



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County
Minutes of the County Court
September 21, 2016***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Grasty's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, September 21, 2016. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, Commissioner Dan Nichols, and Commissioner Pete Runnels. Also attending was Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk; Rick Paul, Harney County Fair Manager.

Others in attendance including Samantha White (Burns Times Herald), Herb Vloedman, Mark Owens, Joan Armstead (Group 6), Mitzi Defenbaugh, Barbara Cannady (Group 6), Cheryl Smith (Group 6), Louis Smith (Committee of Safety), Shana Withee (OSU), and Kellie Frank (USDA).

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2016, meeting, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Voucher Approval

Opportunity for Public Comments

Herb Vloedman requested information regarding the boiler project. Judge Grasty gave a quick update and reported the new completion date is October 15, 2016.

Barbara Cannady requested information regarding the County Court Commissioner position and Commissioner Nichol's withdrawal from the election.

Rick Paul discussed the 2016 Harney County Fair. Louis Molt thanked the Court for allowing the Committee of Safety to have a float in the parade. Judge Grasty made it clear that the Fair Board makes those decisions, not County Court.

Old Business

Review of County Counsel contract

Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to approve the County Counsel Contract, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion passed unanimously.

LCDC discussion

Cheryl Smith and Joan Armstead presented the Court with a draft letter, requesting more effective representation on the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) for counties east of the Cascades. The Court made recommendations on strategies to facilitate change. Judge Grasty asked Joan Armstead if this group (Group 6) is associated with the Committee of Safety, and Joan replied they are not a part of the Committee of Safety.

New Business

Review of the OSHA Citation and Notification of Penalty regarding the Courthouse

Judge Grasty reviewed the OSHA Citation and Notification of Penalty. Citation 1 Item 1: failure to have a written hazard communication plan at the Courthouse; plan completed and submitted last week. Citation 2 Item 2: safety committee did not meet monthly; safety committee will now meet monthly. Citation 2 Item 3: use of flexible cords and cables; all the extension cords have been removed. Citation 2 Item 4: failure to keep a separate OSHA 300 log for each of the nine County locations; logs will be posted as directed by OSHA. Citation 2 Item 5: power strips plugged into other power strips; all have been removed. Judge Grasty will request OSHA to perform a consultation on all County locations

Discussion regarding a drought declaration

The Court reviewed the drought declaration and Resolution #2016-17, action to be taken at next County Court meeting. Kellie Frank provided a map and drought monitor information for local residents. Judge Grasty suggested adding a link to County website and to provide the information in the Burns Times Herald.

Review and signing of the Intergovernmental Agreement between Harney County and ODOT for the E Fork Silvies River Bridge Replacement

Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to approve and sign Intergovernmental Agreement No. 31681 between Harney County and ODOT for the E Fork Silvies River Bridge Replacement, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Review the County Road Priorities Brief

County Court reviewed the County Road Priorities Brief.

Review of Water Use Requests

Work session regarding platted, historic rural communities such as Wellington, Harriman, etc.

Correspondence to Review

BLM, Vale District – Public Comment on Stabilization and Rehabilitation on BLM administered lands affected by the Cherry Road fire

Forest Service – Rail Decks Timber sale

Oregon DEQ – Underground heating oil tank

Scheduling

Due to meeting conflicts, the second County Court meeting in November has been changed to Tuesday, November 22, 2016.

Next County Court meeting on October 5, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.

Late Items

Intergovernmental Agreement No. 31496, Single Trip Permit Authorization Harney County

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve and sign Agreement No. 31496 Single Trip Permit Authorization Harney County, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Memorandum of Understanding between Bureau of Land Management Burns District Office and Harney County Court concerning construction and maintenance of the Pike Creek parking area adjacent to the East Steens Road

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve Judge Grasty to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Bureau of Land Management Burns District Office and Harney County Court concerning construction and maintenance of the Pike Creek parking area adjacent to the East Steens Road, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

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

For the Record

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, County Court adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston
Deputy Clerk