



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

June 19, 2019

The Harney County Court convened in County Court Chamber at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, June 19, 2019. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Patty Dorroh, and Commissioner Mark Owens. Also in attendance for all or portions of the meeting were; Eric Drushella, Road Supervisor; Tim Colahan, County Counsel; Angie Lamborn, Senior Services Director and Derrin (Dag) Robinson, County Clerk.

Also attending were Mark Creighton, Dennis Davis, Lynn McClintock, and Rhonda Karges.

Work Session 9:25 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 moved to approve the minutes from the June 5th, 2019 County Court Session. Commissioner Owens seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Lynn McClintock with High Desert Park and Recreation District shared their campaign for funds to revitalize the Swimming pool.

Commissioner Dorroh mentioned the Library's focus group meetings to discuss their strategic planning, and stated the schedule is in the paper.

Late items added to the Agenda

-Bid opening for a new bus barn for the Senior Center

-Commissioner Owens wished to discuss the future of live-streaming county court meetings.

Old Business

The Court discussed Disposition of the Harney County Fair Livestock Sale Funds. Judge Runnels explained the funds have been turned over to OSU Extension service to administer as per the requested guidelines from the Livestock Committee. The letter of agreement is filed in the Commissioners Journal (CJ19-86). Commissioner Owens thanked all involved for working together to get this accomplished.

New Business

The court discussed the purpose for an inter-fund loan to the general fund, from Road Department Operating Fund #250. Commissioner Dorroh moved to approve Resolution 2019-17 in the matter of approving a short term inter-fund loan from Road Department Operating Reserve Fund #250 to General Fund #101. Commissioner Owens seconded, motion carried unanimously (CJ19- 81). Eric Drushella stated that when the reserves were created, it was a combined effort of the County court to prepare for the future, not just the Road Department and that it was good foresight by past Courts and road-masters.

The Court discussed the need for an Indirect Cost Rate Policy, in order to clarify the process of charging fees to each fund administered outside of General fund, to help pay for that administration, including but not limited to budget, revenue collection, accounts payable, payroll and audits. Commissioner Dorroh expressed a desire the policy be reviewed each year during the budget process. Commissioner Owens explained this is standard process among other counties that provide administration of funds outside of the general fund. Judge Runnels compared it to the services of a bookkeeping or payroll service for a business. Commissioner Owens moved to approve the Harney County Indirect Cost Rate Policy, effective June 19, 2019. Commissioner Dorroh seconded, the motion carried unanimously (CJ2019-80).

The court reviewed a land sale request from Buck and Linda Taylor, for Assessors' Parcel No. 8277 with a real market value of \$12,400. The court discussed the policy options for the property. The court agreed to table the application for further clarification on the process.

The court discussed the formation of a Natural Resource Committee for Harney County. Commissioner Owens expressed a desire to form one in order to discuss all of the issues from the many meetings the Court attends regarding natural resources. He

would like to have a committee created to formulate concepts and advise the Court on the many issues and how they relate to each other. Judge Runnels felt it was a good idea. It is the central economy here and the more citizens involved the better. They discussed an application process and then the Court could appoint appropriately, similar to how the Planning Commission is organized. Commissioner Owens recommended there be positions for one allotment owner from the forest; one allotment owner from the BLM; one surface water irrigator; one groundwater irrigator; at least one representing timber industry; at least one in mining; one in recreation, with thought this is not a public lands advisory committee, it is a Natural Resource Advisory Committee so that would be up for discussion. There was a suggestion from the audience to form it by Ordinance for the sake of continuity and clarity. It was suggested to add representation from the Burns Paiute Tribe, and an environmental representative. The court discussed setting membership at 7 or 9, but with a Harney County residency requirement. The Court will reach out and prepare an Ordinance for further discussion at the next county court meeting.

The Court discussed the Rattlesnake Environmental Assessment, and the scoping comments. Court members discussed if they should file an objection or not. A copy of the Court's written comments can be found with the records for this meeting. Commissioner Owens stated he would draft an email, but not yet send a formal objection.

The Court reviewed an application for approval to install an approach onto a county road off of Lane 9 by Robert and Kathy Lytle. Commissioner Owens moved to approve the application, Commissioner Dorroh second and the motion carried unanimously.

The Court reviewed and discussed notices of water use requests. There were no objections to any requests. Commissioner Owens wanted to address a misconception that the County Court has some authority over water use requests, and wished to clarify the court has no more authority than the public at large has in reviewing the application process. The Court has no authority over water use as it is entirely administered by the Oregon Water Resources Department.

The Court met with County Clerk Derrin (Dag) Robinson to discuss the future of video streaming county court meetings. Mr. Robinson stated he was willing to assist the Court in setting up a professional system. His concerns have been the county is not complying with public record retention law by streaming live on Facebook. He explained government entities are required to maintain the video for at least one year after the meeting, and streaming on Facebook does not comply with that administrative rule. Judge Runnels explained he is opposed to a live feed, and prefers delayed if the meetings are going to be video streamed. The Court was in agreement a professional system that allows for compliance with record retention law is necessary, and a written

policy needs to be put in place. The County Clerk was directed to proceed with setting up such a system.

The Court received one bid for the Senior Center Bus Barn Bid Opening. The Court did not open the bid. Angie Lamborn, Senior Services Director; requested the Court reject all bids and re-advertise for bids in accordance with ORS 279C.395, A contracting agency may reject any bid not in compliance with all prescribed public bidding procedures and requirements, and may, for good cause, reject all bids upon a finding of the contracting agency it is in the public interest to do so. In any case where competitive bids are required and all bids are rejected, and the proposed project is not abandoned, new bids may be called for as in the first instance. All bids were rejected in the public interest, and all bidders are allowed to re-submit bids by July 2, 2019.

The Court reviewed a personal services contract with Symmetry Care, Inc. Commissioner Dorroh moved to approve the Personal Services Contract with Symmetry Care, Inc. effective July 1, 2019. Commissioner Owens seconded and the motion carried unanimously (CJ2019-88).

Correspondence

USDI, BLM, Steens Mountain Travel Plan

USDI, BLM, determination of NEPA adequacy

Scheduling

County Court:

July 27, Adoption of the FY 2019-20 Budget, Levy and Categorize Taxes.

July 3, Hearing on Vacation of certain roads in Crane Town site.

The Court Adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Derrin Robinson
Harney County Clerk