

# HARNEY COUNTY COURT MEETING

October 3, 2012

→The Harney County Court convened on Wednesday, October 3, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in Judge Steven E. Grasty's office. Members attending were Commissioners Dan Nichols and Peter Runnels. (Judge Grasty's absence was and will be excused for the next several weeks for medical reasons.) Also attending all or portions of the meeting were Road Supervisor Eric Drushella; Teri Cain, Director of the Commission on Children and Families; Brandon McMullen, Planning Director; Bryce Mertz, GIS Coordinator and Derrin Robinson, Chief Deputy County Clerk,

→Also attending were, Barbara Cannady, Herb Vloedman, Jennifer Jenks, Mary Ausmus and Charlotte Roderique.

→ Commissioner Nichols called the meeting to order and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the September 19, 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:

→Herb Vloedman, asked about tax statements and if we were seeing a tax increase this year, and if there was an allowance that the 3% increase is up to the Court. Derrin Robinson, speaking as Clerk of the Board of Property Tax Appeals, stated that the 3% increase is in statute, and cannot be changed. The Court stated the property tax system is very complex, thanks to Ballot Measures 5, 47, and 50, and there are so many variables that each parcel is different. It was suggested that those questions be addressed to the County Assessor.

→Mary Ausmus stated that she would be appealing her taxes this year. Mr. Robinson stated that Petitions for Appeal will be available in the County Clerk's office as soon as Tax Statements are mailed.

→Teri Cain, Commission on Children and Families Director, shared a "Keep Kids Safe" license plate that will become available on October 15<sup>th</sup> for child abuse prevention and explained that a portion of the revenue from sales of those plates will be dedicated to Child abuse prevention.

→The Court reviewed an application for an Approach from Paul Davis off of East Steens Rd. Commissioner Runnels moved to approve the approach, Commissioner Nichols second, motion carried unanimously.

→Charlotte Roderique, Vice-Chair, Burns Paiute Tribal Council, was present and discussed the tribe's 40th anniversary of the Reservation celebration that will take place October 13.

→Brandon McMullen, Planning Director reviewed an Application of Tom and Marion Chulos for purchase of County owned land. Commissioner Nichols stated he doesn't see any necessity for the county to continue to own that parcel. He said he doesn't want to do anything inadvertently that would cause problems in the future, and feels it is the best use of the property to sell it. Commissioner Nichols move to approve the application to sell the land, and move forward with the process. Commissioner Runnels second, motion carried unanimously.

→Eric Drushella, Road master, reviewed with the Court an agreement for access to material sources with Oregon Dept. of Transportation. Commissioner Runnels moved to sign the agreement, Commissioner Nichols second and the motion carried unanimously.

→Bryce Mertz, GIS Coordinator, reviewed applications for road names; Mill View Road and Buck brush Lane. He explained as per county ordinance, a lane or drive whether private or public, that contains at least 3 residences, shall be named, for 911 Emergency purposes. These specifically are private drives, and not public roads. Commissioner Runnels moved to sign and adopt Resolution 2012-14 adopting the name Mill View Rd., and Resolution 2012-15 adopting the name Buck brush Ln. Commission Nichols second, motion carried unanimously.

→Barbara Cannady was present as the Court reviewed a draft Settlement Agreement between her and Harney County regarding the A.E. Brown Road issue. Ms. Cannady stated she has reviewed the agreement and was ready to sign it. Both parties wished to add a copy of the recent survey that was done to the agreement. Ms. Cannady and Mr. Drushella agreed to work together on the timelines for fence removal, when it is at the earliest convenience of both parties. The Court has read the agreement as presented. Commissioner Nichols moved to approve and sign the Settlement Agreement, Commissioner Runnels second. Ms. Cannady asked about the legal descriptions, wanted to make sure it was discussing the west 30 feet from the section line. A discussion ensued regarding the legal description as used and all agreed that it was correct. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Drushella will proceed with the application for the approach.

→The Court reviewed a letter designating the remaining balance of SRS Title III Funds to be used for community wildfire planning. The letter designating the funding was submitted the 26 of September. Commissioner Nichols moved to ratify that designation, Commissioner Runnels second, and the motion carried unanimously.

→The Court reviewed notices of water use requests. There were no objections to any requests.

→The Court reviewed a State Homeland Security Grant Application as prepared by Tom Sharp, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

→Randy Fulton, Economic Development Coordinator was present to report on the recent Cannon Ball Run event and asked the court for a donation to help cover the cost of providing the meal to the attendees. Commissioner Nichols and Commissioner Runnels both declared a conflict of interest in this matter, and wished table this until Judge Grasty returns, and to see if other donations come in from the Hotels where the guests stayed.

→Dan Jordan, Insurance Agent of Record was present and reviewed the current Worker's Compensation rates.

→At 1:30 p.m. the Court held an executive session as authorized by ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. The Court reconvened in regular session at 1:56 p.m., with no action taken.

→There being no further business, the Court adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Derrin Robinson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

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