

**HARNEY COUNTY COURT MINUTES**  
**February 20, 2013**

The Harney County Court convened Feb 20, 2013 in Judge Grasty's office. Members attending were Judge Steven E. Grasty Commissioner Dan Nichols and Commissioner Peter Runnels. Also present were Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor; Nellie Franklin, County Treasurer and Derrin (Dag) Robinson, County Clerk.

Public attending were; Barbara Cannady, Samantha White, Herb Vloedman and Steve Rickman.

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the February 6, 2013 county court minutes as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Financial and statistical reports were reviewed and vouchers approved by signatures of the Court.

**Public comment**

Herb Vloedman asked what the qualifications for Budget Board member were, and what the criteria the court was using to evaluate the candidates. The Court agreed to respond later in the meeting.

Barbara Cannady asked about the National Guard and the airspace expansion, what the outcome was and what has been decided. Judge Grasty said he has spoken with the Brigadier General and said he would come give a complete presentation. So far, it is just an idea, by March 1 they will decide to move forward with the plan, and the NEPA process will be required.

**Late items**

Judge Grasty reported that the red light on the tower on Burns Butte will be shut off.

The Oregon Cattleman's Association will be meeting here tomorrow, and the topic of discussion is the conservation agreement for sage grouse and on public ground.

The Court reviewed Resolution 2013-04 in the matter of Combining Tax Account Numbers 93029 and 93162- Harney ESD Early Childhood Preschool Facility. Judge Grasty explained the necessity of the history of this separation, having to do with the CDBC that funded building the facility, requiring the separation. Commissioner Nichols moved to adopt resolution 2013-04, Commissioner Runnels second, motion carried unanimously (*CJ 13-52*).

Shana Withee, OSU Extension Agent; Dustin Johnson, OSU Extension Agent and Cory Parsons, Regional Administrator for OSU Extension, were present to discuss the OSU programs for the

past year. The Court will review the annual appropriation agreement for programs with OSU at the March 6 County Court meeting. The Court asked Mr. Parsons about data relating to fire costs for the recent fires in the south end of Harney and Malheur Counties, and he stated that he has been working with Mr. Johnson and the Cattleman’s Association on compilation of data.

At 11:04 the Court opened bids for fuel for heating at the courthouse, and delivery to remote sites. Bids were as follows:

**Ebar Oil Co.**

Furnace Oil	10,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4859
Delivery to Diamond	5,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4619
Delivery to Drewsey	5,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4619
Delivery to Andrews	8,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.6119
Clear Kerosene	10,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.7540
Card lock Unleaded Gas	15,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.2782

**Ed Staub & Sons**

Furnace Oil	10,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4511
Delivery to Diamond	5,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4461
Delivery to Drewsey	5,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4461
Delivery to Andrews	8,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.4961
Clear Kerosene	10,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.5892
Card lock Unleaded Gas	15,000 Gal.	Unit Price 3.3911

Road master Eric Drushella reviewed the bids, and recommended to the Court to award the bids part A and B to the apparent low, Ed Staub & Sons, and leave Card lock service with both vendors. Commissioner Runnels moved to accept the recommendation of the Road master, and Award the Bid for Part A and B to Ed Staub & Sons. Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously.

George Ponte, District Forrester with Oregon Dept. of Forestry and Angie Johnson, John Day Unit Forrester with Oregon Dept. of Forestry, were present to discuss Forestland Classifications and the Wildfire Protection Act HB 2050. The Court expressed the desire to have a re-classification in Harney County, as it has been nearly 40 years since it has been done. Mr. Ponte agreed that it needed to be reclassified but at this point, Deschutes County was going to be done first, and Harney would be on the list. He said the process takes about a year, but he agreed to the concept.

At 1:00 the Court met with individuals interested in serving on the budget board. The Court addressed the questions from earlier in the morning about qualifications for Budget Board. Commissioner Runnels stated that he believed that Mr. Vloedman was referring to a statement that he had made, that mentioned “...having qualified people here...” not meaning qualifications. Commissioner Nichols said over the years past we had board members that stayed for years and years. He felt that it comes back to folks who have had made contributions

to the community of Harney County, and can make a sound judgment, with no agenda and what is best for the whole. The Court visited with Curt Blackburn, Herb Vloedman, and Terri Hellbusch.

Judge Grasty moved to appoint Curt Blackburn to the Budget Board, for a three year term. Commissioner Nichols second, motion carried unanimously. The Court thanked Mr. Vloedman for his service and thanked him for his continued interest.

Christine Nelson, Executive Director of GEODC was present to discuss the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Commissioner Runnels stated that he will be the incoming Secretary Treasurer of the Board of that Organization.

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

The Court reviewed scheduling. A County Court work session meeting will be March 13, at 1:00 p.m. for general deliberation including legislation, budget, etc.

Commissioner Nichols reported that the Oregon Consensus Project for Western Juniper Utilization Group, declaration will be signed here, and Governor Kitzhaber will be present for that signing.

Tom Sharp, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator gave a brief update on the Natural Hazard Mitigation process, and the County Emergency Preparedness Conference to be held March 21, at Harney District Hospital.

Commissioner Runnels updated the court on his meeting with CIS regarding insurance rates. He stated that there are not a lot of changes, based on what the federal health care legislation does.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Derrin Robinson".

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, CRA; CEA  
Harney County Clerk