APPROVED BY ORDER #3-20-80

MINUTES OF THE
JOINT WORK SESSION
WITH NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL
AND
LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
6:00 PM, FEBRUARY 12, 2020
NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM A

DISCUSSION ITEMS
A. Introductions
Chair Jacobson convened the informal meeting at 6:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioner Hunt, Commissioner Hall, County Counsel Wayne Belmont, Public Information Officer Casey Miller, and Recorder Kristi Peter. Newport City Council representatives included Mayor Dean Sawyer, Councilors Cynthia Jacobi, Ryan Parker, David Allen, Dietmar Gobel, and City Manager, Spencer Nebel and Community Development Director, Derek Tokos.

B. Winter Warming Shelter/Update on County Commons
- Wayne Belmont, County Counsel, reported the County received a request from the City of Newport to provide funding for a homelessness project to provide a cost share for portable toilets and a shower van; this request is currently under review by Commissioner Jacobson. This is the second request the County has received; Lincoln County has approved a request from Lincoln City to provide funds for transitional housing units. Wayne reported the County intends to find funding to continue these collaborative efforts into the future.
- Counsel Belmont noted a need for a permanent location for the winter warming shelter as the Commons has been a temporary solution and will not be available after this winter.
  o Cynthia Jacobi noted the new Homelessness Task Force has not identified short or long-term solutions for coming winters.
  o Commissioner Jacobson noted the collaborative efforts of CHANCE and the Lincoln City Warming Shelter and added the City of Siletz is potentially hosting a warming shelter in their Community Center and Waldport has erected Conestoga huts.
  o Ryan Parker inquired about state level funding. Derek Tokos referenced HB4001 in the 2020 regular session aimed at emergency shelters.

C. Housing Rehabilitation
- Counsel Belmont noted available revolving funds acquired through Community Development Block Grants, a Community Services Consortium (CSC) program.
  o Mr. Tokos noted $600,000 is available as of June 2018, the remaining $2.1 million is currently in loan status.
  o Counsel Belmont reported the CSC has completed a Request for Proposal to contract services with the nonprofit, Development Northwest (DevNW) and reviewed services they provide. Lincoln County would be involved with a Linn, Benton, Lincoln County rehabilitation program.

Lincoln County Board of Commissioners
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o Mr. Tokos reported the City has a meeting scheduled with the organizations and would require new intergovernmental agreements to proceed.

D. Marijuana Tax Program and /Prevention and Tobacco Retail Licensing Update
- Counsel Belmont reported the County is ready to propose the tobacco retail licensing ordinance to city councils. The County will ask cities to apply the ordinance within their city limits, as the County would not be able to implement the program without city buy in. There are roughly 75-80 tobacco retailers in the County; the goal of the program is to educate retailers for compliance.
- Commissioner Hunt noted Lincoln County has the highest rate of tobacco use in the State.
- Councilman Parker noted cigarettes are the most littered item and inquired if littering would be addressed in the program or if the County would purchase cigarette receptacle tubes.
  o Counsel Belmont noted the County is smoke free and does not want to encourage the use of smoking on its property by providing receptacles.
- Counsel Belmont reported the County now has a marijuana education and prevention program in place targeted at children. The program is scale able and with city contributed funding activities may be increased. Council Belmont noted the County intends to make a request for funding from the City and will schedule a presentation before the council. Counsel Belmont noted the state licensing program handles retailer compliance and enforcement.

E. Concern Related to the Slide Block at Jump-off Joe
- Dean Sawyer stated concerns are related to the county trail and concrete remnants.
  o Counsel Belmont relayed a brief history of a condominium built in the area and reported the County hired H.G. Schlicker and Associates to inspect the area. The County continues to monitor the area on a regular basis as the foundation has been in a dangerous state for over 30 years.
- Mr. Tokos reported Schlicker recommended posting warning signs and demolition of the abandoned foundation; David Allen clarified the report recommendations were provided in April 2019.
- Mr. Tokos noted the geological permitting process for the foundation removal.
  o Counsel Belmont emphasized the expense of the removal and lack in County resources.
- Councilman Parker noted active transient camps in the area.
- Counsel Belmont reported the County will be having discussions with the City regarding the transfer of properties that may be best suited for either jurisdiction.
- Mr. Tokos noted FEMA funding that may be available if the site is further compromised.
- Counsel Belmont noted the trail in the area has been restored.
Councilman Parker requested increased signage indicating the trail to the public.

F. Update on County Commons
   - Counsel Belmont reported the animal shelter situation impacted plans for the reconstruction of the Common’s existing facilities and final determinations need to be made for the animal shelter prior to proceeding with the rebuild. In the interim, the County is in the process of exploring financing options.
     - Councilman Parker reported receiving a lot of feedback from people in Newport that favor the animal shelter be rebuilt in its current location, rather than at the airport.
     - Councilman Allen inquired about the County proceeding with the emergency services and transit operations on the East side of Harney, noting it will require Urban Renewal funding.
       - Counsel Belmont responded the Transportation System Plan will have an impact, but the County has not yet heard if they can proceed.
       - Commissioner Hunt noted the County has the resources to build the Emergency Services/Transit Center, but not yet the Animal Shelter or other parts of the project.

G. Farmers Market
   - Councilman Allen reported the Council has received communication from the Farmer’s Market concerning future availability of the Commons.
     - Counsel Belmont reported the County cannot guarantee space for the Farmer’s Market during the next winter and Commissioner Jacobson noted the County is unsure if the building used for the Farmer’s Market and Warming Shelter will still exist at that point in time and requested users look for alternative sites now.
     - Councilwoman Jacobi reported the warming shelter is used by 35-60 individuals a night which makes finding a location difficult.

H. Economic Development
   - Counsel Belmont reported the County has the opportunity to reexamine Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County and will be facilitating discussions for visioning a new approach.
   - Commissioner Hunt noted, with additional funding from cities, there is the ability to create a position focused on housing.
   - Councilman Allen noted, in the past, the city budgets funds for the Chamber of Commerce for economic development, though it may be something to review.

I. Adjournment
The joint session adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

These meeting minutes are approved on this 18\textsuperscript{th} day of March 2020.

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\textbf{LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS}
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KAETY JACOBSON & DOUG HUNT & CLAIRE HALL \\
Chair & Commissioner & Commissioner \\
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