



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County
Minutes of the County Court Session***

February 15, 2017

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Pete Runnel's office at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2017. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Mark Owens, and Commissioner Patty Dorroh. Also attending were Eric Drushella, Roadmaster; Nellie Franklin, Treasurer; Deanna Atwell, Finance/Human Resources Manager; and Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk.

Also attending were Barbara Cannady, Cheryl Smith, Louis Smith, Mitzi Defenbaugh, Holly Orr, BLM; Judy Erwin, Hines City Administrator; Samantha White, Burns Times Herald; Peggy Yarbor, Community in Action; Guy McKay, Veterans Services Officer; and George Wilber, Kari Ott, and Cara Wilber, Oster Professional Group.

Work Session 9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

Voucher Approval

The Court reviewed accounts payables, signed checks, and approved the vouchers by Court signature.

Judge Runnels led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to approve the minutes from the February 1, 2017 meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Barbara Cannady thanked the Court for their work thus far. She also discussed the Meadowland issue.

Judy Irwin thanked Judge Runnels for helping a local business owner regarding an Oregon Trail Electric issue.

Old Business

Weed Board member appointments

Weed Board member appointments were postponed until the next County Court session. The deadline for letters of interest is February 17, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.

New Business

10:15 a.m. Guy McKay, Veterans Services Officer, with a quarterly update and discussion regarding homelessness

Guy McKay discussed the Harney County Veterans Office Enhancement & Expansion Update 2nd Quarter 2016/17. Other topics of discussion included Living Well Workshops, granted veterans claims, and House Concurrent Resolution 6. Peggy Yarbor discussed the SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans Families). Commissioner Dorroh commended Guy McKay for all his work on behalf of the veterans of Harney and Grant counties.

Review of the Rimrock Recycling 2016 Report

The County Court reviewed the Rimrock Recycling 2016 Report.

11:30 a.m., representatives from Oster Professional Group with an audit update

George Wilber, Kari Ott, and Cara Wilber, Oster Professional Group introduced themselves to the Court and discussed the audit process. They also presented the Court with a copy of the Management Letter dated November 4, 2016.

Review of Water Use Requests

Correspondence

DEQ – Senate Bill 263, changes to the Recycling Opportunity Act

Scheduling

Due to scheduling conflicts, the March 2017 County Court meetings were changed to March 8 and 22, 2017, at 9:15 a.m. in Judge Runnels' office.

County Court work sessions are scheduled for March 15, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. in Judge Runnels' office and March 22, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. in Drewsey at the school.

Late Items

Harney County Cultural Coalition Cultural Plan

Judge Runnels presented the Court with a copy of the Harney County Cultural Coalition (HCCC) Cultural Plan. HCCC is requesting quasi-County status in order to apply for State grants and receive funding, and to use the Harney County Fairgrounds Memorial Building for an event on November 4, 2017, without paying the liability insurance fee. Commissioner Owens made a Motion to approve the Harney County Cultural Coalition as a semi-quasi County entity in order to waive the insurance requirements for the use of the County Fairgrounds building pending County Counsel review, and seconded by Commissioner Dorroh. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

State Funding for Predator Control

Judge Runnels discussed the possibility of the USDA pulling all the funding for APHIS (Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service) for predator control.

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

For the Record

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, County Court adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston
Deputy Clerk