



***In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Harney County  
Minutes of the County Court Session***

***November 1, 2017***

The Harney County Court convened in the Judge's Chambers at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 2017. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Mark Owens, and Commissioner Patty Dorroh. Also attending were Rick Paul, Harney County Fair Director; Tim Colahan, County Counsel; Jolene Cawfield, Harney County Public Health Director; and Greg Smith and Denise Rose, Harney County Economic Development.

Public attending were Jamie McCormack, BLM; Samantha White, Burns Times Herald; Lori Bailey, Melissa Ward, and Christy Cheyne, USFS; Holly Kerns, Baker County; Barbara Cannady, Barb Kull, Steve Grasty, and Connie Kristensen.

**Work Session 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**Voucher Approval**

The Court reviewed accounts payables, signed checks, and approved the vouchers by Court signature.

Judge Runnels led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2017, County Court meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment**

None

## **Old Business**

### **Flood Issues Update**

The willow removal and clean up continues. The next flood meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Judge's Chambers.

## **New Business**

### **Steve Grasty, Sage Grouse Update**

Steve Grasty provided the Court with a letter to update the Court on the sage grouse issue. He requested that the Court comment at the November 7, 2017, BLM meeting. In addition to the Sage Grouse update, he also discussed the DEQ water analysis.

### **Jolene Cawlfeld, Public Health Director, Public Health Update**

Jolene Cawlfeld, Public Health Director, updated the Court on the 2017 Oregon Coalition of Local Health Officials Public Health Modernization. Historically, public health has been focused on immunizations, water quality testing for environmental health, inspection of local restaurants, and addressing communicable diseases. The focus is moving toward addressing electronics and increased screen time, exercise, smoking/smokeless tobacco, and dietary concerns. The challenge is to make our public health system more of a collaborative effort with entities such as schools, other health care providers, other Oregon counties, and city and county planning departments. The initiative began in 2015 with a 5-year roll out plan. Other topics of discussion included 1) plan funding and budget, 2) collaboration with other Oregon counties and sharing of resources, 3) Harney County's participation in Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (EOCCO) and the RFP for a modernization grant to hire epidemiologists (2) and a communicable disease worker to respond to any County outbreaks, 4) the social determinants of health such as obesity and tobacco use, 5) the focus on partnerships, 6) VISTA Volunteer opportunity, and 7) the CATCH Program (Coordinated Approach to Child Health). The catch phrase is now "Health in All Policies," at every level.

### **Emigrant Creek Ranger District with a project in the scoping period**

Lori Bailey, Melissa Ward, and Christy Cheyne provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Emigrant Creek Ranger District Danger Free Removal Environmental Assessment. Topics of the presentation included purpose and need of project, proposed action, danger tree definition, potential failure zone, selected design criteria, data, project map, project timeline, and project online information. Other topics included the reasons for tree damage and density management.

### **Harney County Economic Development Update**

Denise Rose and Greg Smith, Harney County Economic Development (HCED), provided the Court with an update on economic development. The very first business needing help with financing from HCED has been accomplished. It is a main street building that will be remodeled, refurbished, and upgraded as an expansion for another business. After a financial analysis, the owner will be able to secure financing on their

own. They are currently working on getting a foundation for HCED including office furniture, computers, signage, and marketing materials. Secondly, the focus is on gathering research. HCED staff will be attending their second community meeting on November 1, 2017, and the topic will be on housing. There are two (2) other businesses HCED is working with that are in the financing stages. HCED is meeting with approximately 12-19 businesses monthly to assist with developing a business plan, putting together financing packages, and helping them work through regulatory issues. The first HCED class on "how to start a small business" that was attended by ten (10) entrepreneurs, and the second class will be scheduled to focus on cash flow management for small business owners. Other updates included HCED is now coordinated with TVCC to provide advising assistance, social media presence on Facebook, website development, development of a HCED magazine, contact with local businesses including banks, mapping project, and legislative issues.

Review of Water use requests

1:30 p.m. Work Session, Regional County Land Use

### **Correspondence**

BLM Announces Public Meeting on Sage Grouse

USDA Blue Mountain Land Management Plan Revision

Malheur National Forest timber sale

### **Scheduling**

AOC Conference, November 14-17, 2017, in Eugene, Oregon

Flood issues meeting November 20, 2017, Judge's Chambers at 10:00 am

Sage Grouse meeting to discuss land management issues, November 7, 2017, 5-8 pm  
HC Community Center

American Leadership Forum in Burns on November 9-10, 16-17, 2017 (Friday  
November 10 and 17, 2017, to share some information about the history of successful  
collaboration in and around Harney County)

Next Harney County Court meeting on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, at 9:15 am

### **Late Items**

Connie Kristensen requested assistance from the Court regarding an ongoing issue with the condition of a neighbor's property. The Court will discuss this issue with County Counsel and the Sheriff, and will update Ms. Kristensen on their progress.

**General Deliberation by the Court (no decisions will be made)**

**For the Record**

**Adjournment**

County Court recessed at 12:00 pm, and reconvened at 1:30 pm for work session. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston  
Deputy Clerk