

**HARNEY COUNTY COURT MINUTES
AUGUST 6, 2008**

- The Harney County Court convened August 6, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in Judge Grasty's office. Members present were, Judge Steven Grasty and Commissioners Dan Nichols and Jack Drinkwater. Also present were, Kerry Landers, Road Supervisor and County Clerk, Maria Iturriaga.
- Public attending were, Karla Bird, Don Lindner, Randy Parks from the Burns Times Herald, Mary Ausmus, Jeff and Patty Dorroh, Joan Suther, BLM, Cathy Ann Miller, Marian Chulos, Pat Sharp, Crane Schools Superintendent and Nick Miller, BLM.
- 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 16 county court minutes as mailed. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- Karla Bird was in attendance to encourage everyone to check out the farmer's market at the Hines Park which is being held August 9 and will run through the middle of September She stated that it has been really good and many locally grown produce and crafts are available.
- Mary Ausmus expressed concern regarding a publicly owned "e-plate" vehicle that might be misused. Judge Grasty said he did not know who the person driving it was but would follow up on it.
- Brandon McMullen, Planning Director, was in attendance to inform the court that they had applied and received a technical assistance grant to update zoning and subdivision documents, for streamlining and clerical updating. They had advertised for request for proposals and had received 5 proposals. PARC (Public Affair Research Center) was selected. It was the consensus of the court to go ahead and sign the Contract.
- The court reviewed a list of surplus items to be sold at a sealed bid auction this will be advertised in the near future.
- Nick Miller and Joan Suther from the BLM were in attendance to present and explain the Slickear Creek/Claw Creek forest restoration project and treatment projects they would be working on. There was discussion in regards of Bio mass possibility for this and other several projects whereby Bio Mass people could be interested. Commissioner Nichols expressed concern if Bio mass people could be prohibited from improving roads to be able to access the area. Joan Suther stated that it would not be a problem.

→A letter informing the court that Three Rivers Resource Area has released 26 Categorical Exclusion (CX) documentations with subsequent Notices of Proposed Decisions to Renew Term Grazing Permits on public land was received by Judge Grasty.

→Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sign Notice of Closed Harney Landfill for Sodhouse landfill. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→Patty Dorroh, Commission on Children & Families Director, was in attendance to request approval of a contract between Harney County and Training and Employment Consortium for Childcare Resource and Referral. Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to sign the contract. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→The court reviewed 6 letters of interest for three Planning Commission vacancies. Since two of the applicants were present both were asked several questions regarding their interest in serving as members of the Planning Commission. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to appoint Jeff Dorroh. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion to re-appoint Stacy Davies. Motion died because of lack of second. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to appoint Vern Brown. Judge Grasty seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Judge Grasty made a motion to appoint Don Lindner. Commissioner Drinkwater seconded. Motion carried unanimously. These appointments are for 4 yr. term. Ending June 30, 2012.

→Commissioner Drinkwater made a motion appoint Bob Greisen to the Weed Board to fill the At Large position as recommended by the Weed Coordinator. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

→The court had a brief discussion regarding Annual Dues for Southeast Oregon RC&D Council (Resource Conservation and Development). This issue was tabled in order to have some one come and talk to the court before a decision can be made.

→Pat Sharp, Crane Schools Superintendent, was in attendance to request 20 feet to extend along the west side of the track and adjacent to Clyde Avenue. After discussion and concerns raised by Cathy Miller, Marian Chulos and Don Lindner in regards to over use of right of ways. It was the consensus of the court that it is their intent to preserve right of ways. The court stated they are not open to the 20 feet but would visit the site and see what the minimum could be.

→There was a discussion regarding Penland Road as there is a request to legalize it. Sheriff Glerup stated there have been problems there, and one of the neighbors adjacent to Penland Rd. was ultimately arrested. It was the consensus of the court to start the legalization process on Penland Road.

→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.

→A proposal from 4R Recycling requesting a new lease/option agreement to secure both county buildings was reviewed by the court. It was the consensus of the court to make a counter offer.

→The court reviewed an application to the Department of State Lands for a project on the Malheur River by Toby Cronin, as well as, Senator Wyden Draft Forest Proposal Comments. The court received letters asking for comments on the Environmental Assessment on the Smyth-Kiger Allotment and the Egley Fire Restoration Environmental Assessment.

→There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Iturriaga, CCC
Harney County Clerk