



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County
Minutes of the County Court
September 16, 2015***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Steven E. Grasty's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, and Commissioner Pete Runnels and Commissioner Dan Nichols. Also attending all or a portion of the session was Eric Drushella, Roadmaster; Brandon McMullen, Planning Director; Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk;

Others in attendance including Samantha White, Burns Times Herald; Lisa Nisenfeld and Jim Pfarrer, Oregon Employment Department; Herb Vloedman, Barbara Cannady, and Mark Owens.

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2, 2015, meeting, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Voucher Approval

Opportunity for Public Comment

Barbara Cannady discussed a gate lock and goal 5 within the comprehensive plan. Herb Vloedman commented on economic development in Harney County.

Old Business

Update on Sage Grouse

New Business

10:15 a.m., Oregon Employment Department Director Lisa Nisenfeld and Jim Pfarrer Business and Employment Services Director

Representatives from the Oregon Employment Department discussed various topics in regards to employment, training, and economic development in Harney County. Some of the discussion topics included distance learning opportunities, apprenticeship programs and work-based learning, employee changes at the Burns office, and funding.

DLCD 2015-17 Technical Assistance Grant Regarding Sage Grouse Habitat plans from BLM

Judge Grasty made a Motion for approval to seek funding from DLCD for the consistency review, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to direct the Harney County Planning Director to proceed with Comprehensive Plan Goal 5 grant application, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding Liquor License fees

Judge Grasty provided the Court with the Oregon Revised Statutes & Administrative Rules for Local Government Liquor License Issuance & Renewal. Currently the County renewal fee is \$15.

Consideration of Resolution #2015-11 in Opposition to Additional Wilderness Area designation

The Court reviewed Resolution #2015-11 and made some changes to be completed by Sharon Johnson. After the Court reconvened, Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve Resolution #2015-11 In the Matter of Opposition to the Designation of the National Conservation Area as Proposed in the Owyhee Canyonlands Conservation Proposal; and, in Opposition to the Use of the Establishment or Designation of any Additional National Monument, National Conservation Area, Scenic River or Wilderness Area on Public Lands Within Southeastern Oregon Including Harney County, Oregon; seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding the Drinking Water Program

Judge Grasty presented the Court with a letter to Dave Leland, Drinking Water Services. Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to sign and send the letter returning the Harney County Drinking Water Program back to the State, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on the Eastern Oregon Counties Association (EOCU)

The Court reviewed the invoice from EOCU for the 2015-2016 dues in the amount of \$15,800. The Court will pay the budgeted amount of \$7,500.

11:00 a.m., Angie Uptmor and Peggy Yarbor of Community in Action with an update on their housing programs

Angie Uptmor and Peggy Yarbor, Community in Action, have been scheduled for the County Court session on October 7, 2015.

11:30 a.m., Executive Session as authorized by ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed

Review of Water Use Requests

Correspondence to Review

None

Scheduling

Next County Court meeting scheduled for October 7, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.

Late Items

The Court discussed the Oregon Department of Transportation Canyon Creek Fire US395C Damage Assessment (rev. 9/10/15).

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

Adjournment

County Court recessed at 11:30 a.m. for Executive Session and lunch, and then reconvened at 1:15 p.m. There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston
Deputy Clerk