

MINUTES FOR THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
STATE OF OREGON, COUNTY OF JACKSON
WORK SESSION HELD ON
DECEMBER 28, 2021

The Board of Commissioners' Work Session was opened by Commissioner Rick Dyer on Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at 9:01 a.m. by videoconference. Those participating were:

Rick Dyer, Chair
Dave Dotterrer, Commissioner
Colleen Roberts, Commissioner
Danny Jordan, County Administrator
Pete Philbrick, Senior Assistant County Counsel
Kacie Kinney, Recording Secretary
Members of the Public and Press

1. *Order Declaring a Local State of Emergency Within Jackson County and Declaring Emergency Matters Due to COVID-19. Order No. 233-21*

Commissioner Dyer read the Order by title. Mr. Jordan explained that the Board previously authorized and extended the ongoing state of emergency for the County in regards to COVID-19. He said that he is aware of a copious amount of emails coming in from citizens who are requesting a delay in extending the state of emergency to allow for a 30-day public comment period and to voice concerns against supporting the Governor's mandates. Mr. Jordan then began explaining that the County declaring a state of emergency does not do anything to support, or not support, the Governor's declaration of a state of emergency; it also does not place any restrictions on citizens. Mr. Jordan explained that, through the Codified Ordinances of Jackson County (JCCO), he has the ability to declare an emergency without bringing it before the Board, though the Board can disagree within 48 hours. He further explained that the JCCO governs how and why state of emergencies are declared. Mr. Jordan provided additional information about the JCCO and how it relates to the proposed state of emergency. Mr. Jordan provided multiple examples of how County funds have been redirected for emergency use under the previous state of emergencies and the effects on local government operations. Mr. Jordan said that, in the proposed Board Order to extend the emergency declaration, the expiration date has been left blank and he recommends an end date of June 30, 2022, which matches the end date on the Governor's emergency declaration.

Commissioner Dyer said that he has received many emails regarding the proposed state of emergency. He spoke about how confusing it can be to understand how a state of emergency works and also clarified that it does not impose any additional restrictions on citizens. Commissioner Roberts asked what would be required to make the emergency declaration not needed. She explained that when she reviews the local COVID-19 data, it does not appear that a state of emergency is necessary. Mr. Jordan recommended not assessing the COVID-19 data, but rather looking at the operational needs that will require additional resources to respond to the pandemic; it is the operational capacity that is needed. There was additional discussion about

funding that is being provided to the County to aid in the response to the pandemic. Commissioner Dyer added that the County has been responding to the mandates that were imposed on Jackson County. Commissioner Dotterrer stated that the State still has a statewide emergency declaration in place, so the local state of emergency provides the County with the flexibility to respond. There was further discussion about the effects that not declaring a local state of emergency would have on the County. Commissioner Roberts expressed that if people want to get vaccinated or tested for COVID-19, they can do that; however, the data does not support a state of emergency. Commissioner Dyer asked how ending the state of emergency would improve people's lives. Mr. Jordan said that he believes there will be detrimental effects by not extending the state of emergency. He also clarified that the Board could terminate the state of emergency at any time.

Commissioner Dotterrer made a motion to approve Order No. 233-21, as read, with an expiration date of June 30, 2022. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion.

There was an additional discussion about the expiration date of the state of emergency. Commissioner Roberts proposed only extending the state of emergency for 30 days. Commissioner Dyer felt it was reasonable to set an expiration date of 60 or 90 days.

Commissioner Dotterrer amended his motion to approve Order No. 233-21, as read, with an expiration date of March 31, 2022.

Mr. Jordan provided additional information about the state of emergency and how it affects the County. There was additional discussion about the expiration date to be placed on the state of emergency.

Commissioner Dotterrer withdrew the original motion to approve Order No. 233-21, as read, with an expiration date of June 30, 2022. There were no objections.

Commissioner Dotterrer clarified his motion to approve Order No. 233-21, as read, with an expiration date of March 31, 2022. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion. Those who voted aye: Commissioner Dotterrer and Commissioner Dyer. Those who voted nay: Commissioner Roberts. Motion passed.

Following the motion and roll call vote, Commissioner Dotterrer and Commissioner Dyer each authorized the use of his electronic signature on Order No. 233-21, pursuant to Order No. 1-21; Commissioner Roberts did not.

2. *Discussion Regarding COVID-19*

Mr. Jordan provided an update on the COVID-19 vaccination and testing site located at the Jackson County Expo, which is currently closed due to weather. He went on to say that the vaccination clinic will be closed indefinitely at the Expo, and will soon reopen as a walk-thru clinic located at The Merrick at the Commons.

3. *Executive Session*

There was nothing for Executive Session.

There being no further business, Commissioner Dyer adjourned the Work Session at 9:52 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/ Kacie Kinney
Kacie Kinney, Recorder
Approved on: 01/12/2022

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 December 28, 2021.