



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

May 22, 2019

The Harney County Court convened in County Court Chamber at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2019. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Patty Dorroh, and Commissioner Mark Owens. Also in attendance were Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk; Eric Drushella, Road Department; Brandon McMullen, Planning Department; and Bobbi Jo Heany, Treasurer.

Public attending was Rick Paul, Dennis Davis, Mark Creighton, Paul Hyland, Hannah Hinman and Maggie Thompson, Grant/Harney County CASA; Jeff Rose, BLM; and Samantha White, Burns Times-Herald.

Work Session 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Voucher Approval

The Court reviewed accounts payables 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 May 8, 2019 County Court session and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Old Business

Commissioner Dorroh discussed the Construction Contractors Board (CCB) training on June 3, 2019, 9a-12p, at the Harney County Community Center. The training will include licensing training required for contractors and a conversation with the contractors regarding the CCB.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Public Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) meeting on June 3, 2019, 1-4p, at the Gathering Center.

New Business

Commissioner Patty Dorroh, Harney County Workforce Housing Roadmap 2019

Commissioner Dorroh discussed the 2019 Harney County Workforce Housing Road Map, prepared by Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC) and funded by the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD). The Roadmap is an aspirational resource and reference document that addresses the state of workforce housing in Harney County and strategies and actions to encourage development of moderate to upper wage housing. Housing has been identified as one of the economic development challenges for Harney County. The consultant hired to complete the Roadmap was Susan Christensen, Executive Director for the GEODC, and she participated in the conversation via telephone. The 2019 Roadmap includes housing inventory, buildable lands inventory, quality issues of the types of housing available, construction capacity, market forces, financial tools to consider, strategies, and next steps. The draft Roadmap was presented to the Harney County Planning Commission and there was a discussion of the document during their meeting on May 15, 2019. The Roadmap touches on additional topics such as housing incentive programs, state tax incentives, urban renewal districts, tax increment financing districts, public/private partnerships, and strategies, actions, and next steps. The City of Hines and the City of Burns Planning Commission are also interested in working on these topics as well. The Harney County Planning Commission has been asked if this document might be a fit to possibly adopt as a reference or supporting document to the Comprehensive Plan. Brandon McMullen expressed general support of the document by the Harney County Planning Commission and, if the County Court decided to pursue adoption, they would be happy to work on it. Commissioner Dorroh's plan is to get on the agendas of the City of Hines and the City of Burns City Council meetings to present and discuss the Roadmap. According to Brandon McMullen, if the County Court desires to proceed with the adoption process it would start with a recommendation to the Court from the Harney County Planning Commission after review and a public hearing process. The County Court will review the document and discuss at a future County Court meeting.

Hannah Hinman and Maggie Thompson, Grant-Harney County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Update

Hannah Hinman, Grant-Harney County CASA Executive Director, and Maggie Thompson, Harney County Program Coordinator, gave an update of the CASA program. Harney County has 46 children currently in need of advocacy. Harney County has 10 active CASAs, serving 19 children. There will be a CASA training on June 12, 2019, with the hopes of recruiting up to 5 new CASA volunteers. There will also be a recruiting event "Coffee with CASA" at Bella Java on May 23, 2019, 10a-12p. Additional topics of discussion included the role of the CASA, improvement in partnerships within the community, and fundraising efforts and projects.

Bettina Bowman, Approval of Community Advisory Council (LCAC) Application

Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to appoint Bettina Bowman to the EOCCO LCAC, and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Application for Approval to Install a Culvert and/or Approval from a County Road, Brian Richardson, Crane OR

Eric Drushella, Harney County Roadmaster, discussed the application by Brian Richardson to install an approach off Crane-Venator Lane in Crane, Oregon, and found no conflict regarding the approach. Commissioner Dorroh made the Motion to approve the application for an approach from a County Road by Brian Richardson (CJ2019-68), and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Hearing Date for Vacation of Roads Lands in the Town Site of Crane, Harney County, for Public Notice Posting

Public Notice of the proceedings must be posted 30 days prior to the hearing date. Judge Runnels made a Motion to approve Resolution #2019-12 Notice Hearing and Order of Five Streets Located in Crane, Oregon, hearing scheduled for July 3, 2019, 10:00 a.m., and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Resolution #2019-16 In the Matter of Adopting a Supplemental Budget and Making Appropriations

Commissioner Owens made a Motion to approve Resolution #2019-16 In the Matter of Adopting a Supplemental Budget and Making Appropriations (CJ2019-67) and seconded by Commissioner Dorroh. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Water Use Requests

Commissioner Owens discussed water use requests, groundwater study, and current well-drilling activity in Harney County. In 2016, the Oregon Water Resources Department would no longer accept a permit application in Harney County so the only thing that is being developed now is those prior to 2016. The new rules advisory committee will assemble after the groundwater study, and they will reopen the 512 rules to see if anything needs to change.

ORS 192.660 Executive sessions permitted (2) the governing body of a public body may hold an executive session: (i) To review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request and open hearing.

Correspondence

Becky Cunningham, 2018 Rimrock Recycling Report

Spay and Feasibility and On-Range Outcomes Environmental Assessment

Jeff Rose, Burns BLM District Manager, discussed the challenges and timeframe of the study.

Scheduling

County Court Meeting Schedule:

June 5 and 19, 2019

Budget Meeting Schedule:

June 4, 2019, 1-5p

June 5, 2019, 1-5p

June 12, 2019, 3:30p Approval of Budget

June 19, 2019, 1:30p Adopt Budget, Levy Tax and Cater

Late Items

Commissioner Owens discussed the lawsuit that had been filled on a BLM allotment. It has come under scrutiny from 3 environmental groups have filed suit against the BLM on conditions of a permit. This is a movement that this becomes an industry issue and not an individual allotment issue. Commissioner Owens discussed whether Harney County should become an intervener along with the industry leaders if they decided this is in the best interest of the agriculture community of our County. The Court agreed that this is an industry issue and to follow the lead of the industry.

Deliberation by the Court (no decisions will be made)

For the Record

Adjournment

County Court recessed for Executive Session at 11:05a. Court reconvened at 11:35 a.m. and recessed at 11:45 a.m. for lunch. Court reconvened at 1:30 p.m. and, there being no further business, adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston
Deputy Clerk