



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

January 20, 2021

The Harney County Court convened in County Court Chamber at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2021. Members attending were Judge Pete Runnels, Commissioner Patty Dorroh and Commissioner Kristen Shelman. Also attending the session was Dag Robinson, County Clerk, Bobbi Jo Heany, County Treasurer, Brandon McMullen, Planning Director and Bryce Mertz, GIS Coordinator.

The Court was joined by budget Committeepersons Rick Paul, Holly Smith and Terri Hellbusch.

Work Session 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Voucher Approval

Judge Runnels led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Commissioner Dorroh made a motion to approve the Minutes from the January 6th, 2021, County Court session and Commissioner Shelman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Judge Runnels recognized the following county employees, and thanked them for their continued service: Lisa Moody Library, 15 years; Joy Stevens Hospice, 5 years; Howard Palmer, Building Dept., 10 years; Brett Thomas, Building/ Planning/ GIS, 5 years; Visalia Hammond, Library, 10 years; and expressed thanks to all for their continued service to Harney County.

Megan Main and representatives of Federal Emergency Management Agency gave a presentation of the Harney County Story Map (FEMA Flood Maps). The Court hopes to get this information out to the public for review and provide feedback. There will be a mailing to affected landowners. The story map will be made available on the website and at the county planning office.

The Court was joined by John Russell, CPA of Zwygart, John & Associates to present the 2019-2020 Audit. Mr. Russell reported positive findings in the Audit. A copy is filed in the Commissioner's Journal. (CJ-2021-16).

The Court reviewed notices of water use requests.

Dana Young, Shirley Haide and Eddie Alves with Treasure Valley Community College reported on progress related to paid internships with High Desert Partnership and additional college-credit Natural Resource courses available at both Burns and Crane High Schools. They also discussed the annual Contract Out of District Service Delivery Agreement. The required match this year is \$10,000 (no change from last year). Commissioner Dorroh moved to sign the Contract Out of District Service Delivery Agreement for 2020-21. Commissioner Shelman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Court reviewed schedules:

- County Court Work Session on January 22, 2021, 9:30 a.m. to discuss County Land Sales
- County Court Sessions February 3, and February 17, 2021
- State of the County Address February 4th, 2017

The Court discussed upcoming process for labor negotiations with the two represented groups of employees, and who would represent the County Court. Commissioner Shelman stated she had contacted County Counsel Dominic Carollo to inquire if he would be involved. Judge Runnels stated the County uses separate counsel for labor negotiations in order to avoid a conflict, as County Counsel could at time be representing the sheriff and or jail on a separate matter. Judge Runnels stated he has been in contact with labor counsel and has started the process. The firm the Court uses specializes in labor law. Commissioners Dorroh and Shelman expressed their desire to be included with updates earlier and throughout the process, via executive sessions.

Commissioner Dorroh asked to convene the elected official's compensation board, as per Oregon Statute. Clerk Robinson stated he would gather the statutes relating to the appointment for the Court's review.

There being no further business, the Court adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Derrin (Dag) Robinson
Harney County Clerk