



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County
Minutes of the County Court
June 22, 2016***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Grasty's office at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 22, 2016. Members attending were Judge Steve Grasty, Commissioner Dan Nichols, and Commissioner Pete Runnels. Also in attendance were Brandon McMullen, Planning Director; Ted Tiller, Tax Assessor; and Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk.

Others in attendance including Samantha White, Burns Times Herald; Angie Lamborn, Senior Center Director; Stan Falley, Amerititle; Melodi Molt, Symmetry Care; Jess Wenick, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge; Paul Blom, Oregon Department of Agriculture; Rusty Inglis, Harney County Farm Bureau; and Mark Owens.

Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve the minutes from the June 1, 2016, meeting, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Voucher Approval

Opportunity for Public Comments

Mark Owens discussed Goal 5 and the meeting on June 22, 2016.

Old Business

None

New Business

10:10 a.m., Ted Tiller, County Tax Assessor, with a Court Order dismissing property tax on personal property that has been demolished.

Ted Tiller discussed the Court Order to dismiss the outstanding property taxes for two (2) manufactured structures that have been destroyed. The Court postponed approval of the Court Order until Tim Colahan, District Attorney, reviews and approves it.

10:15 a.m., Angie Lamborn, Senior Center Director, regarding Transportation Services

Angie Lamborn reviewed the Harney County Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan, Final June 2016. Commissioner Nichols made the Motion to accept the Harney County Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan of June 2016, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion regarding grasshoppers in Harney County

Rusty Inglis (Harney County Farm Bureau President), Paul Blom (Oregon Department of Agriculture Entomologist) and Jess Wenick (Malheur National Wildlife Refuge) discussed the grasshopper outbreak in Harney County. The current population of grasshoppers is approximately 60% adult, if not more, which means that many of the options available to Harney County for the elimination of the grasshoppers have been missed by now. It's harder to address the adults and much of the damage, crop damage and egg laying, has already been done. Paul Blom also discussed the suppression options, life cycle and population dynamics, and recommendations. The Court will continue to monitor the situation.

Discussion regarding the Symmetry Care Trust Deed

Stan Falley advised the Court to locate the original Deed of Trust between Harney County and Symmetry Care Inc., and he will handle the Reconveyance. He also advised the Court, if the original document cannot be located, he can provide affidavits for the Court to fill out and sign.

10:30 a.m., Dan Jordan, Steens Mountain Insurance, to discuss policy renewal

Dan Jordan provided the Court with a 3-year comparison for the property and liability insurance with SAIF and CIS. Judge Grasty recommended the approval of the 2016-2017 Property and/or Liability Proposal Summary, which breaks down the \$199,173.38 premium. Judge Grasty requested the Harney County Fair Board President also sign their summary in the amount of \$20,853.91. Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to sign the insurance documents with SAIF and CIS for the 2016/2017 year, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Review and signing of the 2016 Fund Exchange Agreement between Harney County and ODOT

Judge Grasty discussed the fund exchange process. Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve the 2016 Fund Exchange Agreement between Harney County and ODOT for the Chip Seal Project (CJ2016-59), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution #2016-03 In the Matter of Appropriating Funds Due to an Unexpected Occurrence or Condition – RFPAs

Judge Grasty made a Motion to approve Resolution #2016-03 In the Matter of Appropriating Funds Due to an Unexpected Occurrence or Condition (CJ2016-58), seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

11:45 a.m., Darbie Kemper, Public Health Director, to discuss the Oregon Health Plan Outreach and Enrollment Grant Program

Darbie Kemper discussed the Oregon Health Plan Outreach and Enrollment Grant received by the Harney County Health Department in the amount of \$100,000. The grant will employ 1.5 FTE and will provide assistance with the Oregon Health Plan enrollment process to the rural communities of Harney County. The goal is to serve 15 clients per month.

Review of documents relative to beginning the Audit process

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve and sign the contract with Oster Professional Group for the 2015/2016 County audit, seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Review and signing of the USDA Wildlife Services Work/Financial Plan for 2016/2017

Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to approve the USDA APHIS Wildlife Services Work and Financial Plan, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Review and discussion of the Lease Agreement between Harney County and the OSU Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center

Judge Grasty advised the Court of a request from OSU Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center to change the Lease Agreement to a single 15-year period instead of renewing the lease every 5 years. After some discussion, the Court approved the request and will sign the agreement after changes have been made to the document.

1:30 p.m., Budget Hearing to Adopt the Budget and Levy and Categorize Taxes

No public comment.

Judge Grasty advised the Court the Harney County Sheriff's Department received three (3) years of funding for a dedicated BLM deputy. The Court recommended waiting until the receipt of the funds then completing a Supplemental to the Budget. The Court also discussed the funds currently in Commission on Children & Families – 236, as that Commission no longer exists and has transitioned to the Early Learning Hub.

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve Resolution #2016-04 In the Matter of Adopting the Budget and Making Appropriations with a total sum of \$30,650,222.40 (CJ2016-60), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Nichols made a Motion to approve Resolution #2016-05 In the Matter of Imposing and Categorizing 2016-2017 Taxes In the County of Harney, State of Oregon (CJ2016-57), seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously. Tax rate of 4.5016 per \$1,000.00 of assessed value of operations.

Review of Water Use Requests

Correspondence to Review

Kenny Delano – regarding County Surveyor position

Judge Grasty recommended the Court re-appoint Kenny Delano but at the end of the next fiscal year put out a request for proposals for the position. Motion made by Commissioner Nichols to re-appoint Kenny Delano as Harney County Surveyor, seconded by Commissioner Runnels, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Prairie City Ranger District – regarding two project proposals

Rick Roy, BLM – regarding project funding

Bettina Bowman, Celebrate Recovery – support request

Judge Grasty advised Bettina Bowman, Celebrate Recovery, to make this request again in January 2017, as she missed the deadline to present during the budget process.

Emigrant Creek Ranger District – timber sale

Shari Harris-Dunning, DEQ – Riley Disposal Opportunity to Correct

Scheduling

Late Items

Resolution #2016-06 In the Matter of Expenditure of the Contingency held in Fund #241 General Operating Reserve

Commissioner Runnels made a Motion to approve Resolution #2016-06 In the Matter of Expenditure of the Contingency held in Fund #241 General Operating Reserve (CJ2016-56), seconded by Commissioner Nichols, with no further discussion the Motion carried unanimously.

Deliberation by the Court (no decisions will be made)

For the Record

Adjournment

County Court recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. After no further discussion, the Court adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston
Deputy Clerk