

# HARNEY COUNTY COURT MEETING

March 21, 2012

→The Harney County Court convened on Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in Judge Steven E. Grasty's office. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, Commissioners Dan Nichols and Peter Runnels. Also attending all or portions of the meeting were Road Supervisor Eric Drushella; Jesse Barnes, Weed Supervisor; Brandon McMullen, Planning Director; Bryce Mertz, GIS Coordinator and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Derrin Robinson.

→Also attending were Barbara Cannady, Herb Vloedman, Mary Ausmus, and Jennifer Jenks, of the Burns Times-Herald.

→Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the March 7, 2012 minutes as mailed, Commissioner Nichols seconded, motion carried unanimously.

→Statistical and Financial reports were reviewed and vouchers approved by Court's signature.

## Public Comment:

→Judge Grasty explained the purpose of the public comment period, and wished to keep public comment and discussion to that portion of the agenda, and keep further discussion to the County Court members, unless invited to comment on specific agenda topics. Mary Ausmus was pleased that a sign in / topic sheet is not required for County Court.

→The Court discussed the scheduling for the April 4 County Court meeting. Judge has a meeting of the Regional Economic Development Board with the Governor on that day, so he will be absent from Court that day, the other members will meet and take care of financial business.

## Old Business:

→Federal Coordination Policy was continued to the next county court meeting.

## New Business:

→Jen Hoke, Director, Harney County Chamber of Commerce; was present with a report from the Chamber of Commerce.

→Jesse Barnes, Weed Control Coordinator, was present and requested approval of the noxious weed list; the appointment of Shane Otley to the County Weed Board and a consideration of a recommendation to initiate a Material Site Weed Inspection program.

→Commissioner Nichols moved to appoint Shane Otley to the At large position on the County Weed Board, Commissioner Runnels second, motion carried unanimously.

→Commissioner Nichols moved to accept the Noxious Weed List as the 2012 Noxious Weed List. Commissioner Runnels second, motion carried unanimously.

→Mrs. Barnes requested the initiation and adoption of a Material Site Weed Certification & Inspection Program. Commissioner moved to approve the implement the program contingent upon review requested input from the Road Supervisor as to how this would affect that program, and that County Counsel review the proposal for liability issues. Commissioner Runnels second, the motion carried unanimously.

→Mrs. Barnes will provide a proposed fee schedule for approval at the next county court meeting.

→Road Supervisor, Eric Drushella provided the court with an update In the matter of the fund exchange agreement for various County roads in Harney County, for 2010-2011, Commissioner Runnels moved to approve the fund exchange agreement, Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Drushella Plans to use this funding for work on Airport Rd. from Highway 78 to the airport.

→Phil Kessinger was present to discuss the Burns Rural Fire Suppression Program.

→Fred Flippence was present with an annual Report of the Library Foundation.

→Commissioner Nichols updated the court regarding Juniper utilization and management.

→Bryce Mertz, GIS Coordinator, and Brandon McMullen, Planning Director, were present to discuss Resolution 2012-03, regarding Rural Address Fees. Commissioner Runnels moved to approve Resolution 2012-03. Commissioner Nichols second, motion carried unanimously.

→Roy Elicker, Director of Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, and Chip Dale, also with Oregon Fish and Wildlife, stepped in to visit the court, as they were visiting Malheur and Harney Counties.

→The Court reviewed a draft of the Memorandum of Understanding between BLM and Harney County regarding Development of the Resource Management Plan Amendments and Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Greater Sage Grouse Habitat Conservation Strategy, Western Region, Oregon Sub-Region.

→The Court reviewed an Order In the Matter of Including Longevity Payment as a portion of wages for Full-Time county employees. Commissioner Nichols moved to approve the Court Order, explaining that this is not a new policy, it has been a long standing policy, and documentation of the inception of this policy has not been able to be found in the record. Commissioner Runnels second, motion carried unanimously.

→Court expressed frustration that the Governor's office has not given written documentation of the Governors Appointment as Justice of the Peace.

→Commissioner Runnels reported that there is a request to share the parking lot with the library and the museum.

→The Court reviewed calendars and meeting schedules for the coming week.

→There being no further business, the Court adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Robinson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, CRA CEA  
Chief Deputy County Clerk