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**Special Commission Meeting Minutes  
October 6, 2023 – 8:00 am  
2 Marine Drive, Boardman, Oregon 97818**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Joe Taylor called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

**Commissioners Present:** Rick Stokoe, Joe Taylor, John Murray and Kelly Doherty

**Staff Present:** Lisa Mittelsdorf, Eileen Hendricks, Mark Patton, and Brandy Warburton

**Guests Present:** Karen Pettigrew, Brandon Hammond, Paul Keefer, Theresa Rehaz, Debbie Radie, Dave Boor, Jerry Rietmann, Brian Thompson, Ray Akers

**By Zoom Meeting:** Ryann Gleason, Morrow Co. Blog, L. Pratt, Erika Lasater, John Doherty, Ray Akers, Dori Drago, Kami Kroske, Torrie Griggs, Carmen M., Maria M., Roberta Lutcher, Kain Garcia, Jackie McCauley, Natasha Rockwell, Citizen, Andrea -Heppner Gazette, iphone, Dalarie Philippi, Dave Sykes

**II. QUESTIONS DISCUSSION** – A list of questions was generated by Brandy from SDAO used in our previous Executive Director search and a few from some commissioners. The list was sent to Sam Tucker, our general counsel for review. His comments were given to the commissioners for discussion. Discussion was had by all, and 6 questions were chosen to ask all candidates. The process for asking questions of the candidates was discussed as well.

**10-minute recess was taken for applicants to arrive**

**III. 9 AM INTERVIEWS OF COMMISSION CANDIDATES** – Candidates were asked to randomly choose a number from a bowl to determine seating arrangements and order of interviews. Six questions were asked by commissioners and answered by all candidates individually. No clarification questions were asked. All applicants were invited to stay and listen to the remaining discussion, or they could leave if they preferred.

**20-minute recess was taken for commissioners to review notes**

Each commissioner stated their thoughts on the candidates and thanked them for their time and willingness to serve on the Port of Morrow Commission.

John made a motion to appoint Brian Thompson to the Port of Morrow Commission. Kelly seconded the motion. No further discussion was had. Roll call vote was taken by Joe.

Kelly – yes  
Rick – no  
John – yes  
Joe – yes  
Motion failed.

Rick made a motion to appoint Jerry Rietmann to the Port of Morrow Commission. Joe seconded the motion. John stated that he had concerns about Jerry Rietmann because of statements he had made in the past in the Gazette Times. He read aloud some of the letter to the editor from that paper to the group. Roll call vote was taken by Joe.

John – no  
Rick – yes  
Kelly – no  
Joe – yes  
Motion failed.

Discussion was had on whether the Commission should adjourn the meeting and move the decision to the County Commission or whether they could come to a decision amongst themselves. All commissioners again stated the reasons they chose the candidate that they chose and the concerns they had for the other or opposing candidate.

Kelly moved to reconsider the appointment of Brian Thompson to the Port Commission. John seconded the motion. Discussion was had by all commissioners on both candidates' possible or actual conflicts of interests to the Port and how that would affect their ability to vote. Roll call vote was taken by Joe.

John – yes  
Rick – no  
Kelly – yes  
Joe – no  
Motion failed.

Discussion was had on whether any commissioner would consider an alternate candidate to try to come to a conclusion.

Rick moved to send Jerry Rietmann and Brian Thompson to the County Commission for them to make the decision. After much discussion, the motion failed for lack of a second.

Discussion continued whether we should take more time to make the decision with more questions and clarification by counsel.

John moved to recess the meeting until an agreed upon by commissioners time to take this topic up again. Kelly seconded the motion.

Motion failed 2-2.

John – yes  
Kelly – yes  
Rick – no  
Joe – no

More discussion was had by all on whether the decision should be moved to the County Commission at this time or if we should recess this meeting and take time to process all information before making that choice. Rick asked if any commissioner was willing to discuss another candidate besides the two and Joe said he'd be willing to consider Joel Peterson again. John said he wasn't interested in discussing another candidate.

John made a motion to recess this meeting until Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 9am so that we can take this issue up again. Kelly asked John to amend the motion to include asking the two candidates further questions and John agreed to that amendment. Kelly seconded the motion. Further discussion was had on whether the candidates would be able to come back on that date and whether asking more questions would be helpful to the process or not. Motion was unanimously approved.

More discussion was had by all on the process of for the continued interviews. Joe called a recess so that Brandy could call the two candidates to see if they are available on Monday at 9am.

After returning from recess, more discussion was had on the process moving forward including questions. Brandy reported that Brian would be available on Monday at 9am but Jerry is out of town and will not be back until Wednesday. Joe read aloud from our bylaws about the adjourning of a meeting and he will get clarification on whether that means it should automatically be sent to the County Commission at that point.

John made a motion move the continued meeting from Monday at 9am to Wednesday at 9am with the same conditions as before. Kelly seconded the motion. No further discussion was had and the motion passed 3-1 with Rick voting no.

Joe recessed the meeting at 12:04pm until Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

#### **IV. FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER –**

**Special Commission Meeting Minutes  
October 11, 2023 – 8:00 am  
Continued from Special Commission Meeting October 6, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Joe Taylor called the reconvening of the October 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

**Commissioners Present:** Rick Stokoe, Joe Taylor, John Murray and Kelly Doherty

**Staff Present:** Lisa Mittelsdorf, Eileen Hendricks, Mark Patton, and Brandy Warburton

**Guests Present:** Brian Jackson, Travis Hyder, Kelly Morgan, Karen Pettigrew, Brandon Hammond, Deb Imes, Michael Graham, Jerry Rietmann, and Brian Thompson

**By Zoom Meeting:** Sam Tucker, Heppner Gazette, Justin Nelson, Ryann Gleason, Mariam, Luke, Morrow County Blog, Dori D, Johnathan Black, Natasha Rockwell, Erika Lasater, Marcine Brangham, Torrie Griggs, Wes Killion, Debbie Radie, Kami K, Brenda P, Lisa Pratt, Brent Baglien, Adolfo, Carmen Mendoza, Morrow County E. M., Patrick Maag, iphone, Kim Cutsforth, Jim Doherty, SAGE Center, Wayne, Polluted Well User #426

**II. QUESTIONS DISCUSSION**

Joe explained to the group that in the first part of the meeting, they will be discussing another round of questions for the candidates. Discussion was had on Sam Tucker's comments regarding the questions and how the process will go today when the applicants arrive at 9am. Sam explained to the group his review on the previous questions and on these current questions.

**Joe recessed the meeting at 8:14am until the candidates arrived at 9:00am.**

**Joe reconvened the meeting at 9:00am**

**III. CONTINUE INTERVIEWS FOR FINAL COMMISSION CANDIDATES**

Candidates were asked to randomly choose a number from a bowl to determine seating arrangements and order of interviews. Both candidates introduced themselves and gave a short background. Six questions were asked by commissioners Joe Taylor, John Murray and Kelly Doherty and all were answered by both candidates individually.

All commissioners gave brief statements on the process, the questions, the answers and the

candidates. Some discussion was had about those statements.

Joe asked if there were any different votes than there were last week and if so, he would entertain a motion.

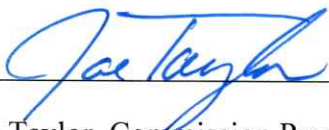
Kelly made a motion to reapprove the appointment of Brian Thompson to the Port Commission. John seconded the motion. Kelly stated her reasoning behind appointing Brian Thompson to the group. No further discussion was had. The motion failed 2-2 with Rick and Joe both voting no.

Joe stated that he believed the Commission was at an impasse and State law ORS 198.320 dictates this decision be moved to the County Court. He read aloud the law to the group and stated he will write a letter to the County Commission asking them to appoint a member of the community to the Port Commission. Discussion was had on who we would ask them to consider in their process although they can choose whomever they wish to appoint. More discussion was had on whether the Commission was at an impasse or not.

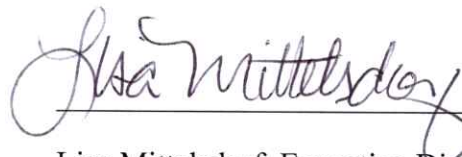
John stated that he would like the letter to point out that this was not a unanimous decision to send this to the County Court, that he for one does not agree with sending this. Joe agreed.

**Joe adjourned the meeting at 10:04am.**

Submitted by:



Joe Taylor, Commission President



Lisa Mittelsdorf, Executive Director

**PORT OF MORROW**  
**Special Session Commission Meeting**  
**October 6, 2023**

**SIGN-IN SHEET**

NAME <b>PLEASE PRINT</b>	COMPANY REPRESENTING	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS (If we don't have it)
<i>Karaw Pettigrew</i>			
<i>Paul Keefe</i>	<i>Boardman</i>		
<i>Theresa Rehal</i>	<i>Artisan</i>		

**PORT OF MORROW**  
**Special Session Commission Meeting**  
**October 11, 2023**

**SIGN-IN SHEET**

NAME <b>PLEASE PRINT</b>	COMPANY REPRESENTING	PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL ADDRESS (If we don't have it)
BRIAN JACKSON	LAMB WESTON	509/539-2267	BRIAN.JACKSON@LAMBWESTON.COM
Kelly Noyes	Lamb Weston	608-651-9473	Kelly.Noyes@Lambweston.com
Deb Imus	Self	541-571-3706	
TRAVIS HYDER	LAMB WESTON	541-314-2930	TRAVIS.HYDER@LAMBWESTON.COM
Brandon Hammond	Boardman	541-303-5557	
KARAW Pettiqrus	Self	541-488-6071	