

**WEEKLY BUSINESS SESSION – February 3, 2016**

9:00 a.m. – Anne G. Basker Auditorium  
600 N.W. Sixth Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Present: Cheryl Walker, Chair; Keith Heck, Vice-Chair; and Simon Hare, Commissioner; Wendy Watkins, Recorder

---

*These are meeting minutes only. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words.*

---

Pursuant to notice through the media and in conformance with the Public Meeting Law, Cheryl Walker, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Items discussed were as follows:

**1. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES:**

The Board announced the following employees not in attendance for their years of service:

Pamela Crothers - Juvenile Justice - 20 Years  
Julie Farris - Community Corrections - 20 Years  
Deanna Pratt – Finance - 15 Years  
Dan Mock - Public Works - 10 Years  
Gabriel Snodgrass - Assessor - 10 Years  
Lynn Still – Forestry - 10 Years

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS IN CONSIDERATION OF:**

**BOARD DECISIONS UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS WERE MADE AFTER PUBLIC COMMENT WAS RECEIVED**

- a. Approval of Order No. 2016-002; In the Matter of Administrative Policies and Procedures for Josephine County for the Purpose of Conducting Business on a Daily Basis: Personnel Policy** *(One original Order filed with the County Clerk)*

JJ Scofield, Human Resources Director, advised the State of Oregon recently passed a law that mandates all businesses that have 10 or more employees provide sick leave for all of their staff. This policy will put Josephine County in compliance with the new Oregon law and provide sick leave to employees that do not currently qualify.

- b. Approval of Order No. 2016-003; In the Matter of Establishing a Policy to Encourage Entrepreneurs and Economic Development by Allowing Marijuana Processing in the Commercial Zones of Josephine County** *(One original Order filed with the County Clerk)*

Dennis Lewis, Planning Director, said currently our Rural Land Development Code has a number of listed permitted uses for the rural commercial zones and community commercial zones. One of those listed permitted uses is meat processing which is in the category of agriculture products processing. The code allows for the Planning Director to make “similar use determinations” if a specific land use is not elsewhere listed in the code and seems to match up with the characteristics of a use in a zone, the Planning Director is authorized to say it can be permitted. Currently if we have a marijuana processor that wants to locate in a rural commercial/community commercial zone they could fill out an application and the Planning Director, on an individual basis, can make a “similar use determination” and allow it to go forward. Through discussions with the Board, rather than do this on an individual basis, the thought was to do a blanket policy and say it is the policy of the Board to make that “similar use determination” so that it can happen in all of the rural commercial/community zones.

**3. REQUESTS/COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS:** *(Each person will be given three (3) minutes to speak)*

Larry Ford, Grants Pass, spoke in support of Order No. 2016-003.

Dr. Christine Gardiner, Josephine County, spoke about being proud to be an alpaca farmer and cannabis farmer.

Ray Smith, Cave Junction, spoke about how the protest in Harney County was an act of civil disobedience.

Bruce McFarland, Grants Pass, spoke about his dissatisfaction with taxing non-profit organizations.

Joseph Rice, Grants Pass, spoke about the right to protest as long as it is peacefully done.

Larry West, Grants Pass, spoke about Measure 91.

Judy Ahrens, Josephine County, spoke about socialism.

Sandi Cassanelli, Merlin, asked the Board to speak on the projects they are currently working on with the State.

Brad Converse, Grants Pass, would like clarification on the invoice for \$77,000 from the Grants Pass Water Lab.

Stuart Senate, Grants Pass, would like the Board to allow more public comment.

Laurie Johansen, Josephine County, would like clarification on the Grants Pass Water Lab invoice totaling \$77,000.

Mark Seligman, Selma, spoke in support of medical marijuana growers and civil liberties.

Dale Matthews, Grants Pass, announced the names of candidates that are running for office.

Eric Schaffsma, Grants Pass, spoke about the extensive scientific water study that was done by the Grants Pass Water Lab.

Viken Nokhoudian, Josephine County, spoke about his independent water testing and that he did not find arsenic.

**Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 2(a)**

Commissioner Hare made a motion to approve Order No. 2016-002; In the Matter of Administrative Policies and Procedures for Josephine County for the Purpose of Conducting Business on a Daily Basis: Personnel Policy, seconded by Commissioner Heck. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Hare – yes, Commissioner Heck – yes, and Commissioner Walker – yes.

**Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 2(b)**

Commissioner Hare made a motion to approve Order No. 2016-003; In the Matter of Establishing a Policy to Encourage Entrepreneurs and Economic Development by Allowing Marijuana Processing in the Commercial Zones of Josephine County, seconded by Commissioner Heck. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Hare – yes, Commissioner Heck – yes, and Commissioner Walker – yes.

**4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR:**

a. **Minutes** (Draft minutes are available for viewing in the Board's Office)

**General Discussion – January 19, 2016**

**Weekly Business Session – January 20, 2016**

b. **Resolution No. 2016-012; In the Matter of the Chempack Program** (One original Resolution filed with the County Clerk)

c. **Connex Information System Inc. Termination of Contract** (One original Termination Letter filed with the County Clerk and three original Letters returned to Legal Counsel)

**Board Discussion and Action:**

Commissioner Hare made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar Agenda Items 4(a) through 4(c) as listed, seconded by Commissioner Heck. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 3-0; Commissioner Hare – yes, Commissioner Heck – yes, and Commissioner Walker – yes.

**5. OTHER: (ORS 192.640(1))** “. . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.”)

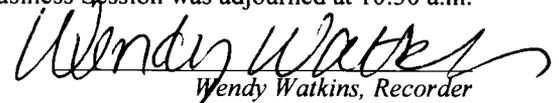
None reported.

**6. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Hare gave his condolences to Jack Swift's family on his passing.

Commissioner Heck announced open advisory board positions.

Weekly Business Session was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

  
Wendy Watkins, Recorder