

**CROOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, WORK SESSION
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Board of Commissioners met in a regularly scheduled Work Session on September 11, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Conference room located at 203 NE Court Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754.

Board Members Present: Commissioner Seth Crawford, Commissioner Brian Barney, and Commissioner Susan Hermreck

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via Zoom: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Executive Administrative Assistant Sarah Puerner; Community Development Director Will Van Vactor; Administrative Assistant Breyanna Cupp; Legal Assistant Alex Solterbeck; Road Superintendent Brad Haynes; Airport Manager Kelly Coffelt; Finance Director Christina Haron; Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb; Natural Resources Manager Tim Deboodt; Clerk Cheryl Seely; Assessor Jon Soliz; District Attorney Kari Hathorn; Ag Extension Manager Rebecca Keegan; Library Director Sarah Beeler; Senior Planner Katie McDonald; Operations Manager Katrina Weitman; Assistant Building Official Terry Weitman; City of Prineville Planning Director Josh Smith; City of Prineville Attorney Jered Reid; Dock Kerbow; and members of the public.

WORK SESSION

The meeting was **called to order at 9:00 a.m.**

Commissioner Crawford requested a moment of silence for those that lost their lives on September 11th.

Public Comment: None

Discussion item #1: OHA 2023-2025 Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment 11:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the Work Session to request that the Board of Commissioners discuss an amendment to an Oregon Health Authority contract as part of the fiscal year close-out. This marks the second of several expected updates for FY25, aligning with the second half of the contract's biennium. The finalized program awards included in this amendment are in line with budget projections as proposed and adopted for FY25, with additional updates anticipated in the coming weeks. This item will be placed on the consent agenda for final approval on September 18th.

Discussion item #2: Oregon National Flood Insurance Program - Pre-implementation Plan for Endangered Species Act:

Requester: Will Van Vactor

Details: Community Development Director Will Van Vactor and Senior Planner Katie McDonald attended the Work Session to discuss FEMA's Pre-implementation Plan for

new floodplain development standards under the National Marine Fisheries Service 2016 Biological Opinion (BiOp). The BiOp, part of Oregon's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), found that FEMA's floodplain management practices were adversely affecting 17 ESA-listed species and their habitats. To remain eligible for NFIP, cities and counties must now choose one of three compliance measures by December 1, 2024: 1) Prohibit all new floodplain development, 2) Adopt an updated model code incorporating ESA measures, or 3) Implement a permit-by-permit approach with habitat assessments. If no choice is made, jurisdictions default to the permit-by-permit option. The majority of Crook County falls under this new map, and it's advised that the County and City align on their chosen approach. A Planning Commission meeting on September 25 will address the Oregon Model Floodplain code language, and Commissioner Susan Hermreck requested a report following this meeting. Additionally, a letter to Congressman Bentz's office may be drafted to seek further guidance.

Interim Manager Report: None

Commissioner Updates:

Commissioner Hermreck recently attended a public health meeting where progress was made on developing a heat map to assess needs across Crook County. She plans to meet with City staff to review growth plans and future projections. It was a productive and positive discussion, focusing on planning for the next 25 to 50 years and considering long-term community needs.

Commissioner Crawford extended congratulations to Commissioner Barney for obtaining the Certificate of Occupancy for the Justice Center.

Commissioner Barney announced that the ribbon-cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 27th and noted that everything is progressing smoothly.

At 9:47 a.m. the Board of Commissioners read into Executive Session under the following statute(s): ORS 192.660(2)(h) Consulting with Counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed; and ORS 192.660(2)(a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board of Commissioners convened back into Open Session, inviting members of the public into the meeting room.

MOTION to delegate authority to Will Van Vactor to create and tender an offer of engagement for the County Manager position on behalf of Crook County. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was **adjourned at 11:02 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Puerner / Breyanna Cupp