



Board of Commissioners' Work Session Meeting
February 26, 2020 ~ 10:00am ~ Room 214

2/26/2020 - Minutes

1. Call To Order & Those Present

Commissioner Morris, Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner DeGroot; Haley Huffman / Admin Staff; Jennifer Little, Valeree Lane / Public Health; Mark Ahalt.

2. Approve Minutes From Last Meeting

Approved.

3. Mark Ahalt

Mark Ahalt with Fisher Nicholson Real Estate addresses the Board. He has been contracted by the bankruptcy trustee to represent the Eternal Hills property. He presented the Board with a general flyer describing the Eternal Hills property. He also presented the Board with a document that contained the status of the endowment fund. He said he hopes there is a way for the County to be a catalyst to restore the property and offered his assistance. Commissioner Morris asks about his comment that the Board could declare an emergency. Mr. Ahalt said, to get any funds released from the fund there has to be some sort of a declaration and he has heard that it has been done before. Commissioner Boyd said, he disagrees. He said, 5% interest of a million dollars is \$49,000 and he doesn't feel the facility can be maintained for that amount. Mr Ahalt said, should that fund be earning more and we don't have any control over that here. Commissioner Boyd said he'd like to see the cemetery restored to it's former glory. Commissioner Boyd said he has several questions in mind, should the County truly be operating a cemetery and are those people employees of the County and do they operate it for profit. Commissioner Morris said she feels it would be a big stretch for the County to get into this business but potentially we could provide some support to encourage a non-profit to do this. Commissioner Boyd thanked Mr. Ahalt for caring about the facility.

4. Jennifer Little - Public Health

1. Social Determinants

Jennifer Little and Valeree Lane address the Board. Ms. Lane provided the Board with a report on the social determinants of Public Health in Klamath County. She feels agencies in the County will be able to take some of the data from the document and use it to apply for grants. Ms. Lane requested that the Board let Public Health and their Healthy Klamath partners attend the Community Action Team meetings around the County. Commissioner Boyd said he's more than happy to have them attend the CAT Team meetings with him. He thanked Ms. Lane for preparing the document. Ms. Lane said she hopes we all get to a place that we grow and are proud of who we are. She will be presenting the document to the community and the Tribal Council on



March 11. Commissioner Morris asks Ms. Lane, what are some of the takeaways? Ms. Lane said, when we talk about what it means to be a County resident of different places, we are only as healthy as our most isolated people. This is the beginning of trying to make a case for the fact that County rankings don't mean what people have begun to think they mean, they are a snapshot of our past, our future is moving forward. She said, all of our smaller towns are looking for opportunities to bring economic development to their towns. We have four high poverty hotspots in the County and three of those four are in the top 25 of the high poverty spots in the state. Ms. Lane said, she would like us to start thinking about how we address poverty. We have to start talking about the fact that we have resources available and it is not a judgement on them to use those resources. Ms. Lane said she was very distressed to see that 2.1 million dollars in SNAP aid came into our County in December which tells her that hunger is a real need in our County. Commissioner DeGroot thanked Ms. Lane for her work on the document and for her willingness and her optimism for our community. Jennifer Little said, this is an excellent read and Valeree did a nice job of going town by town.

5. Other County Business

None.

6. Adjournment

10:28am

Audio recordings of all proceedings are available at the County Commissioners' office. The meeting facility is handicap accessible. Persons needing materials in alternate format or communication access, should telephone this office at 541-883-5100  (voice/TDD) or the ADA Coordinator at 541-883-4296  at least 48 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Klamath County Commissioners' Weekly Calendar is subject to change without notice.

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