

**HARNEY COUNTY COURT MEETING
APRIL 6, 2011**

→The Harney County Court convened April 6, 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, Mary Ausmus, Pauline Braymen, Debbie Raney and Barbara Cannady who attended the afternoon session.

→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 March 16 regular meeting minutes and March 18 special meeting. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge Grasty updated the court on meeting they've held to discuss the flooding situation around the county. He stated there is three houses in the water, along with a portion of West Loop and Silver Creek Road also Highway 20 at Riley including the state housing there. Commissioner Nichols informed the court the Round Barn has also been affected as well. The County court will monitor the situation and will take action as needed.

→Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sign a Bargain & Sale Deed to Janet Alberty and James Gindlesperger on a parcel of County owned land. Commissioner Runnels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→The court had a discussion in regards of the Sage Grouse conservation plan and a letter drafted to ODFW expressing their concerns.

→In regards to Ordinance #2011-67 in the matter of repealing Ordinance #2005-57 to Effect Dissolution of the Intergovernmental Entity known as the Harney Malheur Community Action Agency (HMCAA). Commissioner Runnels made a motion to sign Ordinance #2011-67 and to be read by title only. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Judge Grasty read the Ordinance by title only. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Runnels made a second motion to sign Ordinance #2011-67 and to be read by title only. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Judge read it by title only. Motion carried unanimously.

→Randy Fulton, Economic Development Coordinator, was in attendance to update the court on activities since the last report. (Report on file at the Clerk's office).

→Mr. Fulton recommended the continuation of being a member of (WEDA) World Economic Development Alliance. He stated he had conversation with them and had agreed to pay lower membership rate, he felt for the amount of money we were paying continuing some of their services were not beneficial to Harney County. Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the membership and pay dues of \$4,950 as recommended. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→11:00 a.m. bid opening on a used 4WD backhoe the following bids were received;

Petersen Cat, Eugene-----	\$ No bid
Pape Machinery-----	\$ 73,500
Western States-----	\$ 58,000

After reviewing the bids, Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor, recommended awarding the bid to the lowest bidder Western States which meets all specifications and requirements and it also meets with the budget as well. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the Western States bid for 420D Caterpillar in the amount of \$58,000 as recommended by Mr. Drushella. Commissioner Runnels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Judge Grasty stated that at the April 20 county court meeting there will be discussion and a possible decision on privatization of Harney Behavioral Health.

→The court reviewed the Oregon Department of Transportation Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for 2012-2015.

Commissioner Runnels reported on Blue Mountain Forests Plan meeting he recently attended.

→1:30 p.m. A public hearing opened in the matter of the conveyance of reserved mineral rights to property owner, James M. & Stuart Wilson. Public attending was Barbara Cannady. Judge Grasty explained the process as outlined in Resolution 2001-03. Mr. Wilson has met all requirements and has paid all fees required. The hearing closed at 1:40 p.m. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the conveyance of reserved mineral rights to Mr. James M. Wilson and issue him a deed. Commissioner Runnels seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Commissioner Nichols commented they will be having a Malheur National Wildlife Refuge CCP (Comprehensive Conservation Plan) meeting, tomorrow. He gave a brief report of their work on the plan and stated by enlarge it has been very successful.

→Judge Grasty updated the court on different NEPA processes currently being worked on.

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

→There being no further business the county court meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iturriaga, CCC
Harney County Clerk