

**Harney County Court Meeting
March 17, 2010**

→The Harney County Court meeting convened March 17, 2010 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, Ted Tiller, Assessor, Nellie Franklin, Treasurer and County Clerk, Maria Iturriaga.

→Public attending were, Randy Parks, Burns Times Herald, Herb Vloedman, Linda Johnson, Pam Mather, Len Vohs, Joan Suther and Christi Courtemanche.

→Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Financial and statistical reports were reviewed and vouchers approved by court's signature.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to approve the March 2, 2010 as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Herb Vloedman, was present to express concern regarding liability insurance premiums increasing and addressing those increases publicly in order for the public to be aware of the reasoning behind the increases, such as claims, etc. Judge Grasty explained to him that the agent of record does address those issues to the court annually. He also suggested that the county court agenda items should be disclosed more clearly.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to approve Maria Iturriaga, Clerk, signing the Personal Service Contract, with Helion Software Licensing Agreement for the Clerk's recording system. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Ted Tiller, Assessor, was in attendance to explain the contract for Tax and Assessment software with Helion. Judge Grasty made a motion to approve Ted Tiller, Assessor and Judge Grasty signing the contracts with Helion and ORCATS for T&A software package. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Nellie Franklin, Treasurer is researching financials software for later purchase as the current provider will cease to maintain the current one.

→Patty Dorroh Director, Commission on Children and Families to update the 2010 Comprehensive Plan on Children and Families. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sign the 2010 Comprehensive Plan on Children and Families. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Christi Courtemanche and Joan Suther from BLM were present to update the court on the SMAC (Steens Mountain Advisory Council). They informed the court that currently

the Burns Paiute Tribe position is the only one open. The court reiterated that they want to be an active participant of the process and to keep the court engaged.

→Representative Cliff Bentz was in attendance with a legislative update. The court requested help with state legislation allowing community level decisions. Judge Grasty informed Rep. Bentz that the State is not weighing in on local projects that county government would like to see in their jurisdiction. Rep. Bentz informed the court that he has opened an office in Ontario and has a full time assistant where she can do scheduling, etc.

→Bid opening Community Corrections pick up – Burns Ford - -----\$26,237.65
Teague Motor Co. - \$28,450.00
Sheriff Glerup will review the bids and make a recommendation later in the afternoon.

→Ivan Gall Eastern Region Manager and Tony Rutherford, Water Master, from Water Resource Department, were present to update the court on what's going on in the Department and water topics. Mr. Gall stated that their agency along with others have been given responsibility for developing an Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy by 2012. A series of evening open houses throughout Oregon communities will be held and one of those will be held in Burns on May 25, 4 – 7 pm at the Harney County Community Center. Mr. Gall briefly mention the Silvie's Foley issue and informed the court that the Judge has granted a 2 year stay and in that time they are hoping to work something out as how to best manage the system. He also stated that the there is a high percentage of average for water equivalent and there is a good snow pack this year.

→Mark Maliwauki, Economic Development Coordinator, was in attendance to discuss the World Economic Development Alliance (WEDA) proposal. Mr. Maliwauki informed the court that he would be resigning his position as of May 31, 2010. The court expressed their understanding to his resignation and expressed their gratitude for all he has done for the community as he has put us out front and has done the right things. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to subscribe for WEDA's renewal option 1 Prospect Development for \$4,950 for 12 months and have Mr. Maliwauki argue for aspects of option two. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Library Window/Door Replacement project bid opening at 2:40 p.m. The following bids were received;

2L Construction - \$77,952.10
Cole Wensenk - \$77,375.96
Philip Sitz Const.- \$84,535.00
Lyle Stratton - \$49,973.00
Rise & Run Const. - \$89,158.00

The bids will be reviewed by Anderson-Perry & Associates, Engineers and the court will award the bid at next county court meeting.

→Ann Lessar, Senior Center Director was in attendance to have Judge Grasty sign an Emergency Assistance and Certification of local approval and homeless grants. After reviewing them it was the consensus of the court to clarify these requests before signing.

→The court acknowledged correspondence, including a letter from AOC in regards to their history as the collective voice of counties, letter from Department of Forestry inviting the court to The Rangeland Fire Protection Association and ODF 3rd Annual Rangeland Fire Protection Summit in Burn on May 19 & 20, 2010, a copy of a letter drafted by Ron Yockim, Natural Resource Attorney in regards to Trout Creek Allotment Management Plan Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-OR-B050-2009-0065-EA, a letter from BLM in regards to Moon Reservoir Facility Improvements Public Comments Request also for the court's information Nellie Franklin, Treasurer provided a copy of the Taylor Grazing Proceeds distribution which is a total of \$33,418.24 during the period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009.

→Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor, updated the court on some road topics. He mentioned that an individual want to do dust abatement on a particular county road and was looking for guidance. It was the consensus to talk with county legal counsel to see if there would be a liability on the county and if some document could be signed to relieve the county of any liability due to the dust abatement, one thing the court emphasized was that even if this is applied the regular county maintenance will continue to be done.

→The court had a general discussion in regards to numerous issues including the Boardman Hemingway Transmission Line Project Oregon-Idaho.

→The court reviewed public notice of water use requests from Oregon Water Resources Department. There were no objections expressed by the court to any of the requests.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to accept the lowest bid from Burns Ford for Community Corrections pickup in the amount of \$26,237.65 as recommended by the Sheriff. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iturriaga, CCC
Harney County Clerk