



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

August 16, 2017

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Pete Runnels' office at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, July 19, 2017. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Mark Owens, and Commissioner Patty Dorroh. Also attending were Deanna Atwell, HR/Finance Administrator; Brandon McMullen, Planning Director; Eric Drushella, Roadmaster; Rick Paul, Interim Fair Manager; Guy McKay, Veterans Services Officer; and Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk.

Public attending were Matt Obradovich and Holly Orr, BLM; Samantha White, Burns Times-Herald; Jamie McLeod-Skinner, Congressional Candidate; Barb Kull, Barbara Cannady, and Marjorie Thelen.

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 August 2, 2017, County Court meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Holly Orr advised the Court the BLM will be open Saturday, August 19, and Sunday, August 20, 2017, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 pm, prior to the solar eclipse. They will be selling maps and there is an incident action plan in place with a team available, working in conjunction with Paul Gray, Harney County Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner, congressional candidate, introduced herself to the Court.

Old Business

Flood Issues

Commissioner Owens updated the Court on a recent flood meeting. Currently, FEMA flood plain and mapping is on hold until later this fall; the County is awaiting more information from the Army Corp of Engineers, USGS, ODOT, and the independent engineering firm. Additional topics included tours of the affected waterways, debris clean up and dredging plan, and mapping. Paul Gray, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, is going to work with the Cities of Hines and Burns to schedule a public meeting to discuss insurance options. The next meeting has been scheduled for September 19, 2017, at 11:00 a.m.

Review of an Application for an Approach by Vern Brown Jr.

Eric Drushella reviewed the application and has no issues with the approach application but recommended the applicant add a layer of some type of aggregate. Judge Runnels made a Motion to approve the application by Vern Brown Jr.(CJ2017-126), and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

10:15 a.m. Matt Obradovich and Holly Orr of BLM Burns District update on the Greater Sage Grouse Soft Trigger Discussion

Matt Obradovich, Burns BLM District Biologist, gave a presentation to the Court discussing the Sage Grouse triggers and Appendix J Adaptive Management Strategy. Some topics of discussion included sage grouse populations, 2016 Adaptive Management Trigger Status by Oregon GRSG Biologically Significant Units (Oregon PACs-Priority Area of Conservation), definitions and discussion of soft and hard triggers, and environmental impacts that affect Sage Grouse populations.

10:45 a.m. Veterans Services Officer (VSO), Guy McKay, with an update on Veterans programs

Guy McKay, VSO, discussed with the Court the Harney County Veterans Office VSO Enhancement & Expansion Update, 4th Quarter 2016/2017. Judge Runnels signed the County Application for ODVA Funds FY: July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 (CJ2017-125). Topics of discussion included funding, new community outreach opportunities, Grant County VSO, and hiring of a part-time employee. Guy is currently billing Grant County for the hours spent assisting Grant County veterans. This is a temporary situation until Grant County can hire a VSO. The Court requested he keep in touch regarding this situation.

Resolution #2017-10 in the Matter of Declaring a Local Disaster Due to the Total Solar Eclipse

The Court reviewed Resolution #2017-10 and made a few changes before signing the document. Commissioner Owens made a Motion to approve Resolution #2017-10 in

the Matter of Declaring a Local Disaster Due to the Total Solar Eclipse, and seconded by Commissioner Dorroh. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Signing of a Warranty Deed for property donated to the Senior Center

Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to approve the Warranty Deed (2017-1052) conveyed by Harney County to the Harney County Senior and Community Services, situs address 472 East Monroe Street in Burns, Oregon; and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Signing of a Warranty Deed for conveyance of Mineral Rights to Tyler & Enna Kaady

Commissioner Owens made a Motion to approve the Warranty Deed (2017-1053) to transfer mineral rights conveyed by Harney County to Tyler and Enna Kaady, and seconded by Commissioner Dorroh. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Water Use Requests

Correspondence

Forest Service-Timber sale: For future timber sales, Judge Runnels will request the County where it is located and a map.

Scheduling

The next County Court meeting will be September 6, 2017, at 9:15 a.m. in Judge Runnels' office.

The Court will schedule the Fall 2017 rural meetings at the next County Court meeting.

Late Items

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

For the Record

Adjournment

There being no further business, the County Court adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston
Deputy Clerk