



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

***October 4, 2017***

The Harney County Court convened in Judge Pete Runnels' office at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Mark Owens, and Commissioner Patty Dorroh. Also attending was Rick Paul, Harney County Fair Manager.

Public attending were Samantha White, Burns Times-Herald; Jeff Rose, BLM; Barbara Cannady, and Barb Kull.

**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.

**Jail Inspection – Brian Needham**

The Court completed a jail inspection with Lt. Brian Needham, Harney County Sheriff's Office Jail Commander.

Judge Runnels led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2017, County Court meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Rick Paul reported the 2017 Demolition Derby generated \$5,800.00 in revenue.

## **Old Business**

### **Flood Issues Update**

Judge Runnels reported the County has received permission and approval from the Department of State Lands (DSL), Army Corps of Engineers, and landowner to start the vegetation removal work on the river between Hwy. 20 and 78. The project is due to begin in the next ten (10) days.

## **New Business**

### **10:20 a.m. Jodi McLean Home Health/Hospice Update**

Jodi McLean, Harney County Home Health/Hospice Director, discussed the recent audit by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHS). Other topics of discussion included the DHS Statement of Deficiencies and Plan of Correction, and the 2017 Hospice Quality Plan. To date, all the deficiencies have been completed and corrected. The Court was provided copies of the Quality Assessment/Performance Improvement (QAPI) Meeting Minutes from 9/27/2017, Staff Meeting minutes from 9/14/2017, and the Board Meeting Minutes from 9/28/2017. The Harney County Home Health and Hospice Board include members Joyce Moser, Jeff Sceirine, Patti Schultz, Terri Williams, and George Salhberg. The QAPI Committee includes Matt Kohl (RN), Jodi McLean (Director), Dianna Jaques (CNA) and Dawna Sue Nyman (Office Manager).

The Denim & Diamonds Hospice Wine & Food Festival is November 18, 2017, 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Burns Elks Lodge.

Commissioner Owens made a Motion to approve the 2017 Hospice Quality Plan, and seconded by Commissioner Dorroh. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

### **10:45 a.m. OYCC request – Mike Simpson**

Mike Simpson attended County Court via telephone. Topics of discussion included highlights of the 2017/2018 school year activities, funding, number of youths served, and summer and school year activities. Harney County OYCC is currently mentoring Baker, Grant, and Malheur counties to establish OYCC programs.

Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to authorize the payment of \$12,500.00 to the OYCC as requested by Mike Simpson, and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

### **Blue Mountain Forest Plan Update – Mark Owens**

Harney County has been given the opportunity to work with Eastern Oregon Association of Counties in order to provide comments on the Blue Mountain Forest Plan and to determine how, as a group, they can get the plan to continue.

Southeast Area Commission on Transportation (SEACT) Update – Pete Runnels

Judge Runnels discussed the joint meeting with Northeast Area Commission (NEACT) on September 28, 2017, in Baker, Oregon. Topics of discussion included transportation planning, planning of road projections, and proposed Ontario/Nyssa inland port/hub with rail access

Review of Water use requests

**Correspondence**

None

**Scheduling**

The next County Court meeting will be October 18, 2017, at 9:15 a.m. in Judge Runnels' office.

Town Hall Meeting with Representative Cliff Bentz at Crane Union High School on October 19, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

Rural work session (flu shots, Oregon Health Plan assistance, and public meeting) confirmed:

- October 10, 2017 Riley at 5:30 p.m.
- October 11, 2017 BLM work session at 5:15 p.m., Courthouse
- October 23, 2017 French Glen/Diamond (at French Glen) 5:30 p.m.
- October 26, 2017 Fields at 5:15 p.m. (location TBA)

**Late Items**

Colonial Life benefits discussion – Pete Runnels

Judge Runnels discussed the Colonial Life Benefits which include Group Disability Insurance, Group Accidental Insurance, and Group Critical Illness Insurance with Cancer. Commissioner Owens made a Motion to allow Colonial Life (Century Insurance Group) to offer benefits to Harney County employees, and seconded by Judge Runnels. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Regional Coordinated Care Organization (CCO) meeting in Baker – Patty Dorroh

Commissioner Dorroh discussed a recent meeting she attended via telephone. The meeting was mostly information on the projects and the performance of the different Eastern Oregon CCOs.

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Hearing – Patty Dorroh

There will be a Water Resources hearing on October 22, 2017, at 2:30 p.m. in Salem. Meeting topics include rule changes for fees, bond increases, and well construction fee increase. Information and paperwork will be available in the County Court office.

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

**For the Record**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, County Court adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston  
Deputy Clerk