

BOARD ORDERS AND MINUTES

IN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL

SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY (“the Board”) sat for the transaction of county business in combined session on February 27, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 32 of the Yamhill County courthouse, and in a virtual meeting via Zoom, Commissioners Kit Johnston, Mary Starrett, and David “Bubba” King being present.

Also present were Ken Huffer, County Administrator; Christian Boenisch, County Counsel; Jodi Gollehon, Assistant County Counsel; Paulette Alexandria, Treasurer; Sam Elliott, Sheriff; Travis Pease, Parks Manager; Carolina Rook, BOC Staff and Jessica Andre, BOC Staff.

Guests: Ian Houston, John Olson. Rebecca Wallis Yamhill County News, Lee Schrepel, Penny, Beth L’s iPhone, and iPhone participated via Zoom.

*Welcome! Thank you for attending today’s meeting. Public participation is encouraged. If you wish to address the Commissioners on any item not on the agenda, you may do so as part of the public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. If you desire to speak on any item, please raise your hand to be recognized after the Chair announces the agenda item. Please fill out a public comment card to indicate your intent to speak. NEW – Public participation also includes the ability to attend Formal Session via Zoom. For attendees that are attending the meeting via Zoom, the Chair will ask if any Zoom attendees wish to provide public comment in same manner as provided above. At that time, attendees will be asked to use the “raise hand” function in Zoom and staff will unmute the participant. Meetings will also continue to be available for view via a live stream on the Commissioners’ You Tube channel. Written public comments may be submitted via email at [bocinfo@yamhillcounty.gov](mailto:bocinfo@yamhillcounty.gov)*

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Johnston called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**B. FLAG SALUTE**

**C. CALENDAR SESSION:** This time is reserved for the review of the commissioners’ joint schedule (if needed).

The Commissioners reviewed the joint schedule for the week of March 3, 2025 – March 9, 2025. No other business was discussed.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT:** This time period is reserved for public comment on any topic other than: 1) agenda items, 2) A quasi-judicial land use matter, or 3) a topic scheduled for public hearing. The Chair may limit the length of individual comments.

The Board acknowledged written public comment regarding Commissioner expense reimbursements.

**E. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:** None.

**F. 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 10:00 a.m.

1. Work Session – None.

**G. CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

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**H. OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**I. OTHER BUSINESS** (Add-ons and non-consent items):

1. **B.O. 25-55** - Consideration of approval of Ordinance 942 in the matter of amending the Yamhill County Dog Code; repealing Board Order 07-340; declaring an emergency and setting the effective date.

Hearing no objections, Jodi Gollehon entered the first and second reading of Ordinance 942 by title only.

Commissioner Starrett moved approval of item I1. The motion passed, Commissioners Johnston, Starrett, and King voting aye.

2. Consideration of approval of Ordinance 941 in the matter of amending the Yamhill County Parks Code; the Wheatland Boat Ramp Parking Regulations; and the Rogers Landing Park Fee Schedule; declaring an emergency and setting the effective date.

Hearing no objections, Jodi Gollehon entered the first reading only of Ordinance 941 by title only.

Travis Pease stated that fees had not been updated since 2005. The original fee schedule was set to balance with the grant money received by the Oregon State Marine Board. Ken Huffer clarified that there was a cap for the launch fee and if the County were to charge more than the cap, the grant money would be reduced by 25%. Mr. Pease stated that there were fees not included in the Parks Code for renting space and events. Commissioner Johnston requested to have fee updates be proposed as Board Orders. Commissioner Starrett expressed concerns regarding overreach of the proposed prohibition of tobacco products in County parks.

Commissioner Starrett then expressed concern about stipulating that law enforcement or Parks Manager shall immediately take any weapon stating that the Parks Manager was not trained to do so. Commissioners Johnston and Starrett requested to elaborate how the County could prohibit abusive language in a public park. Jodi Gollehon suggested that County Counsel could add that the abusive language would have to have been causing a reasonable fear of safety. The consensus of the Board was to reduce the tobacco stipulations to prohibit any tobacco products that cause a public nuisance, require fee updates to be proposed as Board Orders rather than written into the Code, and to allow the Parks Manager to issue a citation but not handle a deadly weapon. The Board requested to postpone the proposed Ordinance to a later date to allow staff time to make the recommended changes. No action was taken.

3. **B.O. 25-56** - Consideration to authorize Public Works to purchase a 2025 Ford F-550 from Landmark Ford of Tigard, Oregon under the state bid contract in the amount of \$72,136.44.

Commissioner Johnston moved approval of item I3. The motion passed, Commissioners Johnston, Starrett, and King voting aye.

4. **B.O. 25-57** - Consideration of approval of a Board Order approving a Road Vacation without a Public Hearing: Public Works Docket No. RV-3-2024.

Commissioner Johnston moved approval of item I4. The motion passed, Commissioners Johnston, Starrett, and King voting aye.

5. **B.O. 25-58** - Consideration of approval of a Board Order approving a Road Vacation without a Public Hearing: Public Works Docket No. RV-2-2024.

Commissioner Johnston moved approval of item I5. The motion passed, Commissioners Johnston, Starrett, and King voting aye.

6. **B.O. 25-59** - Consideration of a letter to be submitted to Senator Ron Wyden regarding cuts to Medicare physician payments. (Commissioner Mary Starrett)

Commissioner Starrett stated that Medicare implemented an almost 3% cut to physician payments for 2025 following an almost 1.7% pay cut in 2024 and a 2% cut in 2023 which she was concerned may be reducing quality of services.

Commissioner Starrett moved approval of item I6. The motion passed, Commissioners Johnston, Starrett, and King voting aye.

7. **B.O. 25-60** - Consideration of a letter to be submitted in opposition of Senate Bill (SB) 916 regarding unemployment insurance benefits for employees unemployed due to a labor dispute; and declaring an emergency. (Commissioner Mary Starrett)

Commissioner Starrett expressed concern about SB 916 having been generous in approving unemployment services and stated that it would likely result in other services being cut. She stated that the bill would have a broad impact and may encourage strikes.

Commissioner Starrett moved approval of item I7. The motion passed, Commissioners Johnston, Starrett, and King voting aye.

**J. PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.

***THE RECORDS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS CAN BE FOUND AT:***

<https://www.yamhillcounty.gov/1190/Public-Hearing-Notices>

**K. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. For information on county advisory committee vacancies, please refer to the county's website, <https://www.yamhillcounty.gov/765/Boards-and-Committees> , or call the Board of Commissioners' office at 503-434-7501 or 503-554-7801 (toll-free from Newberg).

2. For questions regarding accessibility or to request an accommodation contact the Board of Commissioners' office at (503)-434-7501 or (503)-554-7801 (toll-free from Newberg) or email at [bocinfo@yamhillcounty.gov](mailto:bocinfo@yamhillcounty.gov)

3. Electronic versions of all meeting agendas and meeting information packets can be found at the county's website: <https://www.yamhillcounty.gov/AgendaCenter>

Following Commissioner announcements, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Bailey Barnhart  
Secretary

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Chair KIT JOHNSTON

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Commissioner MARY STARRETT

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Commissioner DAVID "BUBBA" KING