

INFORMAL WORK SESSION MINUTES
June 4, 2019 1:30 p.m.

Room 32, Courthouse
535 NE Fifth St.

Present: Commissioners Richard L. "Rick" Olson, Mary Starrett and Casey Kulla

Staff: Ken Huffer, Christian Boenisch, Josephine Ko, Justin Hogue, Sheriff Tim Svenson, Lindsay Manfrin and Silas Halloran-Steiner

Guests: Nicole Montesano, News Register and others as listed on the sign-in sheet

Commissioner Olson called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

A. CALENDAR SESSION: This time is reserved for the review of the commissioner's joint schedule (if needed). There was no calendar session.

B. WORK SESSION: This time is reserved for topics of discussion scheduled for the Commissioners in advance. If a work session is not needed, the balance of the meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m.

1. Work Session – Silas Halloran-Steiner

a. Review/discussion of the needle exchange program

Silas Halloran-Steiner addressed the program policy considerations for the needle exchange program and outlined the scope of services. The scope of services will contain language regarding contracted distributors which will serve as mandatory reporters if they witness behavior or actions that pose a risk to the public. Mr. Halloran-Steiner highlighted a list of references to support the efficacy of the program. He noted the importance of establishing a contractor to capture the data. A vehicle being donated will be operated by the selected contractor; he mentioned that a process to transfer the vehicle to the operating contractor is being created. There was discussion regarding studies in cities such as San Francisco which have shown a drastic difference of having needles in the community and users practicing safer injection as a result of having a needle exchange program.

Diane Reynolds, Provoking Hope Director and staff addressed the Board. They provided an example of peer support during an addiction situation involving children. They expressed the value of a needle exchange program, stating the financial incentive and a program that is not involving law enforcement and that those seeking recovery can get mentorship from former addicts.

Heather Hunter of Champion Team addressed the Board outlining the process that their program provides and the connection to other community partners. She stressed the importance of the value of peer support perspectives and guidance.

Ted Urton commented as a business person he wants his money spent in cost effective programs. He spoke in support of needle exchange programs that have successfully worked in other cities.

C. INFORMAL SESSION: This time is reserved for briefings, receipt of reports, consultation among commissioners and staff, reports from commissioners on recent actions in the areas of their responsibilities, and other personnel and administrative decisions as appropriate.

1. Department Updates

a. Health & Human Services – Silas Halloran-Steiner

Silas Halloran-Steiner asked to apply for the 2019-21 Specialty Court Grant to support a full or partial allocation for a court coordinator for both adult recovery court and the juvenile peer court. The current funding to Provoking Hope recovery court is funded from different sources. He also discussed the school-based health centers in Willamina and Yamhill-Carlton.

Commissioner Olson recessed the meeting at 2:39 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 2:46 p.m.

2. Thursday Formal Session Agenda Review

a. Consent Agenda Review (keep or move to non-consent)

b. Non-consent Agenda Review (add to consent or leave off):

The consensus of the Board was to move items D1 - D7 with exception of item D2 to Thursday's consent agenda. Item D2 will remain on non-consent.

3. Executive Session - None

4. Commissioner Updates/Announcements/Discussion:

a. Discussion to consider making county parking spots available to Car Park/Champion Team for the "safe overnight camping" program. (Commissioner Kulla)

Mr. Huffer stated that communication with the City of McMinnville continues. There was discussion regarding the availability of county properties and the compliance of the zoning ordinances. Further discussion with the city will continue to define the scope of the program and the impact to county departments and proposed locations. No action was taken.

Following commissioner updates the meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

Carolina Rook

Secretary

Accepted by Yamhill County
Board of Commissioners on
9/26/19 by Board Order
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