

HARNEY COUNTY COURT MEETING 2012-2013 BUDGET ADOPTION HEARING

June 20, 2012

→The Harney County Court convened on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 8:00 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; Human Resource Administrator LaDene Hurd; and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Derrin Robinson.

→Also attending were Barbara Cannady, Mary Ausmus, Randy Parks and Jim Schultz.

→ Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the June 6, 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:

→Mary Ausmus asked why Harney Behavioral is still listed in the budget. Judge Grasty explained that Oregon local budget law requires current year, plus two years history. The fund will drop out of the Budget at that time.

Old Business:

→Judge Grasty gave brief update on the Echanis Wind Farm and North Steens Transmission line.

→The Court reviewed draft documents in the matter of referring to the ballot a measure to make the positions of County Commissioners Non Partisan. Judge Grasty stated that the Court will hold public hearings on the matter, on July 18, 2012 and August 1, 2012. The court will then vote on the Ordinance, and if the Ordinance is adopted, there will need to be a Court Order, ordering the referral to the November General Election ballot. The referral must be filed with the County Clerk no later than August 17th, for the 2012 General Election.

New Business:

→Judge Grasty stated that since July 4th is on a Wednesday, the next county court meeting needs to be moved to the 3rd of July. The Court agreed by consensus.

→The Court discussed approval of a Relinquishment Deed, from Oregon Dept. of Transportation for a right-of-way on the west edge of Hines, off Hwy. 20, near the OTEC

substation, further described in the deed. Judge Grasty explained that the Court would declare this as a local access road. Commissioner Nichols moved to accept the Deed, and to attach a copy of the Final Judgment in Circuit Court Case No. 3464, that more specifically describes the legal description. Commissioner Runnels second, and the motion carried unanimously. (The document was recorded in County Clerk's Deed Records as document number 2012-798).

→Tom Sharp, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator was present to discuss the Emergency Operations Plan, and provided a letter of promulgation to be signed by the court. Commissioner Runnels moved to adopt resolution 2012-6, In the Matter of the Adoption of the 2012 Emergency Operations Plan, and sign the Letter of Promulgation. Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously. (Commissioner's Journal 2012-38).

→Mr. Sharp also discussed the Public Information Officer Training, on June 21, and the National Incident Management Systems and Incident Command System (NIMS/ICS) Training on June 25. Mr. Sharp stated that Harney County Emergency Management is on Facebook, and reported that social networks are important when it comes to Emergency Management, as you can reach a lot of people quickly.

→Dr. Kathleen Robinson and Karen Hendrickson from Treasure Valley Community College were present to discuss the Contract Out-of-District Memorandum of Understanding for services through Treasure Valley Community College. Commissioner Nichols moved to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with Treasure Valley Community College. Commissioner Runnels second, the motion carried unanimously.

→The Court reviewed Resolution 2012-09 In the Matter of Per Diem Reimbursement Policy for County Employees. Commissioner Runnels moved to approve Resolution 2012-09 Commissioner Nichols second. Judge Grasty mentioned that original receipts for lodging will still be required. The motion carried unanimously. (Commissioner's Journal 2012-34).

→The Court reviewed Resolution 2012-10, In the Matter of Creating a Reserve Fund for the purpose of Reserving Monies for Economic Development Funding. Commissioner Runnels moved to approve resolution 2012-10. Commissioner Nichols second. Discussion ensued regarding language in the resolution regarding rules or guidelines for loans. Corrections were made to the language in the draft copy of the Resolution and a new copy was presented. The motion carried unanimously. (Commissioner's Journal 2012-35).

→At 11:44 a.m., the Court went into executive session as per ORS 192.660(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. The court recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

→At 1:30 pm the Court reconvened in regular session, taking no action from the executive session.

→Judge Grasty immediately opened the public hearing In the Matter of the Adoption of the 2012-2013 budgets. The court discussed several changes to the approved budget, due to the fact that labor negotiations are ongoing, and may continue into the next fiscal year, and increased the City of Burns line item to \$20,000 as per conversations during budget hearings. Judge Grasty wished to note on record, that in absence of the County Treasurer, the posting of revenue is going to increase by a significant amount in the General Fund, as the Federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes, and other miscellaneous revenue is being deposited, however will not be posted to the budget until Mrs. Franklin returns. Judge Grasty moved to make these changes to the approved budget. Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously.

→The Court reviewed a Memorandum of Understanding between Harney County and Bureau of Land Management regarding Development of the Resource Management Plan Amendments and Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Greater Sage-Grouse National Planning Strategy, Oregon Sub-Region. Commissioner Nichols moved to sign the Memorandum as presented. Commissioner Runnels second, and the motion carried unanimously.

→The Court reviewed the BLM's Environmental Assessment and an *unsigned* Finding of No Significant Impact for the SES Forest Woodland Restoration. The Court will ask Representatives to come discuss it on August 3rd.

→The Court reviewed the Record of Decision regarding EP Minerals' Celatom mining operations.

→Barbara Cannady asked about resolution 2012-08, related to the permanent tax rate. She asked if it was up or down, Judge Grasty explained the permanent tax rate, and that it was set by measure 5, in the early 1990's.

→At 2:19 p.m., Judge Grasty closed the public hearing on the 2012-2013 Budget.

→Commissioner Runnels moved to adopt Resolution 2012-07, In the Matter of Adopting the 2012-2013 Budget in the amount of \$31,232,962.00, and Making Appropriations. Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously. (Commissioner's Journal 2012-36).

→Commissioner Nichols moved to adopt resolution 2012-08 Imposing and categorizing Taxes. Commissioner Runnels second, and the motion carried unanimously. (Commissioner's Journal 2012-37).

→Judge Grasty wished to advertise the possibility of a Special County Court meeting for June 29, 2012 for any budgetary resolutions that may be necessary for the 2011-2012 Budget.

→ At 2:52 p.m. Judge Grasty opened a Public Hearing on proposed text amendments to the Harney County Zoning Ordinance. Brandon McMullen, Planning Director reviewed the proposed changes with the court, and explained that they are related to the Appeals portion of the Ordinance. The current ordinance calls for de novo appeal (new hearing), and proposed changes provide different options for hearing appeals. There being no further comment, Commissioner Nichols moved to accept the changes proposed, including the flow chart provided, and language for the policy statement, for the draft ordinance. Commissioner Runnels second, and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. McMullen will have an Ordinance prepared for Adoption at the July 3, county court meeting.

→Mr. McMullen has advertised for planning commission vacancies, and received only letters of interest from the current holding members, Don Linder, and Vern Brown. Commissioner Nichols moved to Appoint Vern Brown Sr. and Don Linder to the Planning Commission, Commissioner Runnels second, and the motion carried unanimously.

→The Court reviewed Notices of Water Use requests. There were no objections to any requests.

→Sheriff Glerup reported that he will be meeting with the Oregon Youth Authority regarding Jail nursing. He is optimistic that they will come to an agreement for nursing services at the Jail.

→There being no further business, The Court adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Derrin Robinson, CRA; CEA
Chief Deputy Harney County Clerk