaid and have a quick discussion about where to pay for the Public Health request and find out if it will be an annual request so we can budget properly. Commissioner DeGroot motions to setup an interdepartmental loan from the General Fund Non Departmental to the Juvenile Department for the required match of 1 million dollars for the construction project and allocate the monies received from the Opioid Settlement funds in their entirety until paid back. Commissioner Minty seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved.

Commissioner Minty motions to fund the Public Health request of \$18,750 from the General Fund Non Departmental for the Narcan medication. Commissioner DeGroot seconds. Unanimous vote. Approved.

7. LATCF Funds - Uses (Received \$6.0 M On 10-17-2022)

Ms. Noel said, my opinion is we should reserve most of this. We already have people asking for it. Commissioner DeGroot said, I agree and I think we need to have a conversation about this. We operate on a structural deficit year over year and this is really 12 million dollars, six now and six in the Spring. Since I've been here, we've had a couple of good fortune years where we didn't have to operate at a deficit. We've now received this, more good fortune, and this would allow us not to operate at a deficit for at least five years depending on what else comes in. With this and the work that we've done on the Road District with the PILT funding and the SIP agreement that we signed with the Swan Lake Energy project, if you combine all those we could have very well resolved the funding issues for Klamath County for the further twenty years and then we could start looking at what the other funding needs are and start going after that. Commissioner Minty said, my suggestion is that we not deep dive into this right now and instead have a Work Session or maybe as we start this year's budget talks, something more intentional. Commissioner Henslee said, my thoughts are that we give a million to the Juvenile Department for the building and put the rest in the bank and have an honest conversation about hiring a firm to write our 20, 30, 40 year strategic plan for the County, we consult with our citizens and identify who we are, who we want to be, what we are and where we're going so as we make these decisions, we can ask ourselves are these decisions getting us in the right direction. The Board was in agreement to have the discussion on the funds at a later date.

8. ARPA - Lake Ewauna Project

Commissioner Henslee said, I jumped on to a project that Commissioner Minty has been driving along. I think this project is important and could have a significant impact for many years. We had a meeting with KCEDA and the Tribe yesterday and I did bring up that we needed to know from them timely if they will support this. I truly believe this is a marquee

project that the Tribe and the County can work on. We are waiting to hear back from the Tribe by the end of the year. Commissioner Minty said, there are other avenues we could take this if needed. My thought is we'd keep the million allocated. Commissioner Henslee said, I think this is a win, it may take some scientific proof and other things that we need to address but I'm committed to it. Commissioner Minty said, I'm committed as well. The Board was in agreement to keep the million dollars allocated for the project.

9. ARPA - Building Permit Relief

Ms. Noel said, we set aside 2 million dollars for this and it came up that we might be able to get by with less. Commissioner Henslee asks for background on this project.

Commissioner DeGroot said, the conversation initiated as we were working to attract large scale builders into our community. We wanted to figure out a way to reduce building fees if they were to come here and put on some large scale projects and we wanted to be equitable to everyone else building homes. Since that time, we have one of those builders here in town and they are making headway and we've spent some of the money. It has been very well received by the public and I believe staying the course as far as incentivizing housing construction is the right thing to do. Those large scale builders will build in a way to spend those dollars in a quick fashion and I question if we'll be able to spend all of it by the end of 2026. Commissioner Henslee said, what if we leave it at 2 million and expand what it can be used for and include sewer and water if needed.

Commissioner DeGroot said, exactly lets figure that out. The Board agreed to discuss this further at a later date.

10. ARPA November Application Process - Decision On Amount Of \$\$ Available



The Board was in agreement to use the same application as last time and to not put a dollar amount limit on the requests. The Board was in agreement to schedule a meeting next week after the County Counsel meeting to further discuss the ARPA funds.

11. Other County Business

Road Fund District - Ms. Noel said, I had a conversation with Jeremy and Commissioner Henslee regarding transferring the reserve money that we have into the district and work with Public Works on when that money will be used and I wanted to see how the Board felt about me moving all of the reserve funds into the Road District. Commissioner DeGroot asked what's in there 25 or 26? Ms. Noel said, yes. Commissioner Henslee asks, and we'll receive 4 this year? I would like to move it all. Commissioner Minty expresses concerns about moving all of the funds. Ms. Noel suggested moving 75% of the federal funds to the road district until after the next budget hearings. Commissioner Henslee said, the County is only as good as our infrastructure so we need to protect that money to keep our infrastructure sound. The Board was in agreement to move 20 million into the district, move the 4 million that's coming into the district, and leave 6 million.

12. Adjournment

11:32am

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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