Coös County Commissioners Special Meeting

Meeting held remotely in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, October 7, 2020

As Chair of the Coös County Commissioners, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically. Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting. All members of the Coös County Commissioners have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 1-646-558-8656 or by clicking on the following website address: www.zoom.us/join. The meeting ID is # 865 5549 4561 passcode 270943.

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the Coös County Commissioners at: www.cooscountynh.us

If anybody has a problem, please call 603-331-5670 or email at: jennifer.fish@cooscountynh.us
In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

The following individuals were in attendance remotely: Commissioners Tom Brady, Paul Grenier and Rick Samson; County Administrator Jennifer Fish; Director of Finance Carrie Klebe; Administrative Assistant Linda Harris; representatives from various agencies.

Commissioner Brady opened the Commissioners' meeting at 9:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. <u>Approval of the Agenda</u>: A motion was made by Commissioner Grenier, seconded by Commissioner Samson to approve the agenda, as presented. The motion was approved by roll call 3-0.

	Commissioner Grenier	Yes	Commissioner Samson	Yes	Commissioner Brady	Yes	
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2. <u>Approval of the Minutes from the September 9, 2020, regular meeting, as presented:</u> A motion was made by Commissioner Grenier, seconded by Commissioner Samson to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2020, regular meeting. The motion was approved by roll call 3-0.

3. Other Business:

- a. Special Appropriations Requests: Jeanne Robillard, CEO, Tri-County CAP reported to the Board that all CAP programs have remained opened through COVID except for the weatherization program. The programs have served 10,567 individuals in Coös County. All programs' requests were level funded except for the Tyler Blain House which requested an additional \$3,000.
 - Senior Meals: A funding request of \$17,000 was presented. Due to COVID the need for meals has increased significantly. Grab & go meals as well as home deliveries are offered.
 - Retired Service Volunteer Program (RSVP): A funding request of \$17,000 was presented. Volunteers have altered their tasks due to COVID which include making masks, the mitten tree, food pantry and senior meals deliveries and have begun a phone tree to check in on shut-ins.
 - Child Advocacy Center of Coös County (CAC): Kim Preston presented a level funding request of \$15,000. She reported that there was a decrease in referrals once the schools shut down due to COVID. The office is now seeing a dramatic increase in referrals.
 - RESPONSE to Sexual and Domestic Violence: Deborah Haynes Kenney presented a request of \$6,000. She reported that due to COVID all offices had to go remote. A crisis line has been opened for individuals to speak to an advocate. Shelters are only able to house one family at a time in order to follow social distancing. Hotels are being used as shelters.
 - County Transit: Brenda Gagne presented a funding request of \$36,000. COVID has been a challenge that the team met head on. The program never shut down. The vehicles have been set up with barriers and teams are assisting with senior meals deliveries.
 - Coös Economic Development Corporation (CEDC): Lisa Howson presented a funding request of \$45,000. Ms. Howson reported that a new program called the COVID emergency relief grant has been created. Priority is given to programs that have had no support from state and federal programs. Ms. Howson stated that she offered loan payment deferments earlier which were accepted but was happy to report that all loans were now current.
 - Tyler Blain House Homeless Program: This program requested an increase of \$3,000 over the 2020 budget totaling \$10,000. The shelter was hardest hit with homeless people during COVID shut downs. Lots of hotels were used once the shelter was full.
 - ServiceLink: The program funding request was \$5,800. Clients are not being seen in the offices yet. Hot spots are available as well as meeting clients outside.
 - Energy Assistance Services Program: The program funding request was \$5,000. The state allowed the program to remain open until May to provide assistance. This year, any individual who qualifies for assistance will automatically get a \$200 additional benefit. There are no face to face in office appointments. The program is accepting phone, mail, email and outside appointments.

The Board thanked all of the providers for the services provided during this difficult time.

The October 14, 2020 meeting will be held remotely beginning at 9:00 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Grenier, seconded by Commissioner Samson to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 a.m. The motion was approved by roll call 3-0.

Commissioner Grenier Yes Commissioner S	amson Yes Commissioner Brady Yes
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Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner Rick Samson, Clerk