



~Joyce Chapman, Observer Corps Chairperson

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Jackson County (JC) Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting –

10/5/15 – Susan Roberts:

A quorum was present. There was a report on the new **Community Connect Network** whose goal is to make a complicated county social service program easier to use and simpler to coordinate client care with other agencies while maintaining privacy. (Note: On 11/5/15 Commissioner Dyer reported on this meeting and mentioned a success story when a plan was developed for a frequent user under this program and she was diverted to mental health court instead of regular court.) There was a grant of \$168,000 obtained to help with the costs of setting it up. Matt Vorderstrasse is stepping down as chair and John Watson will serve as chair next year.

Jackson County Commissioner Meetings:

10/20/2015 – by Joyce Chapman: All present.

RVCOG (Rogue Valley Council of Government) Plans for Grants Pass Senior Meals Facility by Michael Cavallaro, Executive Director: They are going to purchase a property in Grants Pass because they are being kicked out of their present location. No money from Jackson County will be used for the purchase. He went on to describe the arrangements in detail and they will apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) money. **2. Forest Service Draft Decision on Motor Vehicle Use** by Rob MacWhorter, Forest Supervisor Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest: MacWhorter gave a lengthy explanation of the history of roads, funding sources for maintenance and types/use of roads. The majority of roads, while on public lands, are not public right of ways, they are used for resource management. He emphasized that public roads are not part of this discussion to close roads. He described efforts being made to allow campers to reach dispersed closing the entire forest; no private landowner will be landlocked; the Sheriff will be allowed access for fire, search & rescue, law enforcement, etc. without prior permission. Roberts objected to the plan; Dyer was not sure he liked the plan; Breidenthal wanted to instruct the staff to prepare an MOU, but after discussion, changed it to instructing staff to develop recommendations to the Board on objections to the plan regarding administrative and legal standards. **Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest:** MacWhorter says the plan for the forest will be revised and mentioned “cooperating agency status.” Jordan objected and insisted on “coordinating agency status” (these are legal terms apparently). County Counsel Benton will come back to the Board with an agenda item on “coordinating.” **3.**



Newell Barber Field Recognition Project -- Bern Case, Airport Director, reported on the efforts being made to identify the exact location of the Newell Barber Field and to provide recognition such as a plaque or small monument of some kind. He thinks the location is near Walmart, the Marriott and Rogue Credit Union. **Delisting of Wolves in Oregon** -- Roberts wants to encourage the delisting of wolves in all of Oregon. After discussion County Counsel Benton was asked to write a letter in support of delisting wolves for the Board to sign.
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10/29/2015 – by Jan Craigie:

All present. 1. **Chairman's Award** – Roberts suggest Joyce H?? (Last name inaudible) who is active in volunteer work and wrote a grant for the Library. The decision will be left to Chairman Breidenthal. 2. **Input from County Administrator – Public Safety and Community Justice** have separate funding but the State has provided a \$30 million grant over 2 years for them and has very specific spending rules. The State's goal is to keep more inmates in the counties and fewer in State facilities. **JC Investment Policy** – No change recommended. JC earns 1.5% which is the highest in the State. **Body Cams** – JC is a minority signer with Medford on a grant for body cameras. Medford will get \$51,742 and JC Sheriff will get \$18,000 for body cameras. The **Audit Committee** has finished an update and are dismayed that many costs are double or triple in some areas. Jordan explained that this first draft did not capture costs especially needed by the Sheriff for overtime. This is a 5 year review project and the Sheriff feels this is a bad time for an audit. The **District Attorney** will add .5 FTE to its staff.

11/5/2015 – Joyce Chapman: All Present.

Lorraine Werblow, Co-President of LWVRV, with help from Susan Orth and Joyce Chapman, made a presentation to the Board requesting the Commissioners use microphones to amplify their voices during Staff Meetings and Work Sessions; and to publish an audible video and/or recording of these meetings on the county website. The Commissioners agreed to obtain and use microphones. Unfortunately, the Commissioners feel it is too expensive and burdensome to review all recordings and redact them prior to publishing them on the website. Oregon Revised Statutes 192.501 – 503 require such a review. Roberts would like to continue to look into the possibility of publishing recordings on the website. (Win – 1/ Lose – 1) Good job Lorraine!!! **Governor's Order 12-07** – Roberts reported that Douglas County will move forward with JC and Josephine County. She will give an update once a month.

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Liaison Reports

– Roberts reported on Gold Hill. Dyer reported on the Mental Health Advisory Board and their success in dealing with a frequent user by developing a comprehensive plan. The user ended up in mental health court rather than regular court. Next Breidenthal said that he had received a letter from the **BLM** regarding clean-up of Howard Prairie. Jordan stopped the discussion because the topic was not “noticed” on the agenda and indicated it should be put on a future agenda for discussion. **Fair Board** -- Breidenthal reported that they discussed their financial position and it is looking better. They may end up \$400,000 in the black. **Siskiyou National Monument (Monument)** – Breidenthal was contacted by a “lady” from Washington, DC **BLM** who asked him to come to a meeting to discuss management practices. Breidenthal set a meeting for Saturday, November 14, at 8:30 a.m. at the BLM offices. The Monument covers land in Oregon and California and apparently there is a long and controversial history related to the management of the Monument. Breidenthal was strong in his belief that he could attend this meeting alone. The other Commissioners did not share his view. After a long and



sometimes heated debate, the matter was deferred to Tuesday, November 10, for further discussion as a specific agenda item. AOC – Dyer and Roberts will attend the conference Monday through Wednesday, and Breidenthal will attend Monday through Thursday.

11/10/2015 – Joyce Chapman:

All present. There were several people in the audience, including former Commissioner, C.W. Smith. The two agenda items, **1. BLM – Dayne Barron, District Manager, -- Discussion of Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument and 2. Discussion of Meeting with BLM re Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument** were blended into one discussion. Barron says that the meeting under discussion is a program review of both internal and external management of the Monument program and its future. In addition to the meeting scheduled with Breidenthal, BLM will also meet with various interest groups such as the Tribes and conservationists. Breidenthal wanted to attend the meeting alone. Roberts and Dyer appeared to disagree and expressed concern about having only one Commissioner representing the county at such an important meeting. Jordan pointed out that the current Board has not been informed regarding the issues surrounding this Monument and there is a coordination ordinance which states the official position on how the Commissioners want to be informed. Concern was raised that all Commissioners need to be informed and have input into the answers to the list of questions that BLM is seeking to obtain answers to. At one point Roberts strongly objected to Breidenthal attending the meeting alone saying something to the effect that she did not like the appearance of a meeting behind closed doors without the public present – that it is important for the people to know what was happening. After lengthy discussion, Roberts and Dyer insisted that the meeting with BLM regarding the Monument be attended by at least one other Commissioner and be made a public meeting. The meeting was preliminarily set for 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 14, 2015 at the county offices in the Jackson Room.

Susan Orth agreed to attend as an Observer. Susan followed up and discovered that the Saturday meeting was cancelled with no alternative meeting being scheduled. We will keep you apprised of developments as best we can.

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