

**HARNEY COUNTY COURT MEETING
NOVEMBER 24, 2008**

→The Harney County Court convened November 24, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in Judge Grasty's office. Members attending were, Judge Steve Grasty and Commissioners Dan Nichols and Jack Drinkwater. Also attending were, Kerry Landers, Road Supervisor, Eric Drushella newly hired Road Supervisor and County Clerk, Maria Iturriaga.

→Judge Grasty led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to approve the November 5 county court minutes as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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

→Judge Grasty stated that this will be a short meeting however they will be spending the rest of the day in a work session with various department heads.

→Judge Grasty informed the court that Harney County has received an additional \$357,000 unexpected funds from PILT (Payment if Lieu of Taxes) to be deposited to the general fund budget.

→The court reviewed resolution #2008-18 In The Matter of the Harney County Library Advisory Board responsibilities. After some discussion Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sign and adopt Resolution #2008-18. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Judge Grasty presented an overview of the recent annual Association of Oregon Counties conference which he attended and held Nov. 17-20 in Eugene. Topics of discussion included wind power issues. The AOC President will appoint a task force to deal with wind energy issues. Judge Grasty and Brandon McMullen, Planning Director will be involved in the task force representing Harney County, they will keep the court informed with frequent reports. Other topics of discussion were county roads and funding. Judge Grasty stated that included in the Bail-Out Package passed in Congress and signed by the President, is a provision in the bill where PILT is fully funded until 2012 and then is unknown. Other issues discussed at the AOC meeting were the Blue Mt. Forest Plan, Predator Control funding and water conservation project. Judge Grasty also informed the court that he had met with ODF&W in regards to their position on local wind power projects.

→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.

→Brandon McMullen, Planning Director, was asked to join the meeting to ask him what role, if any, Harney County plays in the remand from LUBA back to the County in the Inglis vs Hogrefe land use appeal. Mr. McMullen stated that is his understanding that at this point there is no action needed by the county. The court requested the advice given to him be in writing. The court and Mr. McMullen discussed other planning issues and some of the ambiguity within the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. McMullen informed the court that the Planning Commission review hearing on wind power is set for December 17.

→There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iturriaga, CCC
Harney County Clerk