

HARNEY COUNTY COURT MINUTES

April 17, 2013

The Harney County Court convened April 17, 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 Superintendent; Angie Lamborn, Senior and Community Services Director; Terri Cain, Commission on Children and Families Director; Howard Palmer, Building Program Technician; Tony West, Building Official and Derrin (Dag) Robinson, County Clerk.

Public attending were; Samantha White and Herb Vloedman.

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the April 3, 2013 County Court minutes as mailed. Judge Grasty seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Financial reports and Accounts Payable were reviewed and approved by signatures of the Court.

Public comment

Herb Vloedman asked for a report of the ending fund balances on June 30, 2013. He also asked what percentage the court will be using as proposed salary increases for non-represented employees for the proposed 2013-2014 budget. Judge Grasty, as county budget officer, said he will be proposing a step increase of 5%, which is a market adjustment to get salaries in line with other comparable positions, as discussed last year. He explained that they would look at it annually. Mr. Vloedman asked if the court would be imposing the entire permanent tax rate this year. Judge Grasty stated that he is preparing a proposed budget with that figure as the basis. A lengthy discussion ensued. Commissioner Nichols stated that imposing a rate lower than the permanent rate has been discussed in the past. The idea is nice, but it simply causes angst and anger after the fact, because at some point it would have to come back to the permanent rate, and that would then be seen as a tax increase, and at this point it is in the best interest of Harney County to stay with the permanent rate. The Court concurred. Commissioner Nichols asked Mr. Vloedman what his underlying concern was. Mr. Vloedman stated that he is very concerned about economic development in Harney County, and feels that the Court needs to do everything possible to keep people here. Commissioner Nichols stated that this county is financially stable, and he is proud of that, and so should the residents. He stated that the court feels collectively that they are doing the right thing by the people, and would hope that they would hear otherwise.

Terri Cain, Commission on Children and Families Director, was present to invite the court to attend a celebration to recognize military connected children and youth for the daily sacrifices they make in supporting America's Armed Forces. They plan to plant a community wishing tree at the Burns Readiness Center- National Guard Armory, April 26th, at 12:30 pm. The public is invited to attend the celebration.

Angie Lamborn, Senior and Community Services Director; was present with an update and renewal of the professional services contract with The Senior and Community Services Center for Public Transportation, and the

Public Transportation Plan. After reviewing both documents, Commissioner Runnels moved to accept the professional services contract and the Public Transportation Plan, Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously.

Howard Palmer, Building Program Technician and Tony West, Building Official, provided an update to the court with regards to the building program. They discussed current permit activity, fees, revenue, and suggested program changes, that would allow certain projects to be permitted, but not required to be inspected. More details to the proposed changes will be provided to the court members prior to adoption. They discussed current legislation, Senate Bill 582 in particular is relating to building programs. Mr. West stated that the woodstove program is enhanced this year without the income barriers of last year, so it is available again this year. Lengthy discussions will be held with Lake County regarding contractual agreements for next year, for all the programs. Mr. West also presented an amendment to the Current contract with Deschutes County for Building Inspection Services. (*Document No. 2013-188 Amendment No. 2 to Intergovernmental Agreement 2011-265*) Commissioner Nichols moved to approve the contract amendment, Commissioner Runnels second. Judge Grasty noted that this amendment is related to a cap, not an actual amount. The motion carried unanimously.

At 11:15 The Court opened bids for Asphalt, Bids received were as follows:

Bidder	Product	Quantity	Price	FOB
Idaho Asphalt	CRS-2P	100 tons	508.50	Burns
Idaho Asphalt	CRS-2P	500 tons	508.50	Diamond
Western States	CRS-2P	100 tons	527.00	Burns
Western States	CRS-2P	500 tons	532.00	Diamond
Albina Asphalt	CRS-2P	100 tons	598.60	Burns
Albina Asphalt	CRS-2P	500 tons	612.90	Diamond

Road Supervisor Eric Drushella recommended awarding the bid to Idaho Asphalt for 508.50. Commissioner Nichols moved to award the bid for asphalt to Idaho Asphalt for 508.50. Commissioner Runnels second, the motion carried unanimously.

The Court discussed misc. correspondence and current pending legislation.

The Court reviewed notices of Water Use Requests; there were no objections to any requests.

There being no further business, the court adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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