



**In The County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County**  
***Minutes of the County Court***  
***January 22, 2014***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Steven E. Grasty's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2014. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, Commissioner Dan Nichols and Commissioner Pete Runnels. Also attending were Eric Drushella, Road Master; and Derrin (Dag) Robinson, County Clerk.

Public in attendance were Samantha White, Herb Vloedman, Mildred Fine, Verna Pettyjohn, and Dale White.

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Statistical and Financial reports were reviewed and accounts payable approved by Court's signature.

Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2014 meeting, Commissioner Nichols seconded, motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

Herb Vloedman commented on the lack of snowpack, and hoped the court would move forward with a drought declaration. Judge Grasty explained it is on the agenda.

Judge Grasty provided a brief update on Sage Grouse. The final core team meeting is in Jordan Valley today, and he will be attending.

Verna Pettyjohn, Mildred Fine and Dale White, representing the Senior Center, were present and dedicated the new addition to the building to the Harney County Court, for the County contributions to the center. Judge White again reiterated it's the support for helping keeping the center in operation. Commissioner Nichols expressed gratitude for the compliments, but returned, stating it's the folks working down there that make it exemplary, the staff and volunteers.

Derrin Robinson, County Clerk; reminded the Court of the County's Quasquicentennial (125<sup>th</sup> anniversary), on February 25. He discussed a County Court Proclamation, and activities the county might be involved with to recognize the anniversary.

Judge Grasty provided a brief status updated on the PILT situation. Several Congressional bills introduced now include the funding, so he is cautiously optimistic.

The Court reviewed a draft Drought Declaration. Judge Grasty suggested that the court prepare a declaration, and prepare a letter to the Governor. He reiterated, Harney County has no resources to assist with a drought situation. Ron Copeland, Assistant County Emergency Management Coordinator, provided additional information.

Eric Drushella, Road Master; provided an update. He discussed the continued construction on Double OO Road, and is looking at doing some overlay on Hotchkiss Lane, part of Airport Lane and the road in front of Crane High school, and some chip seal work around Harney Valley.

The Court reviewed and adopted the Federal IRS Rate for the Calendar year 2014, .56 for mileage reimbursement. Commissioner Runnels moved to adopt the IRS Rate of .56 for 2014, for travel when required to use personal vehicle. Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously. The Court discussed changing the policy for mileage reimbursements when employees choose to use personal vehicles. Commissioner Runnels suggested that it be ½ of the IRS rate, in order to reflect true expense. The Court agreed by consensus to the concept. Judge Grasty will prepare an order for the next Court date.

The Court recessed at 10:20 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., at which time there was to be a bid opening.

At 11: 00 a.m. the Court reconvened, and opened bids for crushed rock. Bids received were as follows: Harney Rock and Paving, Inc. - \$268,560; ACW Rock & Ready Mix - \$309,520. Road Master Eric Drushella recommended the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Harney Rock and Paving, Inc. Commissioner Runnels moved to award the bid to Harney Rock and Paving, Inc., in the amount of \$268,560. Commissioner Nichols second, motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the Court adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

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