

HARNEY COUNTY COURT MINUTES
July 15, 2009

→The Harney County Court convened July 15, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Judge Grasty's office. Members present were, Judge Steven E. Grasty and Commissioners Dan Nichols and Jack Drinkwater. Also attending were Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor, County Treasurer Nellie Franklin, County Clerk Maria Iturriaga and Chief Deputy County Clerk, Derrin Robinson.

→Public attending either a portion or all of the meeting were: Burns Mayor, Len Vohs, Lari Higgins and Melanie Thomas with Zeta Sigma Sorority and the Desert Dash Rally, Peggy Asmussen and Jim Nanson representing Eastern Oregon Youth Corrections Facility, Becky Cunningham, Linda Horn, Desiree Taylor, Wayne Baron, Natalie Richardson, Loretta Zelle, and Astrid Alexander, representing 4-R Recycling, Karen L. Dinsmore and Rod Dinsmore, from C & B Sanitary, Farrell Clark, from Clark's Disposal in John Day, and Randy Parks, from the Burns Times Herald.

→Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Financial and Statistical reports were reviewed and vouchers paid by court's signature.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to approve the July 8 county court minutes as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Melanie Thomas and Lari Higgins, with Zeta Sigma Sorority, were present to request a 500.00 donation to the Desert Dash Rally, which they organize. Ms. Thomas explained that the rally will be held August 14, 15, 16, and all proceeds will go to the arts for education music program for schools. The court took the request under advisement, and would make a decision later in the day.

→In the Matter of the Appointment to the vacancy on the Planning Commission, after advertising for the position, no one inquired. Mr. David Arntz, the current commissioner, has agreed to continue. Commissioner Drinkwater moved to re-appoint David Arntz, Commissioner Nichols second and the motion carried unanimously.

→The Court tabled the approval of the Certificate of Appropriation of Funds of Support of the OSU Extension Service, to gather information.

→Judge Grasty recognized for the record, that Resolution 2009-14, in the Matter of Adopting the Budget and Making Appropriations for 2009-2010 contains a .50 rounding error. It is within Fund 236. He just wanted the court to be aware of it.

→The Court reviewed the Opportunity to Comment on the BLM South Harney School District #33 Recreations and Public Purposes Classification and Land Sale Environmental Assessment. Judge Grasty will work with County Counsel Ron Yokim to draft a letter in support.

→The Court reviewed the Public Scoping Package on the Jane Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project. The court will respond with comments relating to this project as well.

- ➔The Court reviewed the AOC compilation of Legislation passed during the session.
- ➔The Court met with State Representative Cliff Bentz. Rep. Bentz gave the court a presentation regarding the 2009 Legislative session.
- ➔Peggy Asmussen and Jim Nanson were present to discuss an OYA Youth work release program. Ms. Asmussen was asking the OYA to allow the youth outside the facility for work crew purposes. A discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the court to inform the community of the request, and obtain feedback before they made a decision to support it or not. Mr. Nanson said that it is early in the request stage, and it has not been requested of OYA officials at this point. Judge Grasty reiterated that he court has an obligation to seek public input on this matter before a decision could be made. They will await public feedback, and go from there.
- ➔Patty Dorroh, Director, Commission on Children and Families, was present to discuss the 2009-2011 Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Commission on Children and Families. She also updated the court on numerous commission issues. Judge Grasty voiced his concern, and wanted every one to be aware, there is 18.3% less funding, but the requirements are the same, so abilities may have to be readdressed before the end of the biennium. Commissioner Drinkwater moved to sign the 2009-2010 Intergovernmental Agreement with Oregon Commission on Children and families, Commissioner Nichols second, and the motion carried unanimously.
- ➔Wayne Baron with 4R Recycling was present to update the court. The court was concerned about seeing a legitimate business plan, delinquent rent payments, and bale counts and payments. Mr. Baron stated they have not yet become a non-profit organization, as they are unable to come up with \$750.00 for the application fee at this time. A lengthy discussion ensued. Judge Grasty stated that he wanted the rent payment and the bale counts today. Mr. Baron agreed. The court agreed to give the 4-R Recycling Board three weeks from today (August 5, 2009), to return to the Court with a legitimate business plan that shows how the operation can sustain itself with rent and bale counts current, or the Court will terminate the relationship, and require them to vacate the property at that time.
- ➔The court reviewed notices of water use requests. There were no objections to any requests.
- ➔The court revisited the earlier request from Zeta Sigma for a donation to the Desert Dash Rally, Judge Grasty expressed that there is no money in the budget today, but will ask them to come back for next year during the budget process, and they will be considered in the budget process for next year.
- ➔There being no further business, the Court adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Derrin Robinson, C.R.A., C.E.A,
Chief Deputy County Clerk