



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County  
Minutes of the County Court  
July 6, 2016***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Grasty's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 6, 2016. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, Commissioner Dan Nichols, and Commissioner Pete Runnels. Also in attendance were Eric Drushella, Road Department; and Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk.

Others in attendance including Samantha White, Burns Times Herald; John Copenhaver, retired Director of Harney County Juvenile Department; Tara Thissell, BLM; Mark Owens, Barbara Cannady, Barb Kull, Samantha Young, Louis Smith, and Cheryl Smith.

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 22, 2016, and the special session on June 30, 2016, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

**Voucher Approval**

**Opportunity for Public Comments**

Mark Owens advised the Court the next Goal 5 meeting will be in Drewsey on July 18, 2016.

## **Old Business**

Court Order dismissing property tax on personal property that has been demolished  
Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to approve the Court Order in the Matter of Cancellation of Personal Property Taxes per ORS 311.790 (CJ2016-65), seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

## **New Business**

### 10:15 a.m., Derrin Robinson, County Clerk, to discuss e-recording

Derrin Robinson, County Clerk, advised the Court that the Clerk's Office is moving forward with e-recording, in accordance with the Uniform Electronics Transactions Act, which allows individuals and national title companies to record documents electronically. He discussed the details of the e-recording process and answered questions from the Court. Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to allow Derrin Robinson, Harney County Clerk, to move forward with the e-recording process, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

### Review of an Application by Brandon Baron, The Tree Service, to install a culvert and/or an approach off of Lottery Lane

Judge Grasty requested this application be postponed for decision until the next County Court meeting in order to discuss this application with the City of Hines. This application is unique because the approach is located on a county road within the City of Hines. Judge Grasty is also requesting Brandon Baron secure the proper documentation/approval, because he is not the owner of the property where the approach will be located.

### Request from the Burns Paiute Tribe for a position on the Oregon Water Resources Department Resource Advisory Council to be filled by Brandon Haslick

The request is for the Oregon Water Resources Department Technical Advisory Council, not Resource Advisory Council (RAC). Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve the appointment of Brandon Haslick to the Oregon Water Resources Department Technical Advisory Council, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

### Review of the Agreement between Harney County and the Oregon Department of Transportation, Rail and Public Transit Division

### Resolution #2016-09 in the Matter of New and Unexpected Funds for Transportation Services

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve Resolution #2016-09 in the Matter of New and Unexpected Funds for Transportation Services (CJ2016-64), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

### Request from the Harney County Opportunity Team for the Arrowhead Plaza Project

Commissioner Runnels discussed a request from the Harney County Opportunity Team (HCOT) for a letter of commitment from Harney County in the amount of \$15,000. The HCOT has been working on fundraising for the Arrowhead Plaza but is in need of the final funds for the public restroom project. Commissioner Runnels declared a conflict of

interest because he is on the HCOT Board of Directors. Judge Grasty made a Motion to approve a letter of commitment in the amount of \$15,000 to the Harney County Opportunity Team and identify the County fund at the next County Court meeting, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried with Commissioner Runnels abstaining.

#### Correction of Resolutions #2016-06 and #2016-08

Due to typographical errors, Judge Grasty presented Resolutions #2016-06 and #2016-08 to the Court for approval. Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to approve Amended Resolution #2016-06 in the Matter of Expenditure of the Contingency held in Fund #241 General Operating Reserve (CJ2016-62), seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve Amended Resolution #2016-08 in the Matter of Appropriating Funds due to Unexpected Occurrence or Condition (CJ2016-63), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

#### Review of Water Use Requests

#### **Correspondence to Review**

BLM, Vale District – Owyhee Canyon Fire emergency stabilization and rehabilitation actions

BLM, Vale District – Notice of partial gather of wild horses from land within and adjacent to the Three Fingers Herd Management Area

BLM, Burns District – Mare Sterilization Research Environmental Assessment

BLM, Burns District – Determination of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Adequacy for modification of livestock grazing permit #3602582

Department of the Interior – Payments in Lieu of Taxes

Forest Service – Bid notice for the Gibb DXPre Sale

#### **Scheduling**

Next County Court Meeting will be on July 20, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Runnels will be unavailable but plans to attend via telephone.

#### **Late Items**

Judge Grasty recognized the retirement of Harney County Juvenile Director, John Copenhaver. He was presented with a plaque for his years of service and commitment to Harney County.

Judge Grasty gave an update on the BioMass project including funding, removal of the old Harney County Courthouse boiler, and removal of an existing oil heating tank.

Judge Grasty advised the Court of the completion of a draft Harney County Employee Handbook. It has been reviewed by Judge Grasty, City County Insurance Services, and Tim Colahan (County Counsel). LaDene and other Department Heads will be the next to review the handbook before it is presented to County Court for final approval.

Tara Thissell, BLM, presented the Court with the NEPA list for June 2016.

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

**For the Record**

**Adjournment**

County Court recessed at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened for Executive Session at 1:00 p.m. After no further discussion, the Court adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston  
Deputy Clerk