



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County  
Minutes of the County Court  
January 7, 2015***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Steven E. Grasty's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2015. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, and Commission Pete Runnels and Commissioner Dan Nichols. Also attending were Eric Drushella, Roadmaster; Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk; Derrin Robinson, Harney County Clerk; David Ward, Harney County Sheriff; William D. Cramer, Circuit Court Judge; Tammy Wheeler, Circuit Court; Tim Colahan, Harney County District Attorney; Brandon McMullen, Harney County Planning Director.

Others in attendance included Barbara Cannady, Barb Kull, Sharon Newell Carns-Chaddick, Susan Christensen (DEQ), and Samantha White (Burns Times-Herald).

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2014, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

**Vouchers were reviewed and approved by Court Signatures**

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

Sharon Newell Carns-Chaddick read a letter in response to a Burns Times-Herald article of a recent County Court meeting in which Beaty's Butte and the wild horses/burros were discussed.

Barbara Cannady asked about road closures.

**Old Business**

IT Bid: Judge Grasty discussed the recent IT bids. The bids were reviewed by a committee and it was determined there was a need for amended bids. Amended bids are due on January 16, 2015. IT bid recommendations will be presented at the next County Court meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Signing of annual Orders: Justice of the Peace Pro Tempore, Budget Officer and Official Newspaper**

A motion was made by Commissioner Nichols to sign the Order appointing John Lamborn and Matthew R. Fine as Harney County Justice of the Peace Pro Tempore for 2015 (CJ2015-17), seconded by Commissioner Runnels, motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Runnels to sign the Order appointing Judge Steven E. Grasty as the County Budget Officer for 2015 (CJ2015-18), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nichols to sign the Order appointing The Burns Times-Herald as the official County newspaper for 2015 (CJ2015-19), seconded by Commissioner Runnels, motion carried unanimously.

### **Review and signing of an Order in the Matter of Establishing Fee Schedule for Passport Photos**

County Clerk, Derrin Robinson, discussed the Order establishing a fee schedule for passport photos. The Court wanted to make it clear that local businesses currently providing passport picture services would be recommended to all customers first. The County Clerk will not be advertising this service and prices will exceed those of local businesses. A motion was made by Commissioner Runnels to sign the order, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, motion carried unanimously.

### **10:15 a.m., Circuit Court Judge William D. Cramer, to discuss the Parole and Probation Department**

Judge Cramer discussed the administration of Community Corrections. His philosophical view is the administration should not be the responsibility of the Harney County Sheriff. Judge Grasty provided an update on actions taken to address issues raised by the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) and the need for additional staffing to include Community Corrections Director and administrative staff. After a lengthy discussion, the Court agreed to update all interested parties on progress made and any future meetings.

### **11:00 a.m. opening bids on the Juntura Cut-off project**

Judge Grasty opened three (3) bids for the Juntura cut-off project from Anderson Perry & Associates, Ferguson Surveying and Engineering, Ferguson Engineering (Lakeview). Eric Drushella will review the bids then the Court will make a final decision, possibly via telephone conference/special session, if the decision needs to be made prior to the next County Court meeting.

11:05 a.m., Tom Sharp, County Emergency Management Coordinator, with an update

Tom Sharp gave the Court an update on Harney County Emergency Management. Topics included seasonal influenza, CBRNE/Hazmat rapid response equipment, public transparency of expended county funds, and FY15 State Homeland Security Grant Program application (deadline is February 13, 2015).

Discussion regarding the bid on a truck and trailer for Emergency Management

Tom Sharp reported a \$55,888 grant was awarded for CBRNE/Hazmat Rapid Response equipment trailer, truck tow vehicle, and hazmat equipment. Public bids were received on December 23, 2014, from Burns Ford. Tom recommended acceptance of the bid and the truck/trailer assets be assigned to City of Burns Fire Department. A motion was made by Judge Grasty to assign the assets to the City of Burns, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Commissioner Nichols to take \$6,985.85 out of the emergency management fund, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a request by Kerry A. Johnson to purchase County owned land, account #20047, which did not sell at the September 10, 2014, County auction

The Court discussed the request from Kerry A. Johnson to purchase County owned land. Judge Grasty described the parcel in question as not accessible and the offer is outside the 60-day deadline after auction. A motion was made by Commissioner Runnels to not accept the offer by Kerry A. Johnson for County owned land (account #20047), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding tax foreclosed lands in 2014

The Court discussed tax foreclosed land. Judge Grasty will ask Brandon McMullen to determine if there is legal access to County owned available lands.

Review of Resolution #2015-01 (previously reviewed as Resolution #2014-12) in the Matter of Establishing Coordination between the County and Federal Agencies and State Agencies Involved with Federal Agencies

The Court discussed Resolution #2015-01 and a motion was made by Commissioner Runnels to sign the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, motion carried unanimously. The Court suggested this be a part of the Annual Orders.

Discussion on the Lease between Harney County and the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for use of the Lottery Warm Site Facility

A Motion was made by Commissioner Nichols to table the discussion until next County Court meeting on January 21, 2015, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding the Diamond Cemetery

The Court discussed a recent request to be buried at Diamond Cemetery, which is County owned. Judge Grasty will discuss this further with Tim Colahan and Brandon McMullen and report back to the Court.

Review of Water Uses Requests

**Correspondence to Review**

DEQ – County Landfill Compliance Inspections

DEQ – Watershed 2013 Material Recovery Report

Secretary of State – Oster Professional Group Extension Request

OSU – County Fund Balances

**Late Items**

**Scheduling**

Next County Court meeting scheduled for January 21, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

**General Deliberation by the Court (no decisions will be made)**

**Adjournment** Court recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 pm. Court adjourned at 1:40 p.m.