



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

October 3, 2018

The Harney County Court convened in County Court Chamber at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, October 3, 2018. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Patty Dorroh, and Commissioner Mark Owens. Also in attendance were Tammy Johnston, Deputy Clerk; Tim Colahan, County Counsel; and Eric Drushella, Roadmaster.

Public attending was Mike Simpson, TEC/OYCC; Lynn McClintock, High Desert Park & Rec; Samantha White, BTH; Matt Obradovich, BLM; Greg Smith and Denise Rose, Harney County Economic Development; Barbara Cannady, Paul Hyland, and George Heinz.

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 September 19, 2018, County Court session and Commissioner Owens seconded the Motion. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Paul Hyland discussed the completion of the bridge project. Eric Drushella reported that the final walk-through of the project has not happened yet, and he will address the road condition issue as soon as feasible.

Old Business

None

New Business

10:15 a.m. – Mike Simpson, Approval of Oregon Youth Conservation Corps request for community funding

Mike Simpson, Special Projects Coordinator, Training & Employment Consortium (TEC), discussed the OYCC Youth River Stewards trip which took place September 18-20, 2018. Activities included weeding, canoeing, and fish surveys at East Paulina Lake and they were graded on various criteria such as work ethic, leadership, attitude/morale, respect, teamwork, and language. As a result of the positive ranking received for this trip, Harney County TEC/OYCC received the Ron Adams Award. This is the first time Harney County has received the Ron Adams Award. The presentation of the award will be on October 23, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in the County Court Chambers.

Mike Simpson discussed with the Court the recent site visit. He received an e-mail from the Executive Director of OYCC, Doug Denning, which praised Harney County as one of the best programs in the State of Oregon.

He also presented the Court with a letter requesting \$12,500 to be distributed as \$7,000 crew leader cost, \$4,250 crew member cost, and \$1,250 administrative cost.

Commissioner Owens made a Motion to approve the OYCC request of \$12,500 which was approved during the current budget cycle, and seconded by Commissioner Dorroh. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously.

10:30 a.m. – Eastern Oregon Counties Association (EOCA) intervener; Blue Mountain Forest Service Plan (BMFP)

Commissioner Owens updated the Court regarding EOCA's objections entering into the resolution process. It continues to be a work in progress but they are currently waiting for a response from the United States Forest Service. Commissioner Owens will continue to keep the Court updated.

Support approval letter; Harney Basin Groundwater Study – Information Sharing and Community Gathering

The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) and Harney County Court will be hosting the Harney Basin Groundwater Study, Information Sharing and Community Gathering, at the Central Hotel Thursday, October 25, 2018, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. This public open house will provide an overview of the data collected for a little over two years by the Groundwater Study scientists, and they will provide an overview of the data and some preliminary observations.

Review of Water Use Requests

Correspondence

Forest Service Malheur Emigrant Creek Ranger District sealed bids will be opened for the Flat LP SBA sale

Received Award Notice of CBGD Grant (\$400,000) Housing Rehabilitation – Judge Runnels advised the Court the grant will be administered by Community in Action and Kerry Opie, County Court Administrative Assistant, deserves congratulations for her grant writing efforts.

Scheduling

Burning ban lifted October 1, 2018

Diamond/Frenchglen Community Public Hearing Night October 10, 2018, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. at the Diamond Community Hall

Next County Court meeting October 17, 2018, 9:15 a.m.

Late Items

County Counsel Contract

Judge Runnels presented the Court with the Harney County Counsel Contract for the period September 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. Commissioner Dorroh requested a paragraph be added to the next contract which would outline the County Counsel duties and responsibilities. Commissioner Dorroh made a Motion to approve the Harney County Counsel – Employment of PERS Retiree, Employment Agreement between Harney County and Timothy J. Colahan (CJ2018-122), and seconded by Commissioner Owens. With no further discussion, the Motion carried unanimously. Harney County Counsel, Tim Colahan, presented the Court with an addendum to the Contract, County Counsel Duties and Responsibilities. Judge Runnels requested the document be attached to the signed Contract.

Economic Development Update

Greg Smith, Harney County Economic Development (HCED), gave an economic development update. He discussed the positive work relationships with Denise Rose, TVCC, and the previous HCED director. HCED has helped 5-6 businesses to secure financial assistance, served 38 clients with small business development assistance which includes free confidential advising, collaborated with and gave assistance to The Burns Paiute Tribe, and provided small business development classes/trainings. HCED is also a resource for local officials and has developed a partnership with TVCC to provide small business support and counseling. Future plans include monthly articles in The Burns Times-Herald on various topics such as entrepreneurship and small business development. Judge Runnels discussed the HCED contract and will present at a later date if needed.

Deliberation by the Court (no decisions will be made)

For the Record

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, County Court adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tammy Johnston

Deputy Clerk