

MINUTES FOR THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
STATE OF OREGON, COUNTY OF JACKSON
WORK SESSION HELD ON
NOVEMBER 23, 2021

The Board of Commissioners' Work Session was opened by Commissioner Rick Dyer on Tuesday, November 23, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. by videoconference. Those participating were:

Rick Dyer, Chair
Dave Dotterrer, Commissioner
Colleen Roberts, Commissioner
Danny Jordan, County Administrator
Joel Benton, County Counsel
Alycia Hartley, Recording Secretary
Members of the Public and Press

1. *Input From County Administrator*
 - a. *Review Agenda Items for the November 24, 2021, BoC Regular Meeting*

Mr. Jordan reviewed the agenda (*Submission No. 1*) and there were no changes.
2. *Discussion of Attendance at the National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference, February 12-16, 2022*

Commissioner Dyer stated that the Board has attended the NACo Legislative Conference in the past when there was legislation they wanted to advocate for. He does not see anything pressing at this time for him to attend this year. Commissioner Dotterrer also does not plan to attend. Commissioner Roberts noted that she is on the NACo, Western Interstate Region, Public Lands Steering Committee, and is still advocating to have the 1995 Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy amended. As the early bird registration deadline for the Conference (*Submission No. 2*) is December 10th, she will reach out to NACo to get further information on the agendas for the meetings. Commissioner Roberts will notify staff of her decision to attend.
3. *Discussion of Recruitment for Jackson County Advisory Committees – Colleen Roberts, Commissioner*

Commissioner Roberts explained that she has been reaching out to try and recruit more applicants for the Animal Control Advisory Committee (ACAC), as well as for the Fair Board as there are two positions about to expire, one of which is on his third term. This member has indicated that he would like to serve again; however, the Board should discuss this and have a pool of people for selection. Commissioner Dyer agreed that recruitment is a good idea, and they should not treat members disparagingly. Mr. Jordan and staff confirmed that there is currently only one application on file for the Fair Board. Mr. Jordan provided additional information on the general process for the Board selecting advisory committee members based on committee bylaws and recommendations. He noted that committee recommendations to the Board are another good way for the Board to receive input from outside of the Administration Office. Commissioner Roberts said that it would be helpful to have a list of vacant positions and current applications; Mr. Jordan

said that this will be made available through the internal drive. Commissioner Roberts will bring the discussion back of the Fair Board members, and possibly the ACAC, in December.

4. *Discussion of a Request to the Oregon Health Authority to Extend the Comment Period on Proposed Amendments to Oregon Administrative Rules Nos. 333-019-0010 and 333-019-1005 – Colleen Roberts, Commissioner*

Commissioner Roberts explained that a public hearing was already held on these proposed amendments (*Submission No. 3*), which no one knew about, and the comment period expires on November 30th, which gives little to no time for the Board to prepare a comment. She said that the Rules seem to relate to defining COVID-19 immunity and including COVID-19 vaccinations in children's school records. She would like the Board to request an extension of the comment period, and noted that the Rules state that they will likely have more impacts on local governments and school districts. Mr. Benton provided additional information on the Rules. Following an additional brief discussion on the Rules and how they were noticed, the Board agreed to request an extension of the comment period; Commissioner Roberts will draft the letter.

Commissioner Roberts moved to submit a letter requesting an extension of the comment period. Commissioner Dotterrer seconded the motion.

Mr. Jordan noted that it may be quicker for Commissioner Roberts to sign on behalf of the Board. The Board agreed to proceed with the original plan for each Commissioner to sign the letter with their electronic signatures. Commissioner Dyer called for the vote.

Those who voted aye: Commissioner Roberts, Commissioner Dotterrer, and Commissioner Dyer. Motion passed.

Following the motion and roll call vote, Commissioner Roberts, Commissioner Dotterrer, and Commissioner Dyer each authorized the use of his/her electronic signature on the letter to be prepared, pursuant to Order No. 1-21.

5. *Discussion Regarding COVID-19*

Mr. Jordan provided an update on new positive COVID-19 case numbers, deaths, and hospitalizations. Commissioner Dotterrer asked if the County has an ethnic breakdown of immunizations, hospitalizations, and deaths. He said that, per the Oregon Health Authority, the Hispanic community is about 15 to 17 percent behind the rest of the population in immunizations, and he asked if there is a correlation between that number and the number of positive cases. Mr. Jordan said that the County does have that information, and there is an overrepresentation of the Latinx community.

Mr. Jordan spoke about a notice that was sent to all County employees with vaccination mandate requirements. He explained that, although there is a pending court case on the mandate for employers with 100 or more employees, the Federal contractor mandate is still in effect which affects the County. He provided additional details on how that mandate affects the County across all departments. He also noted that, if the courts overturn the stay on the 100 plus employee mandate, County employees will have needed to be informed in enough time to comply.

Commissioner Roberts spoke about an ongoing project, at the State level, for digital vaccine records. She said that many people have voiced their concern to her with what that would entail. She feels these are ongoing battles against American freedoms. There was a brief discussion related to digital vaccine passports, and Mr. Jordan noted that these are already in place in other states. Commissioner Dyer reported on attending a meeting with the Governor's staff, and explained that

he asked for well-defined metrics for when the mandates will end. He said that the State does not have a plan in place for this; his concerns were echoed by other Commissioners as well.

6. *Executive Session*

There was nothing for Executive Session.

There being no further business, Commissioner Dyer adjourned the Work Session at 9:45 a.m.

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Rick Dyer

Rick Dyer, Chair

/s/ Dave Dotterer

Dave Dotterer, Commissioner

/s/ Colleen Roberts

Colleen Roberts, Commissioner

/s/ Alycia Hartley

Alycia Hartley, Recorder

Approved on: 12/08/2021

Due to the existing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the need to promote physical distancing, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners is conducting meetings through electronic and telephonic means. On January 5, 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved Order No. 1-21 authorizing the use of their electronic signatures on Ordinances, Orders, and other documents. Following the motion and roll call vote, Commissioners Dyer, Dotterer and Roberts authorized the use of his/her electronic signature on these minutes of November 23, 2021.