



**MINUTES OF THE
GOAL-SETTING MEETING
BENTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m.**

Present: Xanthippe Augerot, Chair; Nancy Wyse, Commissioner; Pat Malone, Commissioner; Vance Croney, County Counsel; Rachel McEneny, County Administrator; Rick Crager, Assistant County Administrator

Elected Officials: Jef Van Arsdall, Sheriff

Staff: Shannon Bush, Petra Schuetz, Community Development; Cory Grogan, Public Information Officer; Lacey Mollel, Christine Mosbaugh, Community Health Centers; Marriah De La Vega, Maura Kwiatkowski, BOC Staff; Sean McGuire, Sustainability; Erika Milo, BOC Recorder; Matt Wetherell, Juvenile Department

Guests: Andrew Brown, James Dashiell, Ken Eklund, Debbie Palmer, Residents; Alex Powers, Mid-Valley Media

1. Call to Order & Introductions

Chair Augerot called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Review & Approve Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

3. Review and Approve Goal-setting Minutes

3.1 December 12, 2023 Minutes

MOTION: Malone moved to approve the December 12, 2023 Minutes. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

4. New Business

4.1 *Notice of Intent to Apply for Transitions in Care for Justice-Involved Populations Grant – Lacey Mollel; Christine Mosbaugh, Community Health Centers (CHC)

Mollel reviewed two grant opportunities that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has selected for Community Health Centers. Since the Federal Budget was approved at the end of March 2024, HRSA is deciding how to spend its allocated budget. Mollel discussed the importance of having an active 330 Grant, which

ensures CHC is a recognized Health Center, and an H80 Grant, which is the funding used in designating a recognized Health Center. The first grant for review is the FY25 Quality Improvement Fund Transitions and Care for Justice Involved Populations; the grant was released on April 10, 2024 and the final application is due July 2, 2024. Mollel stated there are currently 51 Quality Improvement awards dispersing for \$1,000,000 each as one-time funding; the timeline of disbursement is January 2025 through December 2026.

Mosbaugh stated the justice-involved space focuses on expanding access to healthcare support for people who are released from incarceration and seek re-entry, along with a Federal connection to public safety and an executive order that analyzes racial equity and experiences in Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities who are incarcerated three to five times more than that of White counterparts. CHC strives to help reduce those existing situations, and to not compound the issues once a person is released from incarceration. The 1115 process, which is being discussed at a state level, is designed to improve healthcare access in creative ways. Oregon does not have this process in its 1115 waiver, but states such as California, Montana, and Washington are initiating the process.

Mollel stated those states are using some of the funds to pay for pre-release healthcare services.

Augerot stated Oregon applied for the process in its Medicaid waiver, but it is not yet active.

Mosbaugh stated that there was opportunity for the process to be added to the 1115 waiver in the future. Oregon's entry into the 1115 process is its access to health-related social needs of a population released from incarceration in the last 12 months and those who are at risk of being homeless or who already are.

Justice Involved Reentry (JI-R) is for people who are 18 years or older and are within 90 days of a scheduled or expected release date from incarceration (does not include Federal incarceration) in Benton and Linn Counties. The objective of JI-R is to increase the number of individuals who are reentering the community with access to in-scope Health Center services. HRSA's rationale for investment is: 80 percent of the 1,800,000 incarcerated adults in the United States have chronic medical, psychiatric, or substance use conditions, and infectious diseases unaddressed after re-entry. Consequences of inadequate care can be severe for individuals and communities.

CHC is required to gather information from Health Center patients, staff, community partners, and individuals with experience in incarceration. HRSA will also require that CHC participate in its evaluation process that involves peer-to-peer learning and progress and the effectiveness of the process. Mollel noted that the process does not release the State or local agencies from their obligation to provide medical care in the carceral system.

Since CHC works in both Benton and Linn Counties, context is regularly discussed. For example, Benton County has less jail space than Linn County.

Wyse asked if the JI-R Grant is awarded, will the funding be used in both Benton and Linn Counties.

Mollet said yes, because that is CHC's service area. Mollet learned from the Sheriff's Office that many Benton County inmates are held at the Linn County Jail.

Wyse was interested in knowing, given the level of work and effort Benton County is contributing, whether Benton County will benefit as much, less, or more than Linn County.

Mosbaugh responded that County staff were working through those arrangements; Benton County would not be taking on Linn County government's responsibilities within the process.

Crager confirmed that a clear delineation between the two counties is in place within CHC's existing model.

CHC currently provides coordinated, high-quality primary care, affordable, accessible care, and enabling services such as translation, transportation, outreach, education, case management, and community connections. Mollet provided a list of suggested opportunities to offer through the JI-R funding, including treatment of chronic and acute disease, immunizations, family planning, prevention services, and more. For case management and community connection, CHC proposed a third party, not including the Sheriff's Department or Law Enforcement, because it could better connect with qualifying individuals to promote the use of services.

Mollet discussed meetings with stakeholders that have completed and listed upcoming meetings with the Linn County Jail Captains, the Western Oregon University (WOU) Western Restorative and Criminal Justice Research Center, and ongoing participation in the Benton County House Bill 4002 work group. The intersectionality of the stakeholders and programs are still developing.

Mollet summarized the Innovation Pilot JI-R grant and stated a specific ask of the Board is not yet in place; the abstract is due on June 10, 2024 and the final application is due by July 2, 2024.

Augerot asked if CHC will receive feedback after submitting the abstract and if there is a Letter of Intent.

Mollet said no, and confirmed the abstract is considered CHC's intent to apply.

McEneny asked how competitive the grant is.

Mosbaugh stated there are 40, \$1,000,000 grants each. Not all sites will have carceral settings in service areas.

Malone mentioned that two years to use one-time funding is not ideal.

Mollet stated with the JI-R grant, with the CMS 1115 waiver and Oregon's 1115 waiver, there is a targeted population with both groups. Mollet is interested in how CMS will let CHC spend the awarded funds; going through the process will help in leveraging future funding.

Mosbaugh added that although it is a one-time funding opportunity, there will be ongoing work with other funding streams to support it.

Wyse asked what the application process will involve.

Mollet responded staff time, research, writing, and editing; there is no match requirement for the grant.

{Exhibits 1 & 2}

4.2 Notice of Intent to Apply for Behavioral Health Services Expansion Grant– Lacey Mollet; Christine Mosbaugh, Community Health Centers

The Behavioral Health Service Expansion (BHSE) grant is another HRSA grant; the final application is due June 21, 2024.

Mosbaugh stated the BHSE Grant has the same set-up as the JI-R Grant discussed in Item 4.1. Behavioral Health services expansion is a topic of interest within the White House and communities across the United States have been discussing it; the issue is bipartisan and acknowledges at a national level the disproportionate access to services and the impacts on BIPOC communities. The objective is to strengthen system capacity, connect people to care, and support healthier environments.

The rationale for HRSA's investment is that 82,500,000 adults live with a mental health condition or Substance Use Disorder (SUD), many with a mental health condition or SUD are not treated, and untreated mental health and SUD can be debilitating and life-threatening. There are 400 awards, and each award is for \$1,100,000 over a two year timeframe of September 1, 2024 through August 31, 2026. It is a new grant that is based off of applicant metrics and could be added to base funding in the future. President Biden's budget had been requesting the inclusion of Behavioral Health as a required component. Mollet stated the grant is the first funding opportunity in five years, and there is no guarantee it will be offered in the future.

The objective of the Service Expansion Grant is an increase in patients receiving Mental Health services and an increase in the amount of patients receiving SUD services, including treatment with medications for Opioid Use Disorder. The increase will be based on numbers from 2023 Uniform Data Systems (UDS) data. A few challenges in CHC's nationwide include in 2022, CHC's were meeting 27% of the estimated need for Mental Health services and only 6% of the estimated need for SUD services. CHC requested all relevant Benton County Health Center's data to compare with national statistics, which will be a part of the grant application.

Wyse asked if the 27% was referring to the existing patient population.

Mollet confirmed.

The opportunities in CHCs include underserved communities that seek Behavioral Health services in primary care settings as it is the first point of access for many individuals. CHCs provide a continuum of Behavioral Health services from diagnosis to treatment to recovery.

Mosbaugh stated the grant funding cannot be used for new sites (not including mobile units), renovations of sites that are not already in CHC scope, services outside of current scope, or services in places not in the current service area. Possibilities include greater access to and services for current patients and attracting more patients into Primary Care for Behavioral Health, Mental Health, and SUD treatments.

Mollet specified that Behavioral Health services must already be included in available services within the existing scope in order to apply for the funding. Because of that, many CHCs cannot qualify for the funding. Adding the Behavioral Health scope can take approximately 120 days.

Wyse asked if that requirement covers all Behavioral Health-related services or a specific set of services.

Mollet said it does not need to be specific.

Mosbaugh discussed what is currently within CHC scope, including Behavioral Health consultants that are integrated into the Health Clinic sites and Behavioral Health Services for the CHC. Some services that are out of scope include crisis, jail, and forensics. A list of existing locations that where Behavioral Health services are currently provided, along with types of CHC and Behavioral Health services, was shown to the Board.

Mollet stated CHC has participated in many learning opportunities with HRSA; on May 7, 2024, CHC met with Benton County stakeholders, including the Behavioral Health team, Finance, Behavioral Health Consultants, and others. Ongoing connections and conversations include the Oregon Deflection ECHO series from April 26, 2024 to August 23, 2024 and the Benton County HB 4002 Workgroup. The deliverables do not need to be specific, since the requirements established are known.

Malone asked if the CHC is successful in either of the grants, how will it affect staffing?

Mollet responded that expansion and specific staffing types have been discussed, including prescribers, Child Psychiatry to expand access within the community, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, a provider type that supports SUD services, same-day immediate access to Primary Care Providers, and expanding the Behaviorist team to have a full-time Behaviorist in Monroe.

Augerot stated those positions have been limited in the community.

Mosbaugh added that prescribers generate own income, which is a sustainable type of position.

Malone acknowledged the difficulties in hiring skilled professionals without future guarantees of employment.

Mollet stated that over the previous six months, CHC has reviewed its Prospective Payment System rate, and both grants would allow Benton County a new higher service level, the ability to apply for a higher reimbursement rate, which can sustain services.

Augerot found it interesting the quality improvement grant requires CHC to work with at least two community-based organizations, because there is a need for linkage within Community Health. Augerot added that with the second grant, there is potential to add to the CHC base.

Wyse asked if Mollet foresaw certain staffing types more difficult to hire than others.

Mollet stated CHC does not want to bring in more Qualified Mental Health Professionals. Mollet believes Pediatric Psychiatry will be a difficult position to hire, but CHC can use the funding to work with Human Resources to offer sign-on bonuses and research solutions to make a limited duration position seem more attractive.

Mosbaugh stated low reimbursement for providers is useful; patients can qualify for certain programs within CHC that are not provided within a standard healthcare setting.

MOTION: Malone moved to approve submittal of a CHC Behavioral Health Services Expansion Grant application. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

MOTION: Malone moved to approve submittal of the Transitions in Care for Justice-Involved Populations Grant application. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

5. Discussion Topics

5.1 Discussion and Potential Action Regarding Right-of-Way Acquisition for the Corvallis-Albany Bike Path - Resolution of Necessity, No. R2024-007 –

Vance Croney, County Counsel; Laurel Byer, Public Works

Counsel stated Item 5.1 is the beginning of a potential eminent domain proceeding involving a relatively small strip of property that would be the final connecting segment in the Corvallis to Albany Multi-Use Path. Counsel stated that Trillium Family Services (TFS) owns the property that the strip of land to complete the Multi-Use path is located on; and despite Public Works efforts, TFS's corporate policy is to not negotiate the sale of property for the designated type of activity, thus requiring the government to go through eminent domain proceedings. Counsel provided the Board with the Resolution of Necessity, No. R2024-007; which is required by State Statute, and it describes the justification, public interest, and what the property would be used for. Once Resolution

No. R2024-007 has been adopted, the 40-day Last Best Offer is sent to the property owner. Kevin Shuba, an Attorney at Garrett Hemann Robertson P. C. is to handle the process, and Counsel is hopeful that will generate some negotiation and conversation with TFS. If it does not, Counsel plans to file eminent domain in Circuit Court. If that is the route taken, Counsel is unsure of the final outcome but was confident the County will end up with the property eventually.

Byer and County employees have attempted to meet with representatives of TFS. The original offer was sent in January 2023. Byer met with TFS's various representatives. County staff took into consideration TFS concerns and submitted new plans to address the concerns, but TFS did not respond. Byer noted that when the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) was applying for the United States Safety Improvement (USSI) project, ODOT had to go through the same process.

Malone noted that ODOT started the USSI project before an agreement was reached.

Counsel stated the segment of land in question would be subject to a motion for immediate possession; then the only outstanding issue for litigation is how much the government will pay for the portion of land.

Malone believed the County and TFS engaged in a productive discussion last September. TFS wanted the County to construct only one side of the path; but when the County explained to TFS the reasoning behind the multi-use path, TFS seemed to not have known the concept prior to discussions. Malone added that a narrow strip does not affect TFS operations, and the important questions have all been answered. Malone expressed concern regarding further delays in awarding the project contract and starting some of the pavement by summer 2024.

Byer stated the County has opportunities to modify the contract, but the County will still bid the portion that has already been acquired to be constructed in summer or fall of 2024.

Malone mentioned that ODOT did not wait for eminent domain approval before starting their project.

Counsel noted that once a certain point of the litigation is reached, a motion and an order for immediate possession is acquired and access to the property is then permitted. Counsel expects that process to be in place by end of summer 2024; if the County files pleadings, Shuba would then submit a motion. It is possible for the contract to include a statement of work classifying the unacquired strip of land as Phase Two of the project, which would be completed by the contractor, but only when Benton County has an easement or the motion and order allowing access.

Augerot asked if the easement is outside of TFS's current fence.

Byer said the easement is mostly on the outside of the fence, and the County revised the design to decrease impact to the fence. The project impacts some of the chain link fence, but the County would compensate TFS as part of negotiations.

Wyse asked if TFS will still be paid for the piece of land after the County issues imminent domain.

Counsel said yes.

Wyse asked if the other end of the multi-use path will be discussed in the future.

McEneny has had discussions with Augerot on the subject and will bring an update on the entire project path to an upcoming Board of Commissioners meeting.

Wyse mentioned community concern in North Albany regarding the multi-use path.

Byer acknowledged the concern and has met with ODOT staff regarding the concern. Once ODOT responds, Byer will update the Board.

Malone asked if there is still funding for the North Albany section of the multi-use path.

Byer confirmed there is approximately \$2,000,000, but there is a pause on that segment; there are two years left on the funding, so an extension may be necessary. Byer added that the North Albany segment had been a priority, but when the State received US 20 corridor funding, the County had to shift plans, because the County needed to focus on acquiring and designing the path next to the State Highway improvements so the two projects could coexist without future problems.

Augerot asked if Benton County is the lead on the North Albany segment.

Byer stated the segment is an ODOT contract with the consultant, but it is Benton County's project. ODOT pays the consultants and the contractor, and the contract would be with ODOT, not Benton County.

Augerot asked if Benton County is paying the Project Manager.

Byer said yes, but the State also has its own Project Manager.

Malone asked about a middle segment of Highway 20.

Byer stated there is a major retaining wall on that section of Highway 20, so ODOT installed a portion of the multi-use path there. Benton County will still need to maintain that portion of the path.

Wyse does not take eminent domain lightly and would feel differently about the project if it was a family's property in question. Wyse acknowledged the multi-use path is a greater contribution to the public and will support it, but also has concerns regarding the North Albany section.

MOTION: Malone moved to approve Resolution No. R2024-007, Resolution of Necessity. Wyse seconded the motion, which **carried 3-0.**

Augerot recessed the meeting at 10:07 a.m. and reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

5.2 Board Meeting Management Platform Update – Maura Kwiatkowski, Erika Milo; Board of Commissioners Office

Kwiatkowski and Milo had selected three vendors to submit proposals for the Board Meeting Management Platform: CivicPlus, Diligent, and Granicus; all three vendors sent back proposals. Milo stated that a team consisting of staff from several departments evaluated the proposals, and unanimously selected CivicPlus based on pricing, product features, compliance with technical specifications, and a robust training and support program. Staff spoke with three Oregon-based references that CivicPlus provided: the City of Forest Grove, the City of Redmond, and Tillamook County. The references provided consistent positive feedback of CivicPlus, including ease of use, time-savings, and excellent customer service.

Kwiatkowski provided a list of components within the CivicPlus platform; and based on CivicPlus' recommendation, suggested the Board move forward with the Meeting Management platform prior to implementing the Boards, Commissions, and Committees Membership Management module to reduce the overall cost of the Meeting Management platform. The implementation timeline is approximately 27 weeks, and was segmented into five phases: initiate, analyze, optimize, educate, and launch.

The projected launch date for CivicPlus is January 21, 2025, because implementation could potentially take longer due to the elections, a Commissioner retiring, and holidays. The goal is to have all staff members fully trained before the platform is public. Kwiatkowski stated the first year of implementation cost is \$22,000, the second year implementation cost would decrease to \$18,000, and year three will have a 5% annual uplift charge, meaning 5% will be added to \$18,000. There is available funding in the Board of Commissioners budget for contracted services that was not used, and that will assist with costs for the first two years. Moving forward, the cost will be built into the budget as a standing budget item.

Augerot asked if CivicPlus will streamline the process for taking and uploading meeting minutes.

Milo confirmed. Information Technology (IT) reviewed that feature of CivicPlus and felt confident that it could meet County specifications. Milo added that community members can keyword search documents, including minutes, uploaded to the Public Portal on CivicPlus.

Kwiatkowski added that staff will upload historical documents into CivicPlus as a part of the implementation process.

Malone stated the three previously mentioned Oregon jurisdictions that already utilize CivicPlus are smaller than Benton County, and if that should be of concern.

Kwiatkowski said no, CivicPlus is used by other jurisdictions throughout Oregon; those smaller jurisdictions were just the references CivicPlus provided. Board staff engaged in additional work to research CivicPlus and found it to be the most widely used platform in Oregon.

Milo added that CivicPlus is a national company, and the County's contract with CivicPlus is currently under development, with implementation beginning in June 2024.

{Exhibit 3 updated Board Management Platform presentation}

5.3 *Discussion of County Resource Naming Policy – Board of Commissioners

Augerot stated the intention of the discussion is whether to call the 4185 SW Research Way building the Children and Families Mental Health Center or to give the building another name. Additionally, the Board is to discuss the possibility of acknowledging Oregon Representative Dan Rayfield for his contributions to Benton County, including funding for the 4185 building. Augerot noted the May 14, 2024 meeting packet contains Benton County's naming policy, Lane County's naming policy, and Clackamas County's naming policy. The United States Geological Survey (USGS), which is responsible for naming national geographic features, has a policy for not naming places after people, and the State of Oregon follows that guidance. Lane County's policy indicates that except in extraordinary circumstances, buildings are not named after living people, but Clackamas and Benton County policy do not have that restriction.

McEneny acknowledged that naming buildings after living individuals can be an issue. In Oregon, McEneny has seen parks named after former governors and former members of Congress. But there are examples of needing to rename buildings due to scandal or reasons from the past, such as requesting statues of controversial historical figures to be removed. McEneny understands Rayfield has been a champion of Benton County and will leave a lasting mark on Benton County. The grand opening of the 4185 building is an opportunity for naming and celebrating those who helped secure funding.

Malone stated it appropriate to recognize Rayfield's significant contributions to Benton County. Regarding the potential issues with naming a building after a living person, Malone does not believe building names are perpetual and likes the idea of changing names periodically.

McEneny added that from a navigational standpoint, although County buildings can be named as the County chooses, the meaning of the building name is important so people can easily navigate to the building using GPS applications. Even if the building is named after an individual, for the general public to easily navigate to the building, the listed name should remain Children and Families Services. If there is no connection of the services offered from a particular building with the name of said building, it might not be understood, similar to the Kalapuya building.

Wyse noted the Kalapuya building encompasses many different departments, and choosing a name with connection was difficult. However, the building at 4185 SW

Research Way has narrower purpose. Wyse preferred to not name buildings after people until having been deceased for at least two years. Wyse agreed that Rayfield should be acknowledged for his service to the community, but perhaps naming the building after Rayfield is not the best approach. Wyse suggested a plaque inside the foyer of the building to celebrate Rayfield.

McEneny stated the County has several buildings that people have contributed to, and enforcing a time period requirement after a person is deceased is difficult. Future discoveries from a person's past cannot always be predicted. McEneny suggested the ability to change the name of a County building could be added to the County's naming policy.

Crager stated the County naming policy is flexible for the Board of Commissioners, and the naming discussion appears to fit within the current policy. Crager reviewed the sample naming policies of other Oregon Counties, and found Clackamas County to have a more specific process. Benton County policy suggests that the Board would or shall appoint a group of stakeholders to provide name recommendations. Crager stated part of the question is will the Board appoint a specific group to participate in the naming process. Crager noted that in Clackamas County, a Board of Commissioners member was appointed to the County's naming committee.

Wyse expressed concern over the possibility of one Commissioner influencing the conversation more than others.

Augerot acknowledged that was not Benton County's current policy and the Board can review if it wants to make the current policy more robust, because there are multiple buildings that need to be named. Augerot agreed with parts of Clackamas County's policy, including language stating "The BOC shall avoid names that have the capacity to be construed as culturally insensitive or offensive or duplicating existing geographic names that may confuse the public or create the potential for copyright infringement issues." Augerot noted that a policy should include both negative and positive outcomes. Benton County has taken an ad hoc approach to its naming policy. For example, when naming the Kalapuya building, the Board collected suggestions from County staff, sent out a community survey, then the BOC decided on a building name based on suggestions. JoeHahn, former Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator for Benton County, had worked with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to review all of Kalapuya names on the list, because some of the names were not listed accurately, and received great feedback from the Tribes. When the County named the street, the process was condensed, County staff formulated a short list, presented to the BOC, and then presented to the City of Corvallis. Augerot added that it could be useful for the naming policy to have a concise process to streamline for County staff.

McEneny said that was possible. Additionally, BOC staff have been asked to research building signage, so that community members are given context to a building's name. McEneny supports the Board engagement with County staff, but is wary that staff could have more of a say than the community at large. McEneny noted that many County

employees do not live in Benton County, and there could be another path within the policy to consider.

Malone stated that guidelines to the naming policy are a good idea and Commissioners should make the final decision on County building naming.

McEneny agreed with Malone and asked if the Board wanted name suggestion criteria added to the County's policy.

Augerot mentioned that Lane County's policy language encourages names that reflect the County's history, geography, and diversity and recognition of individuals who have made a significant contribution to Lane County. Additionally, Lane County's naming policy covers the placement of memorials and donated objects, which Augerot believes would be ideal to integrate into Benton County's policy.

McEneny asked the Board if there was a preferred policy based off of the other County's policies.

Augerot, Wyse and McEneny discussed portions of the previously discussed policies that were agreeable, along with parts of the policy that could change, such as what County assets would be covered by the policy.

Crager suggested the naming policy give the Board maximum discretion and flexibility within the process.

Augerot preferred a standard approach to creating an ad hoc advisory committee that could include County staff, stakeholders, and community members; but formation of an advisory committee would be at the discretion of the BOC. Augerot added in terms of naming park benches and similar objects, a policy would be ideal for County staff.

Wyse agreed.

McEneny suggested enlisting the Benton County Historical Society to participate in the naming process.

Augerot agreed the Historic Resources Commission would be helpful.

McEneny summarized the discussion, stating the need to create a new naming process and confirm out of the presented policies, which could be utilized. McEneny hoped to present to the Board during the next Goal-setting Meeting and will ask Counsel and Interim Community Development Director Petra Schuetz for assistance. McEneny noted the County's responsibility to the community to provide context as to why a name was chosen for a building.

Malone agreed and stated the Kalapuya building had a rationale to its naming, but people walking into the building might not be aware of it. Augerot requested staff bring back a more robust policy option to the Board that provides flexibility.

Wyse agreed.

Crager asked if the Board wanted to wait for the new policy to be completed and approved before naming the 4185 SW Research Way building.

McEneny asked if the building was officially called the Children and Families building for purposes of navigating to it using GPS.

Augerot agreed that maintaining the Children and Families building name was the logical choice.

Crager expressed caution over keeping the Children and Families building name because the plan is to expand the services within the building in the future.

The Board discussed an interim name for the building until an official one was decided.

Crager said naming can wait, but the building does need signage to inform the community it is a Benton County building.

Augerot confirmed there was a consensus on reviewing an updated naming policy, but there is currently not a consensus on what to name the building at 4185 SW Research Way.

McEneny and Augerot stated there is a timing issue and acknowledged there will not be signs for the building in time for the May 31, 2024 open house.

Wyse said the focus does not need to be the name of the building during the open house.

Crager agreed there was not an urgency, but it is important the County is communicating well and being transparent with the community.

The Board continued to discuss signage and branding for County buildings. Kwiatkowski mentioned there was a prototype sign available if the Board wanted to maintain building identification before an official name was chosen.

Augerot stressed the importance of setting a timeline for when the Board names the 4185 SW Research Way building, whether it is named in accordance with a new policy or the Board decides on a name by a set date.

Wyse mentioned a number of new County buildings will be named after Commissioner Augerot retires, and the 4185 SW Research Way building should be named before the end of Augerot's term.

Wyse, Augerot and McEneny agreed the building should be named by the end of summer 2024.

5.4 Discussion Regarding the Role of the Economic Development Office – Rachel McEneny, County Administrator; Rick Crager, Assistant County Administrator; Board of Commissioners

McEneny stated that Economic Development Manager Christopher Jacobs is a shared employee between the City of Corvallis and Benton County. Commissioner Wyse is the Board's liaison to the Economic Development Coalition. McEneny recently had an in-depth conversation with Jacobs, and discussions included the importance of Benton County's collaboration with HP, Inc. (HP) and Oregon State University (OSU). McEneny acknowledged the BOC has wanted more engagement from the Economic Development Office (EDO) and stated concerns about EDO's agenda being too ambitious.

Crager stated the County has a few small economic development investments that have been discussed as dedicated funds for economic development.

McEneny said there are issues with the South Corvallis Food Hub that the County is interested in; McEneny recently met with the Regional Automated Information Network (RAIN), an organization dedicated to promoting entrepreneurship and innovation for under-represented communities. McEneny added that OSU does not have a food hub in Corvallis. The objective of the discussion was to ask the Board how it views the role of EDO and what the Board wants to see from EDO.

Crager mentioned there are always opportunities for economic development. For example, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and how to leverage those type of opportunities more, along with the County's relationships with Business Oregon.

McEneny expressed a desire for the County to be in a comfortable position if a company approaches a Commissioner or McEneny and wants to conduct business in Benton County. McEneny's understanding is EDO's vision is to set up incoming businesses to be successful, but is not certain if the County has succeeded in the right messaging around that. There have been instances when business owners have expressed frustration regarding planning requirements such as building permits or inconsistencies in requirements, then move on due to the challenges. Jacobs wants the process to be a one-stop shop experience.

Crager noted the need to create better collaboration between the Community Development Department and EDO, because Corvallis had merged EDO within its Community Development Department. Crager added that Benton County is researching workforce housing, along with the Planning Commission, land use, updating the Comprehensive Plan, and transportation.

Augerot stated when first elected as a Commissioner, EDO's main focus was business retention and expansion, with some focus on the trade sector. The scope became more targeted with the emergence of a new Economic Development staff, specifically with a focus on the food and beverage sector and the technology sector. Augerot added under the previous Benton County leadership, there were few business inquiries from outside

of the area seeking relocation to Benton County; the focus was leaning more on the innovation side and supporting new businesses rather than recruiting from outside the community. Augerot explained that was a contributing factor to Benton County not having a one-stop hub set up, because it was not requested previously. Augerot believes Benton County can be more strategic in economic development; the technology sector has been revitalized by Federal investments, and there is opportunity. However, Augerot was uncertain if creating an EDO that specifically caters to new business is necessary. Business retention has been difficult for the County, along with providing appropriate space, zoning issues, charges associated with adding utilities, workforce housing, and childcare. Augerot asked how much Benton County should invest through EDO versus how much Benton County should address in-house through the Planning Commission and Community Development. Additionally, the County has allocated funds for economic development.

Crager mentioned providing a Financial Services Department update. Benton County had a surplus of CDBG funds and the Budget Committee had elected to move a portion of the funds for the Historical Resources Commission (HRC). Crager stated there is still funding growth in the account.

McEneny stated there is concern in Philomath surrounding the closure of the Interfor Sawmill. EDO is researching options for that business space to be reopened and ways to assist a small group of that workforce that will be unemployed after the closure.

Crager asked if Benton County does not have an economic policy regarding new businesses, how can the County focus on retaining businesses currently present? A recurring concern in Benton County is that workforce housing and childcare are needed. In Monroe, the topic of water and additional supporting infrastructure investments were major talking points. Crager suggested the Board could reevaluate how to best meet those community concerns.

McEneny asked the Board if there was a preferred direction it would like EDO to take.

Augerot stated the EDO will likely remain a two-person office. Augerot did not see a need for immediate change, but believes there needs to be a conversation regarding the future of EDO.

Crager stated the County is renewing its contract for one year as an extension to June 30, 2025, and the new budget process will begin in fall 2024. The Board could consider a subcommittee or monthly discussion in upcoming Goal-setting meetings on the future for economic development the Board envisions.

Augerot agreed and suggested staff focus on the technology or childcare sector and inviting people within the industry to provide feedback for how the Board can support community growth.

Malone expressed concerns regarding federal funding, because it seemed that Benton County was not included in the discussion. Malone added that for Benton County being

such a small community, the communication and coordination between businesses such as OSU or HP and local government should be better.

McEneny noted that HP recently canceled a two-year project to build a daycare facility at the HP campus.

Crager was not sure if Benton County has a foothold within the childcare sector in the community but, there are opportunities for the County to address workforce housing. Augerot believed it is a matter of zoning issues, but it would be ideal if there was a small dollar match, incentive money, a fee waiver for an operation to expand, or if Benton County had a childcare policy that promoted County assistance in some way.

McEneny stated Corvallis has CDBG funding for childcare.

Wyse asked if Augerot was discussing childcare for Benton County employees or businesses.

Augerot clarified businesses within the Benton County community. For example, if the money in EDO can assist a childcare business seeking to expand by waiving some costs and fees, Benton County should do that to provide an additional tool for economic development. Augerot added that example is an idea, not a recommendation.

Wyse requested that all the information that has been discussed be organized with a focus.

Wyse asked what the Board could provide that would be helpful for staff.

Crager indicated it useful to know what the Board wants to prioritize, and it could be a series of discussions between present day and fall 2024 for staff to be prepared at the beginning of the 2025-27 budget cycle. Because there are many aspects within economic development, Crager asked the Board how staff can best provide support in terms of policy prioritization.

McEneny stated EDO recently provided a presentation on its priorities, accomplishments and direction. McEneny added it is important for EDO to ask for the assistance it needs from the Board.

Augerot mentioned that Benton County was previously contributing funds to EDO but had a small amount of influence in direction. Augerot wants the Board to have better leverage in how County funds are used to align with County priorities.

Crager stated Benton County is the administrator of the EDO contract and can change it if needed.

Augerot asked about the County's role in economic development, where the County can have the most leverage, and what difference the County can make in terms of making it possible for people to live and stay in Benton County. Creating a clear vision can inform the future IGA with Corvallis and what Benton County envisions. Augerot agreed on

having a series of conversations regarding economic development in order to be ready for the 2025-27 budget cycle. Augerot added that Benton County could update the Urban Fringe Management Agreement because City of Corvallis is expanding.

Wyse agreed.

Augerot mentioned that the Community Development Department should be included in the conversation since zoning is an important topic for both the County and City.

Wyse added that one of the reasons for reopening the Voluntary Periodic Review is the economic development portion within it. Wyse stated it is helpful to understand how the Board views its role within EDO; whether it is all of the cities within Benton County, all of Benton County excluding Corvallis, or just the small cities in Benton County.

Augerot responded in the past, it was all of Benton County, but the County has pushed the focus from Corvallis to small cities and rural Benton County.

Malone felt the Board was successful working with former EDO Director Kate Porsche, who understood Benton County's vision.

Augerot agreed and added that Porsche did a great job of expanding EDO within smaller cities and RAIN begin to focus on rural communities. However, any increase in economic development will benefit the County regardless of it being urban or rural.

Wyse agreed and discussed past experience as a Corvallis City Councilor and liaison to the Economic Development Coalition. Wyse acknowledged that the staffing gap and COVID-19 were difficult for the community and wants to avoid duplicating efforts or ending the relationship with EDO. If the County lowers the amount of funding to EDO, the Board should consider its relationship with the Corvallis government and its residents. Wyse stated that although Jacobs is new to the position, there is an existing structure within EDO, and now that EDO is within the Community Development Department, it can function better than previously. Wyse expressed concern regarding the Board spreading itself too thin by taking on too many projects before others are completed.

McEneny suggested asking relevant questions of EDO; for example, how can the County be supportive with daycare or workforce projects. Government does not build business, entrepreneurs do, and those building are looking for infrastructure.

Augerot mentioned that asking EDO specifically about childcare might not be relevant to its function. Instead, the County should discuss where its funds should be invested to support goals such as childcare; for example, the Childcare Development program at Linn-Benton Community College. Augerot expressed concern that the County is not focusing on those projects currently and asked how to use funds that reflect the Board's aspirations, knowing that childcare and housing are critical projects for business retention and development.

Crager provided a recommendation on next steps: collaborate with Jacobs to examine for the upcoming year what outcomes the EDO is producing, so the Board has a clear idea of the County's return on investment. Once the Board has that understanding, provide ideas and scope, such as childcare or workforce housing, the County wants to impact. Crager stated the conversations with EDO will help the Board consider how the County's contract with EDO could change with the available resources.

Augerot explained the 2016-17 iteration of the economic development strategic plan was a product of a continuous collaboration between County and EDO staff. The current strategic plan process has involved the Economic Development Coalition (EDC), but the Board of Commissioners was not consulted during the planning process. Augerot expressed concern over not having the Board-level communication that occurred in the past and hopes that will change going forward.

Crager agreed Benton County might not be the solution to every issue surrounding the community but could leverage partnerships with other organizations that specialize in those topics.

Augerot noted that Benton County has influenced past grant opportunities that organizations such as Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments (OCWCOG) have applied for.

Malone agreed the Board should be a vocal partner of EDO and to ask Jacobs for updates on EDO's goals, along with establishing Benton County's role on those projects.

McEneny stated that Jacobs has a planning background, which can be useful for the County on projects that require zoning expertise.

The Board continued to discuss one of EDO's projects and the potential for a monthly update from Jacobs.

Malone requested a one-on-one meeting with Jacobs.

Augerot agreed.

Crager asked if the Board wanted to engage EDO as a group at a Goal-setting meeting to discuss EDO's presentation in-depth.

Malone requested more overall communication and informal discussions to gain a better understanding of Jacobs' capabilities and to ensure the County's best interests are considered.

Augerot requested a discussion around EDO's proposed metrics because they focus on land use planning and business retention, but do not provide updates on the Corvallis Food Hub or partnerships focused on childcare or housing, which are mentioned in EDO's Strategy Five. Augerot is unsure the topics EDO is focused on will make a significant impact on economic development.

McEneny said the proposed metrics inventory is useful data point.

5.5 County Administrator Updates – Rachel McEneny, County Administrator

McEneny recently toured the Health Services building and met with the Jails and Justice Center and National Prison Group to debrief with Sheriff Van Arsdall. McEneny met with Corvallis City Manager Mark Shepard, toured Public Works, and met with Republic Services leadership with Crager. McEneny recently attended the quarterly Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Committee meeting. McEneny's highlight of the month was attending the Benton Breakfast; it was great to see employee participation. Since the March 2024 Goal-setting meeting, McEneny has met with community members, including Julie Brandis from CorMic with Crager and Jacobs. McEneny plans to invite CorMic to give a presentation on updates of projects at OSU to the Board in June 2024. McEneny and Wyse met with Alison Hobgood to tour the Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center (CDDC). McEneny met with James Thom for a tour of the HP facilities; topics discussed included Electronic Data Interchange, future sustainability projects, community and employee engagement, and the failed daycare center, which HP is still working on. The Valley City Managers and County Administrative Meeting series is ongoing. McEneny met with Rachel Jagoda, the new RAIN Catalyst CEO. McEneny attended a one-hour interview with The Harvard Kennedy School for an upcoming alumni story of becoming a County Administrator. Upcoming activities for McEneny include a wrap-up meeting with the UPD consultant, the Scenic Byway Management Plan Steering Committee, a training regarding the legal implications of artificial intelligence (AI) and recent developments in labor laws. McEneny has an ongoing National Association of Counties Organization (NaCO) meeting, a tour of the Lincoln Health Center, and will visit the College of Engineering Expo.

5.6 *Commissioner Updates – Benton County Commissioners

Malone toured Jackson-Frazier Wetland with Sherry Brubaker from Congresswoman Val Hoyle's office, Malone believed Brubaker would assist the County in receiving funding to complete the project. Malone is hoping that Jesse Ott, Crager or McEneny can meet with the Brandis family regarding the Brandis property that is west of the Benton County Fairgrounds; Malone stated it is an ideal time to talk to the Brandis family about the property that the County Fair needs in order to function. Malone attended a CIP meeting last week; the attendees discussed upcoming projects, such as a new roof for the Historic Courthouse that has been postponed for a few years. Malone mentioned the Benton Breakfast as well, stating approximately 350 employees attended. Malone attended the Mount Union Cemetery Memorial event for the 160th anniversary of Rueben Shipley's donation of his land for the cemetery because Black people could not be buried in many cemeteries in Benton County. Malone also met with the Philomath School Board.

Wyse and Malone attended the Philomath Rotary Club Salmon and Jazz fundraising event. Wyse attended the NACo Western Interstate Region Conference in Yosemite National Park last week. Sessions that Wyse attended at the conference included

Innovative Forest Health projects with Federal, County, and private sector partnerships; Housing Affordability in Western Counties; Outlook for Drought, Water Supplies and Wildfire in the West; and Bridging Divides: Five Keys to Fostering Civility in Public Discourse. Wyse stated a few takeaways were that Benton County is in a good position in regard to the conference topics. For example, the County has begun to take action on issues that have not been fully solved, but it puts Benton County ahead of other counties' efforts. The City of Monroe's Annual Barbeque and Logger Festival and Competition will be held May 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wyse will be a judge for the Barbeque competition.

Malone added that also on Saturday, May 18, 2024, there will be an evacuation drill at two County sites.

McEneny said the County would send a message to the community regarding the evacuation drill.

The Board discussed the logistics of the evacuation drill.

Wyse asked if the Board should add Deputy County Administrator updates to upcoming Goal-setting meeting agendas.

Crager reported the Sustainable Materials Management Plan (SMMP) continues to move forward, but the County needs a task force with more parameters, which Crager will work on. Crager is also working on a revised contract for the contractor with a revised statement of work. Crager, McGuire, and Payne are working with Steve Chase throughout the process. Last week, Crager attended the HB 2044 symposium; Marion County discussed its Behavioral Health Deflection program. Some takeaways included start small and focus on coordination. On May 16, Crager will meet with District Attorney Joslin, Sheriff Van Arsdall, and Augerot to discuss scope and next steps with community members. Crager is continually working with Health Services to formulate a more efficient structure and will return to the Board soon to discuss direction. Crager is beginning to receive questions regarding Federal priorities. There is interest in the Historic Courthouse, which has a 50% match requirement on the program. Crager stated the County needs to explore alternatives to provide the match, possibly in-kind. Crager received notes from the Department of Administrative Services regarding County funding received during the previous State Legislative session, including \$2,000,000 for housing.

Augerot agreed with previous comments regarding the Benton Breakfast. Augerot attended the Celebrate Kids Breakfast fundraiser at the Corvallis Boys and Girls Club. Augerot attended an online presentation of Zonehaven software Emergency Management staff are using; Augerot stated the software is more useful in an urban than rural environment and Benton County staff are collaborating with City staff on best practices, including the prevention of community confusion. Augerot participated in the Disposal Site Advisory Committee (DSAC) interviews of 24 candidates; some are potentially continuing members whose terms had expired.

Augerot will meet with the Executive Director and Board Chair of HomeShare, the group was on a panel for the Sustainability Coalition Housing Committee and wants to discuss Benton County more in-depth. Augerot stated the organization is statewide and matches extra housing space with people who need living space. Augerot and Wyse plan to attend the May 16 Philomath Chamber of Commerce lunch.

Augerot plans to attend the OSU Clean Water Showcase on May 22, along with Owen's Farm House Open House on May 23, as part of Natural Areas Month celebration. The CHC Board is having its first in-person meeting since COVID-19. The Association of Oregon Counties held a Human Services meeting series; Augerot is also attending the Local Government Advisory Committee meetings, which have focused on Behavioral Health and Deflection programs. Augerot has been asked to participate on several task groups and panels; one of the panels wanted to discuss alcohol as a substance in terms of addiction, and in previous sessions, there has been a public health push to increase alcohol taxes at the State level. Augerot suggested the panel contact Sheriff Van Arsdall. Augerot attended a Community Services Consortium (CSC) leadership transition meeting; there is a task force dedicated to discussing a model for the next leadership. Augerot has asked staff to make some recommendations. The Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) exercise done through the Willamette Criminal Justice Council (WCJC) had a draft for attendees to review and provide edits to staff at Greater Oregon Behavioral Health Inc. WCJC will then use the draft SIM and Action Plan recommendations for strategic planning and as a segue to updating WCJC bylaws and processes. WCJC currently lacks a staff member; there is uncertainty and the budget is based on an IGA that was not fully executed. Dues are collected annually from parties to the unexecuted IGA, including Philomath, Corvallis, Adair Village, OSU, and Benton County. Augerot plans to involve Monroe.

Augerot noted the Benton Community Foundation (BCF) is having a tour of the new Leadership and Learning Center; the BCF did due diligence on being the Fiscal Agent for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) resilience proposal. Augerot continued to discuss BCF projects that the BCF could not afford to front the funding for. The Luckiamute River Floodplain meeting will be held May 30 in Kings Valley, and the Historic Preservation celebration is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Augerot wanted to attend the latter meeting.

Wyse is also attending the Historic Preservation celebration.

Malone is attending the Luckiamute Floodplain meeting.

Augerot mentioned the upcoming Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Regional Title II Advisory Council (RAC) meeting for the Siuslaw National Forest. The current administration has reopened the previously suspended RACs and grants are available again. In the past, Benton County has submitted project proposals, but Augerot does not currently see any upcoming proposals from Benton County. Augerot stated the June 5, 2024 meeting is a chance to advocate on topics of County interest and an opportunity for future funding. Augerot continued to discuss project proposals and meeting logistics for attendees.

On Wednesday May 8, through OCWCOG and the Corvallis Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Malone held two sessions on short-to-medium-term improvements of Philomath Boulevard that were proposed by Kittleson and Associates. Malone thought it was a good proposal, but there is no funding. Malone added that the Legislative Joint Committee on Transportation is planning for 13 sections throughout Oregon. Malone suggested the proposed focus is maintaining what Benton County already has. Augerot is the Commissioner appointee on the Urban Renewal Agency (URA) for South Corvallis and stated there is very little funding. However, the current year is projecting more revenue; \$335,000 in revenue for FY 2024-25, with a beginning balance of \$712,000. The ODOT project for Highway 99 in South Corvallis is happening, and the URA funds will likely help build out some of the project components. The virtual open house for the Highway 99 project is occurring.

Wyse mentioned that Payne sent out an email invitation for a tour of Benton County sites and asked if the tour was confirmed.

Crager indicated it was.

Augerot is not able to attend.

{Exhibit 4: SRS RAC Title II June 5, 2024 Meeting Agenda}

{Exhibit 5: SRS RAC Title II Project Tracker}

6. Announcements

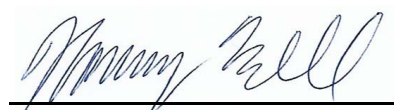
No announcements were made.

7. Other

No other business was discussed.

9. Adjournment

Chair Augerot adjourned the meeting at 12:47 p.m.



Nancy Wyse, 2025 Chair



Erika Milo, Recorder



Rachel Bulder, Transcriptionist

** NOTE: Items denoted with an asterisk do NOT have accompanying written materials in the meeting packet.*