

**Harney County Court Meeting  
February 16, 2011**

→The Harney County Court convened February 16, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. in Judge Grasty's office. Members attending were, Judge Steven E. Grasty and Commissioners Dan Nichols and Pete Runnels. Also attending were, Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor and County Clerk, Maria Iturriaga.

→Public attending were, Pauline Braymen, representing KBNH & KORC Radio, Len Vohs, Burns Mayor, Karen Moon, Patty Dorroh, Larry Clucas, and Randy Parks, Burns Times Herald.

→Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Financial and statistical reports were reviewed and vouchers approved by court's signature.

→Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the February 2 county court minutes as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Judge Grasty updated the court on the Sage Grouse strategy. He stated that this issue will be kept on the agenda until resolution of this issue. There was an ODFW meeting last week where 7 counties participated either by phone or in the room at which they provided input on social and economic impacts if the decision goes the wrong way. The affected counties will be asking the Governor and the legislature to ask ODFW to allow the community input provided in regards to social and economic impacts in their decision making.

→Karen Moon, Watershed Council Coordinator was in attendance with a recommendation from the council to appoint Linda Johnson and Angie Ketscher to the Watershed Council. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to appoint Linda Johnson, Angie Ketscher and to re-appoint Dustin Johnson, Fred Otley and Christine Bates as recommended. Commissioner Runnels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Patty Dorroh, Director of the Harney County Commission on Children & Families was in attendance to request Pat Sharp and Geoffrey Robinson be appointed to the Commission. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to appoint Pat Sharp and Geoffrey Robinson to the Harney County Commission on Children & Families as recommended. Commissioner Runnels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Ms. Dorroh also requested Judge Grasty's signature for re-authorization of the Drug Free Community Grant. This grant has 4 more years at funding of \$125,000 a year. Commissioner Runnels made a motion to authorize Judge Grasty to sign the grant document. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Larry Clucas, consultant with Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation introduced himself and explained his services. He stated that they do not compete with banks but work in conjunction. Judge Grasty asked Mr. Clucas to have presence here in Harney County and have office hours here once a month.

→Judge Grasty updated the court on the monthly Association of Oregon Counties meeting which was held Feb. 14 and 15 in Salem. He informed the court that the issue of Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2008 which is in President Obama's budget was discussed along with bills to watch during the Legislative session.

→In accordance with ORS 279B.100 Section (2), Judge Grasty made a motion to delay the fuel bid opening, scheduled for today, until March 2, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Brandon McMullen, of the Planning Department was in attendance with an update on the County Building Program which has been made an operation of the Planning Department. Interviews will be conducted on four individuals selected by the advisory committee on 2/18/11 who are interested in providing inspection service and acting as the Building Official for the Building Program.

→Ordinance #2011-68 in the Matter of Amending the Harney County Zoning Ordinance To Update The Review Process Within The Airport Vicinity Overlay Zone. Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve and sign Resolution #2011-68 to be read by title only. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Nichols made a second motion to approve and sign Resolution #2011-68 to be read by title only. Commissioner Runnels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Judge Grasty made a motion to refund land use application fees paid by three applicants for conditional use permits within the Airport Vicinity Overlay Zone in 2010. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Resolution #2011-02 for Veterans Services tabled until next county court meeting on March 2, 2011.

→The court discussed the new Forest Planning rule and the Blue Mountain Forest Plan.

→Kenny McDaniel, Burns BLM District Manager, to update the court on the Burns District's actions to comply with Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar's Wild Lands policy. He outlined the process of the inventory for these lands are accomplished and also stated in order to turn into Wild Lands it has to go through the RMP process. Mr. McDaniel also informed the court that a meeting regarding the NE Transmission line will be held Friday between Fish & Wildlife and Columbia Energy at which he and Mr. Renchler will be attending.

→The court reviewed names of interest for consideration to fill vacant positions on the Fair Board. Judge Grasty made a motion to approve and appoint Zelle Campbell, Jim Kelley and Melodi Molt to the Harney County Fair Board. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously. There is still one vacant position. Judge Grasty stated that the Fair budget is running in the negative as there were some unexpected expenses and revenue projected has not materialized. It was the consensus of the court that newly created bills will not be honored unless approved by the court.

→Public notice of water use requests from Oregon Water Resources Department were reviewed by the court. No objections were expressed to any of the requests.

→There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iturriaga, CCC  
Harney County Clerk