

## **Board of County Commissioners Business Meeting Minutes – DRAFT**

A complete video copy and packet including staff reports of this meeting can be viewed at <https://www.clackamas.us/meetings/bcc/business>.

**Thursday, November 6, 2025 – 10:02 AM**

In person and via virtual technology (Zoom)

**PRESENT:** Chair Craig Roberts  
Commissioner Martha Schrader  
Commissioner Paul Savas  
Commissioner Ben West  
Commissioner Diana Helm

### **CALL TO ORDER**

#### **I. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

Scott Keyser (Molalla) – Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements

Stephen Hunter (Wilsonville) – Wilsonville City Council interpersonal feuds

Grover Bornefeld (Jennings Lodge) – Library District Taskforce recommendations

Les Poole (Marion County) – Bull Run water treatment plant construction + Recovery Campus

Brainard Brauer (Oregon City) – Undercover tobacco purchasers

#### **II. PRESENTATION**

A. County Assessor's General Update on Property Taxes

B. Approval of a Resolution to Recognize Veterans and Designate Clackamas County as a Green Light for Veterans County.

**Commissioner Schrader moved to approve the resolution and Commissioner Helm seconded. Motion passed 5-0.**

#### **III. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

A. Approval of Annexation Proposal #2025-007 of territory located at 12925 SE Almond Ct, Clackamas, OR. No County General Funds are involved.

**Commissioner Savas moved to approve and Commissioner West seconded. Motion passed 5-0.**

#### **IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **A. Elected Officials**

1. Approval of Previous Business Meeting Minutes – BCC
2. Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Revenue for map development to improve ad valorem property tax system administration. Agreement Value is \$24,000 for 1 year. Funding is through the Oregon Department of Revenue. No County General Funds are involved. – ASSESSOR

##### **B. Clackamas 911 (CCOM)**

1. Approval of a Contract Amendment with Priority Dispatch Corporation for call taker medical triage program software. Amendment Value is \$112,000 for 5 years. Total Contract Value is \$222,430 for 10 years. Funding is through user fees and state 911 taxes. No County General Funds are involved.

##### **C. Transportation & Development**

1. Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Oregon Department of Transportation for the Amisigger Road Roundabout Project. Total Project Value is \$5,675,465 for 5 years. Funding is through the Community Road Fund. No County General Funds are involved.
2. Approval of a Purchase Order for magnesium chloride supplies used for de-icing and anti-icing of County roadways. Order Value \$250,000 for 3 years. Funding is through the County Road Fund. No County General Funds are involved.

##### **D. \*Finance**

1. Approval of a Public Improvement Contract with Johnson Controls for heating and cooling control system upgrades at the Clackamas County Public Services Building. Contract Value is \$670,511 for 8 months. Funding is through budgeted County General Funds.

**Commissioner Schrader moved to approve as read and Commissioner Helm seconded. Motion passed 5-0.**

#### **V. WATER ENVIRONMENT SERVICES CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of a Contract Amendment with Jacobs Engineering Group for updated hydraulic modeling. Amendment Value is \$132,248 for no time increase. Total Contract Value is \$605,009 for 3 years. Funding is through WES Sanitary Sewer Construction Fund. No County General Funds are involved.

**Director Helm moved to approve and Director Savas seconded. Motion passed 5-0.**

## **VI. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

**Administrator Schmidt** provided an update to the Board on the use of the funds authorized by the emergency declaration on food assistance: \$50,000 to Clackamas Service Center and \$10,000 each to pantries in Colton, Sandy and Estacada.

## **VII. COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATION**

**Commissioner Schrader** noted her approval of the format of the previous night's State of the County event.

**Commissioner Savas** extolled the importance of team building at the Board's upcoming team building retreat.

**Commissioner West** lamented the absence of a Veterans' Day Parade in Portland due to financial difficulties and proposed the County host it next year.

**Commissioner Helm** thanked staff for keeping her informed and read a daily affirmation.

**Chair Roberts** encouraged donations to the Clackamas Service Center and encouraged people struggling financially to ask for help.

**Chair Roberts adjourned the meeting at 12:02PM.**

## Constituent Provided Material for Minutes Inclusion

Time to set the record straight.

Although stepping down as City Councilor was a difficult decision, I am confident it was best in order to protect my personal health and safety. That being said, there was a significant, and until now, unknown contributing factor to my stepping away, and I believe it is time to disclose. I attest that my story is true, and am prepared to state under oath that every event is as it happened and was also immediately repeated to others, including City Officials. I have asked myself many times why I didn't go public before today. Like many women, I was afraid - fear of having my truth go public, because like many women, fear that my truth itself would be questioned. And in my case, ongoing fear of a person in power who would attempt to go after me in other ways.

Serving as a City Councilor was a great honor. The first all-female Council appeared unified to outsiders. I thrived on Council because of the trust built between me, our city staff, and fellow councilors. All of that changed as the new council was seated in January 2025, with a new mayor who has made a standard practice of leveling accusations and attacks on fellow council members when they differed from his opinion. Unfortunately for me, I was not prepared for his behavior and it is a catalyst that drove my eventual resignation. This new mayor has attempted to control the council like a king, challenging dissent and attempting to mute the voice of fellow council members.

I leave it up to the citizens of this city to decide whether the actions and behavior of our Mayor reflect the person you want to lead. Despite his public persona focusing on equality, behind that facade is a bully unworthy to lead. I have heard from other women in our community who have been on the receiving end of Shawn O'Neil's bullying, and like me, have been afraid to speak out, or have dismissed his behavior as a quirk of his personality.

My first call with Shawn O'Neil occurred in July 2024, shortly after he announced his candidacy. In what began as an introductory call by him, it quickly turned into insults and name calling, accusing me of not being a "real city councilor" because I ran unopposed, that he didn't consider me a "real" minority because I "didn't look the part" and expressed disdain and concern when I told him that I attended Wilsonville's Grace Chapel. The conversation made me feel wary of him as a candidate who would best serve this city.

In early December, as Mayor-elect Shawn once again contacted me, asking to meet at a local coffee shop. I agreed, and at the end of our brief meeting he asked me if I had met with any other newly elected members of Council. I shared that I had not yet met Adam Cunningham but met with Anne Shevlin two days prior, that we had a great meeting, and I was excited to work with her. I mentioned that I had heard that he had the benefit of already knowing her since they ran together as a united campaign. Shawn stopped me and said that he "only ran alongside her because she had money and I didn't." As we were walking to his car, I let him know that I was planning to ask

for a nomination or would nominate myself as Council President. I believed I was the best qualified Councilor and still do today.

Shawn followed up the next day with a call, saying "I have just one question, why do you want to be Council President?" I responded that I was the best qualified and provided multiple examples, had the tenure necessary, and it was a well-known tradition that a currently serving Councilor would serve as the President. Shawn aggressively cut me off mid sentence, telling me in a raised voice that "wasn't an adequate answer" and that he "had other ideas." When I challenged him and asked whether he was going to nominate the other tenured council member, he said that this was now "HIS council" and that things were "about to change from tradition." I knew that he would not be nominating Adam Cunningham, who he had disparaged during our meeting the prior day. At this point Shawn was screaming at me over the phone. I reminded him that he would be only one of five votes.

I challenged Shawn as to the justification for inferring that he would seat Anne Shevlin as Council President, and I told him that it appeared that he was attempting quid pro quo, given that he had told me the prior day that he only ran alongside Anne "because she had money and I didn't." I also told him that if he made any attempt to move outside of tradition, on the night of his swearing in I would publicly call out his attempt as quid pro quo. When he said he took that as a threat, I said, "No, that's a promise." Shawn then said that if I called him out, he would "take me down," followed by a 15 minute screaming lecture about his power as mayor and that I couldn't be trusted to serve under him. I had my phone on mute at this point until I abruptly ended the call. There are those moments in life where you remember exactly where you were when it happened. This was one of those moments. I immediately blocked his number from my phone.

I dissolved into tears as the call ended. I felt both terrorized and violated, and within minutes I called our City Manager Byran Cosgrove. I recounted the call and let him know that I could not safely serve alongside the new mayor and would resign. Bryan said he would prepare the papers and later that night I received a call from our City Attorney where I once again shared what had happened earlier in the day. After speaking with my family and others, including Mayor Fitzgerald, I held back on the resignation with encouragement to at least go to the first meeting.

I reached out to the City Manager in early January, and let him know I would remain for now but given the events with Shawn, I needed assurance that certain protections would be put into place. I would not be seeking a nomination for Council President, and if I stayed, I must be seated as far from Shawn as possible for my own safety. This is the reason why, as a more tenured councilor, I was seated farther away from the Mayor, and Councilor Cunningham, a more junior councilor, was seated towards the center of the dais - in between us. I also let Bryan know that I didn't feel physically or emotionally safe and would return only if I could also be assured that I would only meet or speak with Shawn with a witness present. I entered that first Council meeting

shaking, physical proximity to him always remain difficult. I have not privately spoken to or acknowledged Shawn outside of in-session meetings since the December call.

I also let Councilor Berry know that I would be nominating her as Council President. She was not aware of why until now.

It was a difficult eight months and yet I believe I served well, given the conditions. Now that I am no longer on Council, I feel it is important to share this information with a broader public, although I have shared with select members of Council and our community.

As citizens, I encourage you to hold our Mayor accountable. Raise the bar, do not accept poor behavior from any of your elected officials and make it clear that bullying is never acceptable. I believe Shawn is unfit to serve.

I encourage others who have been on the receiving end of Shawn's behavior to fearlessly step up and hold him accountable. I also ask for protection from my fellow community members. Am I still afraid of Shawn? Yes. Does my personal fear of him mean that he shouldn't be held accountable? I'll leave that up to our citizens

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