



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

December 20, 2017

The Harney County Court convened in County Court Chamber at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2017. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Mark Owens and Commissioner Patty Dorroh. Also attending were Jordon Bennett, Fair Manager; Tim Colahan, County Counsel; Ted Tiller, County Assessor, Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor, and Derrin Robinson, County Clerk.

The attendance sheet is included with the packet for this meeting.

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 moved to approve the December 6, 2017, meeting minutes. Commissioner Owens second, the motion carried unanimously.

The Court had a brief discussion with the Road Supervisor regarding rock sources.

There was no public comment.

New Business

Courtney Crowell, Regional Solutions, introduced herself. She assists 10 Eastern Oregon counties with workforce development and economic development. She stated middle-market housing is a priority. She mentioned some capacity building grant

funding available, and coordination with agencies to connect with other funding sources. She discussed HB 2012 which, in essence, lets Malheur County identify state regulations making Oregon less attractive to business as compared to Idaho. Judge Runnels stated she is also helping with the FEMA issue.

Retiring Fair Manager, Rick Paul, introduced Jordon Bennett as the new Fair Manager. Jordon brings with him a background in event ticketing, marketing, and events management. Mr. Paul also provided a recap of expenses for the 2017 Fair. A copy is included with the packet.

Matt Obradovich, BLM District Biologist, gave a presentation on the causal factor analysis for the greater sage grouse plan.

Derrin Robinson, County Clerk; Tim Colahan, County Counsel; and Ted Tiller, County Assessor, provided a brief overview of the process to form a road district. A short discussion followed regarding the Meadowlands Ranch easements. Both Robinson and Colahan explained a road district would not solve the easement problem in the Meadowlands Ranch area. There is still a title problem that would need to be dealt with judicially by the land owners. There was a discussion from the audience that this relates to water as well, and the court could find no correlation.

Paul Gray, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, presented the Interoperability Communications Plan. Commissioner Owens moved to approve the plan, Commissioner Dorroh second, and the motion carried unanimously (CJ2017-165).

The court reviewed applications for appointment to the Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC) of the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (EOCCO). Commissioner Dorroh moved to appoint both Michelle Friedrichsen and Jolene Cawfield to the LCAC. Commissioner Owens second, and motion carried unanimously

The Court reviewed applicants for appointment to the Fair Board. Karen Moon, Fair Board President, said the board has been attempting to run the fair as a business. She stated individually and, not speaking as a member of the board, she supported the reappointment of Kevin Pryse. As Board President, she chose not to make any recommendations to the board. Commissioner Dorroh moved to appoint Jackie Smith to the Fair Board. Commissioner Owens second. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Owens moved to appoint Mary Lee White to the Fair Board. Commissioner Dorroh second. Judge Runnels explained he felt all of the current board members are doing a fantastic job and reiterated the fair runs on volunteers, and hopes all of these individuals will continue to help and support the fair either as fair directors or in any capacity. There being no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

The Court reviewed a draft letter to the Oregon Smoke Management Committee prepared by Commissioner Dorroh. She stated she would like to re-draft, with some changes. She suggested the court table approval of the letter, and redraft for approval

at the next court meeting. The court discussed prescribed burning and the woodstove replacement grants. Judge Runnels stated they may not agree among themselves as to as what the balance is for prescribed burning. By consensus, the court agreed to table the matter and revisit at the next court meeting.

The Court reviewed notices of water use requests. There were no objections to any request.

Correspondence

USDA, Forrest Service, copy of timber sales to be offered between 10-1-17 and 09-30-18. Commissioner Owens asked Judge Runnels to invite representatives to a Court meeting to discuss these further, with more information.

Scheduling

- Commissioner Owens provided a brief recap of his meetings in Washington DC with Forrest Service, Agriculture Dept., Interior Department and Congressional officials. Owens felt the meetings were productive and beneficial to Eastern Oregon Counties.
- January 4th. Joint meeting with Oregon Senate District 30 County Commissioners to vote to appoint to fill the vacancy in the office of Senator, District 30 – John Day.
- January 8th, AOC
- Dag Robinson, County Clerk; reminded everyone there is statewide Special Election January 23rd. and that ballots will be going in the mail January 3.

Judge Runnels thanked the Commissioners for their first year together. He felt it has been both challenging and rewarding, with many changes in the organization, but felt things have gone very well.

There, being no further business, the Court adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Derrin Robinson".

Derrin (Dag) Robinson, C.C.C.
Harney County Clerk