

# Lexington airport work sees setback due to new cultural study requirements

*-Continued from PAGE ONE*  
the county are not well defined as we've kind of seen over the last few months," said Ince. "As we refine and implement new processes along with the implementation of this system, the risk and procurement manager position is going to be integral in helping us stand that up."

"The timeliness of hopefully having that person on board at the beginning of this process is going to be very valuable; it will allow someone to focus on just that element of it," he added.

Commissioner Roy Drago asked whether the software would improve IT (internet technology) security for the county.

Ince replied that the county is also working with BerryDunn on a separate project for business continuity and disaster recovery for its technical infrastructure. The two teams are working in tandem to provide the best solutions

for both.

"They're going to be collaborating to make sure that as we negotiate the statement of work in the contract that we're incorporating some of those best practice security recommendations from the disaster recovery business continuity team into this," Ince said.

"I can tell you that internally, security and roles and permissions within a system, our processes, will definitely be more secure and allow us to kind of segregate some of the functions that need to be separated more than what we have today," he added.

"I would say that the ERP doesn't directly tie in with our IT security infrastructure, but it will assist with any type of fraud risk," added Morrow County Administrator Matthew Jensen.

Also at the meeting, the BOC held a public hearing and approved a supplemental budget for fiscal year

2025 for the establishment of a behavioral health deflection grant program fund. It also adopted a supplemental budget to allow for transfer of opioid abatement funds.

Ince told the BOC that the county had originally thought it would be the fiscal agent for the grant funds, which are to be used by Community Counseling Solutions in its opioid deflection program.

However, Ince said further review of the funds showed that the county is the grant recipient, which created the need for the special fund.

"These are important dollars for the county. They're going to help us, hopefully, try to lighten some of the addiction issues we have," Morrow County district Attorney Justin Nelson said in favor of the proposed budget adjustments. "I can't say for sure it's going to work, but I think we're going to give it every shot we have."

In other business, the commissioners authorized payment of a claim rejected by the finance department. The claim was for work on a side-by-side owned by Morrow County Parks. The work had been time-sensitive, since it happened during fire season, and the UTV was equipped to respond to dry lightning strikes and fires on the park. The repairs needed had ended up being more significant than expected, and the department had neglected to get prior approval.

Ince said the purchase didn't meet process requirements and therefore could not be approved by statute. However, he said he didn't feel there was wanton disregard for the process, but merely an oversight. All the employees involved had reviewed the correct procedure.

The BOC also approved three fiscal year

2025 resolution budget transfers and adjustments, two for transfers of appropriations and one for an increase of appropriations.

One transfer was from general operating contingency in the general fund into the weed department for costs related to the building lease, utilities and expenditures for fixtures and equipment for the new weed office location. The other was a transfer of appropriations from general operating contingency to the finance department for the creation of a new risk and procurement manager position.

The increase of appropriations was for funds from a Homeland Security emergency management grant program for the audio/visual upgrades in the county's primary emergency operations center, which is the upper meeting room in the Bartholomew Building in Heppner.

In other business, the board:

-ratified the 2024-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Morrow County Road Department, Local 2479 American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees;

-heard that South Morrow County Seniors Matter received the 2024 Oregon Rural Quality Excellence Award for a Community Based Organization earlier this month; and

-canceled the Nov. 20 BOC meeting due to schedule conflicts with the Association of Oregon Counties annual conference, which BOC members and some staff will attend.

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### FOR CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

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