

WEEKLY BUSINESS SESSION – February 4, 2015

9:00 a.m. – Anne G. Basker Auditorium

600 N.W. Sixth Street, Grants Pass, OR 97526

Present: Keith Heck, Chair; and Simon Hare, Commissioner (Cherryl Walker, Vice Chair, was unavailable); Terri Wharton, 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, Keith Heck, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Items discussed were as follows:

1. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES:

The Board recognized the following employees for their years of service with the County.

Julien Silva, Public Works, 10 Years

Commissioner Hare presented Julien Silva with his 10 year pin. Rob Brandes, Public Works Director, explained Mr. Silva's job duties and responsibilities and said he appreciates his attitude because he always has a smile on his face.

Justin Fimbres, Public Health, 10 Years

Commissioner Heck presented Diane Hoover with Justin Fimbres' pin as he was out ill. Ms. Hoover said Mr. Fimbres was a Sanitarian for the County and was responsible for restaurant inspections and water quality.

Joanne Jett, Public Health, 25 Years

Commissioner Heck said it was a privilege to present Joanne Jett with her 25 year pen and certificate and discussed the importance of having long term employees.

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

Mario Martinez, Assessor's Office, 5 Years

Katherine Kirkpatrick, Treasury Office, 15 Years

Tyler Wilhelm, Information Technology, 25 Years

2. PRESENTATION(S): PowerPoint Veterans Services (Shipley)

Lisa Shipley, Veteran Services Officer, gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Board on services the Josephine County Veterans Office provides to veterans (**Exhibit A – Veteran Services Josephine County**). Ms. Shipley also discussed the music therapy group she was involved with for the veterans and announced the Stand Up Event on Friday at 8:00 a.m. at the Fairgrounds.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS IN CONSIDERATION OF:

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

a. Approval of Request for Position Change in Sheriff's Office (*One original Position Requisition returned to Human Resources*)

JJ Scofield, Human Resources Director, advised the Sheriff was looking to make some changes and improvements by eliminating the Captain's position and replacing it with a Lieutenant to oversee patrols and administration and to create a temporary Sergeant position to facilitate the functions of the Jail.

b. Approval of Request for Position Reclassification: VA Program Manager (*One original Position Requisition returned to Human Resources*)

JJ Scofield, Human Resources Director, explained the VA Program Manager pay grade was significantly lower than other department managers and recommended reclassifying the position from a NU13 to a NU18.

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

Sandi Cassanelli, Merlin, spoke in opposition to the position reclassification of the Veterans Program Manager.

Dale Matthews, Grants Pass, spoke in opposition to the position reclassification of the Veterans Program Manager.

Mark Gatlin, Grants Pass, spoke about serious gaps and delays in the Veterans Administration system.

Judy Ahrens, Josephine County, read an article from a newspaper and spoke in opposition to the proposed tax levy.

Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 3(a)

Commissioner Hare made a motion to approve the Request for Position Change in Sheriff's Office, seconded by Commissioner Heck. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 2-0; Commissioner Hare – yes and Commissioner Heck – yes.

Board Discussion and Action – Agenda Item 3(b)

Commissioner Hare made a motion to approve the Request for Position Reclassification: VA Program Manager, seconded by Commissioner Heck. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 2-0; Commissioner Hare – yes and Commissioner Heck – yes.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. **Approval of Minutes (Draft minutes are available for viewing in the Board's Office)**
County Administration Workshop – January 8, 2015
County Administration Workshop – January 15, 2015
General Discussion – January 20, 2015
Weekly Business Session – January 21, 2015
Executive Session (Open Session) – January 21, 2015
General Discussion – January 22, 2015
- b. **Revertible Cul-De-Sac Easement Termination** *(One original Easement Termination returned to Legal Counsel)*
- c. **Resolution No. 2015-005; In the Matter of an Appointment to the Josephine County Board of Health** *(One original Resolution filed with the County Clerk)*
- d. **Resolution No. 2015-007; In the Matter of an Appointment to the Josephine County Budget Committee** *(One original Resolution filed with the County Clerk)*
- e. **Order No. 2015-004; In the Matter of Designation of the Josephine County Budget Officer** *(One original Order filed with the County Clerk)*

Board Discussion and Action:

Commissioner Hare made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Agenda Items 5(a) through 5(e) as listed, seconded by Commissioner Heck. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 2-0; Commissioner Hare – yes and Commissioner Heck – yes.

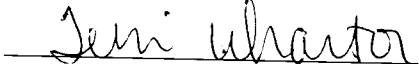
6. **OTHER: (ORS 192.640(1))** “. . . notice shall include a list of the principal subjects anticipated to be considered at the meeting, but this requirement shall not limit the ability of a governing body to consider additional subjects.”)

7. MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Hare announced the celebratory event at 1:30 p.m. on February 5, 2015 to commemorate the process of the Dimmick Tower, and to advise the public of possible redevelopment plans for the property. He mentioned Congressman Walden would be holding a town hall on February 6, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Anne Basker Auditorium and the Youth Tree Plant taking place on February 5-7, 2015.

Commissioner Heck discussed the value of Rogue Community College in Josephine County and encouraged people to contact them to provide a consultation regarding educational options. He read a letter the Board received from the YMCA regarding the improvements they have made to the facility.

Weekly Business Session was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.


Terri Wharton, Recorder

Entered into record:

Exhibit A – Veteran Services Josephine County

Veteran Services Josephine County

Serving Veterans since 1944

MISSION:

We are committed to ensuring professionalism, sound advocacy, consistency and protection for all Veterans and their dependents seeking benefits and aid within our community

EXHIBIT A
WBS 2/4/15

Veterans Administration

Health Division (VHA)

Benefits Division (VBA)

Cemetery Division (NCA)

Service Officers/Benefits Division

CVSO's are accredited representatives as defined in 38 C.F.R 14.629-14.632 for the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of claims before the DVA.

Benefits Division is responsible for making decisions on SERVICE CONNECTED disability claims, NON SERVICE CONNECTED PENSION claims, EDUCATION, DIC & WP claims and LIFE INSURANCE determinations.

The Josephine County Veteran Service Office specializes in representing Veterans through the complex claiming process at the VARO and BVA Level

WE DEFEND THOSE WHO FOUGHT FOR OUR FREEDOM

CVSO WORKLOAD

300-325 Clients per month; 2350 active claims

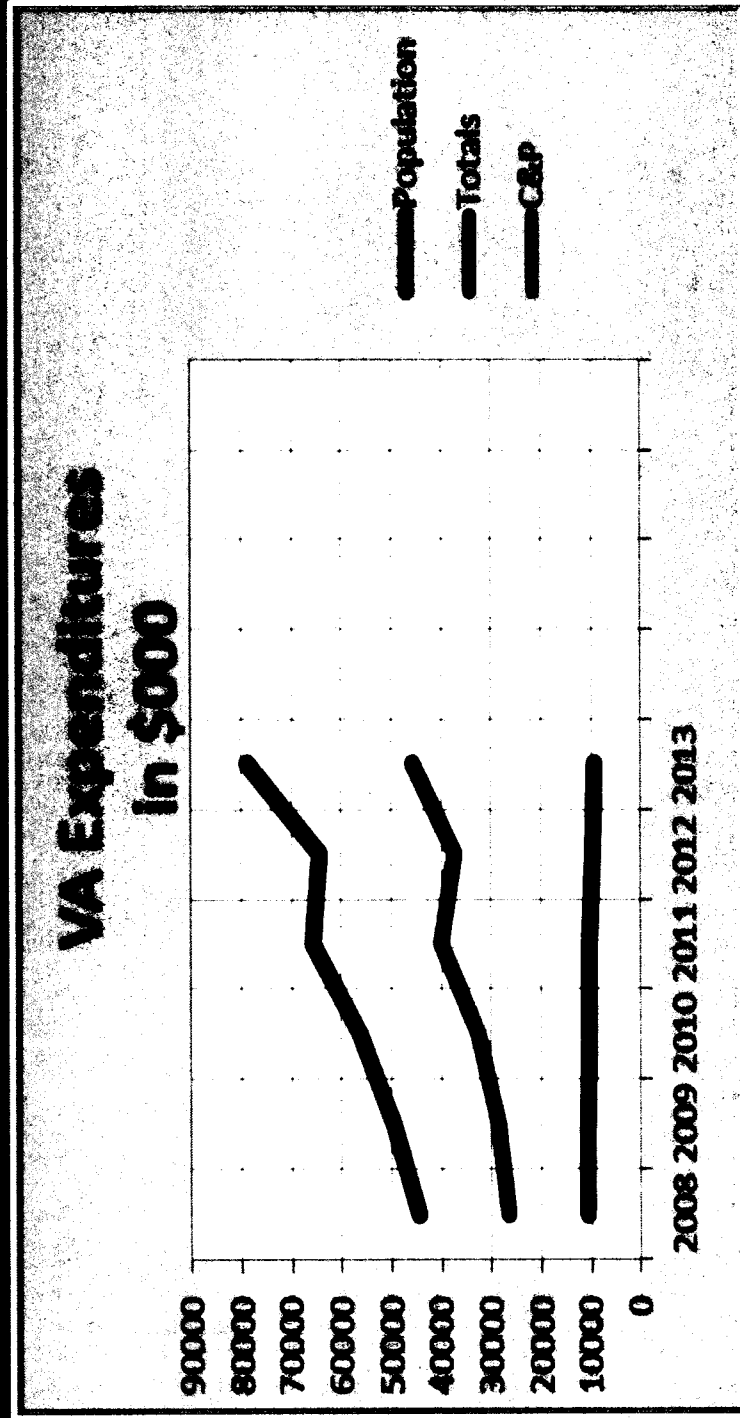
375-450 Phone calls per month; increase of 22%

1428 Website hits; increase of 9%

Average 25-30 outreach clients per month; increase of 43% over last year. Adding another day to our Cave Junction outreach has proven profitable to the CJ Veteran community.

Comprehensive Work-Study program continues to thrive.

VA's Total Expenditures



Measured Outcomes

Total VA expenditures 2013/14 = 78.7 M

Comp and Pension 2012/13 = 37.3 M

Comp and Pension 2013/14 = 45.7 M

Increase of 22.5% or 8M

Happy Healthy Veterans and Dependents

