

**Harney County Court Meeting/Budget Adoption Hearing
June 16, 2010**

→The Harney County Court convened June 16, 2010 at 2:30 p.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 Clerk, Maria Iturriaga and Treasurer, Nellie Franklin.

→Public attending were, several members of the Lions Club, ESA Sorority members, Hilda Allison, Randy Parks, Burns Times Herald, Scott Franklin and Pete Runnels.

→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 June 2, 2010 county court/budget hearing meeting as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→2:30 p.m. budget hearing opened to adopt the budget, levy and Categorize Tax.

→Under public comment the court received a letter signed by about 100 residents requesting the exploration of the possibility of Harney County acquiring the airport. It was the consensus of the court to involve the city in this discussion. Judge Grasty stated that the county does not have the authority to acquire it unless the city is willing to give it up. Contact persons for the citizens are Scott Franklin and or Cliff Ausmusen.

→Judge Grasty informed the court that Bob Caine, owner of the property near Crane that the tomato greenhouses were on, had called him claiming he had cleaned and still working at it. It was the consensus of the court to write him a letter thanking him for the efforts, however give him a deadline of August 31, 2010 to finish up cleaning the property.

→Brandon McMullen, Planning Director was in attendance to report on site characteristics of Parcel No. 27099 which is 10 acres, located South of Harney Lake. An individual has requested this county-owned property be set for auction. He informed the court that after his research he found there are limitations (access, power) and the majority of land near the subject parcel is under federal designation (BLM) and is also surrounded by private land owners. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to deny the application or Parcel No. 27099. Judge Grasty seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Pete Runnels, Lions Club representative and other members, ESA sorority members Delcy Curry and Jeanie Stearns were in attendance to express deep concerns regarding their respective food booths during Fair. Pete Runnels representing the Lions Club informed the court that the Lions Club had gone to a Fair Board meeting requesting cash

registers being waived from use as they are very cumbersome when trying to meet the needs of customers. Also at that same meeting they told the Fair Board that they were not opposed of a gross sale percentage increase to 22% (from 20%) to service organizations (non-profit) if others (for profit) were also increased to 25%. The Lions Club have received a contract for their signature in which there will be no cash registers, the percentage has gone up to 22%, however the private vendors have remain at the same percentage of 20% plus space fee as previous. These service clubs feel that this is not fair as all the money raised is kept here within the county to help youth and people in need. It was the consensus of the court to form a small committee to discuss it further with the fair board to see what can be worked out for the benefit of all parties.

→Karen Hendrickson, Linda Simmons and Jennifer Ainsworth from TVCC were present to discuss the “Contract Out of District”. Ms. Simmons presented statistics of current enrollment. She requested \$9,000 for delivery if educational programs. Judge Grasty commented that a budget change for TVCC line item will have to be made from \$8,000 to \$9,000. Ms. Simmons informed the court that a Business Center has been formed where there is no charge for business counseling. Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to approve the agreement and sign. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→The court had a discussion regarding the VA van which was wrecked during winter and have \$22,495 in the revolving fund from the insurance company. Judge Grasty stated that the federal VA is purchasing a Van to be used by the veterans and that he has spoken to the donor of the Van to see what he wishes for those insurance funds and had said they need to be used for the purposes of providing medical transportation services for the veterans of Harney County. A resolution establishing a special fund will be drafted to be signed later in the afternoon.

→Judge Grasty made a motion to change the 2010/2011 non-departmental fund line item #101-25-5-20-2422 TVCC to \$9,000. Change the beginning fund balance in the amount of \$1,000. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sign Resolution #2010-11 In The Matter of Adopting the Budget and Making Appropriations for 2010/2011 budget in the total sum of \$32,227,869.00 now on file at the office of the Harney County Clerk. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sign Resolution #2010-12 In the Matter of Imposing and Categorizing 2010/2011 Taxes in the County of Harney State of Oregon at the rate of 4.5016 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Judge Grasty informed the court that he’s been told that ONDA has asked for discovery in regards to the recent hearing EFCS held here last week.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to sign the County Court Order in The matter of the distribution of land sales money. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to sign Resolution #2010-13 In The Matter of Creating a Reserve Fund for the Purpose of Reserving Monies for Veteran Service Transportation. Commissioner Nichols seconded with the understanding that this Resolution can be amended after discussing it once again with the party that donated the van. Discussion followed. Motion carried unanimously.

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

→Judge Grasty stated that he had received a letter from Wayne Baron requesting the cleaning deposit be reimbursed. It was the consensus of the court to hold this request until the next county court meeting when an additional request is to be received.

→There being no further business the meeting/hearing, with no public comment presented adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iturriaga, CCC
Harney County Clerk