

Gilliam County Court
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2020

Judge Farrar called the regular Gilliam County Court meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Gilliam County Courthouse in Condon, Oregon. Present were Judge Elizabeth Farrar, Commissioner Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner Sherrie Wilkins, and Court Administrative Assistant Teresa Aldrich.

REVISIONS TO AGENDA

Agenda item 6.7 Consider Approval of Resolution No. R2020-05; A Resolution Establishing the FY 2020-21 Capital Investment Program was pulled.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

No Public Comment. Judge Farrar read two letters received by the Court. The Condon Scholarship Foundation thanked the Court for the Special Projects Grant they received for the Condon Scholarship Foundation Dinner/Auction. The dinner was well attended, reporting ticket sales of \$3,800 and the auction brought in a little over \$8,500. Gilliam County Historical Society Vice President Eileen Potter reported the Historical Society was successful in being awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Oregon Community Foundation. This grant along with other grants awarded will be used to start the construction of a second Agricultural Building in the spring. The Historical Society also thanked Gilliam County for their grant and expressed they truly believe that the County's grant award has been a factor in showing other foundations how important the project is, not only for the County, but for the many visitors to the area.

IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Wilkins, second by Commissioner Wetherell, to approve the Consent Agenda. Farrar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

The Consent Agenda included the following:

Approval of December Bills Pending Review

Approval of December 18th Regular Session Minutes

Approval of December 18th Work Session Meeting Minutes

Approval of Appointment of Gilliam County Budget Officer – Nathan Hammer

Approval of Designation of Voting Precincts – Arlington No. 1, East Condon No. 6, West Condon No. 7

Approval of Designation of County Roads Outside of Incorporated Areas of Arlington, Condon, and Lonerock

Approval of Designation of Gilliam County Depositories – Bank of Eastern Oregon, Banner Bank and LGIP

Approval of Designation of Newspapers of Record – Times Journal and East Oregonian

Approval of Appointment of Justice Court Pro-Tems(s) – Ron McDermid, Robin Ordway, Kathy Stinnett
Approval of FY 2020-21 Budget Calendar

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. R2020-07; A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF GILLIAM COUNTY REAL PROPERTY

Judge Farrar reported after clarification from Legal Counsel, Dan Lawler, the County has complied with ORS 275.225 and can sell the land directly to the Arlington Saddle Club. Judge Farrar also reported Chief of Staff, Lisa Atkin has reached out to the adjacent landowner who requested clarification and shared the response from legal counsel and the County can move forward with the private sale of the property to the Arlington Saddle Club. Judge Farrar reviewed the dates the legal notice of sale was published in the Times Journal, December 5 and 19, 2019 and the County has satisfied the 15 day waiting period, and can move forward with the sale.

Motion by Commissioner Wetherell, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to adopt Resolution No. R2019-07 as presented. Farrar – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; Wetherell – Yes;
Motion Carried.

IN THE MATTER OF FERRY CANYON FIRE PLANNING PILOT PROJECT

Herb Winters, District Manager of Gilliam Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) was present to update the court on an exciting new fire planning project they are piloting. On December 17, 2019 a group of stakeholders involved in firefighting met to develop improved mapping resources for the Ferry Canyon area. The focus of the Ferry Canyon project is to develop and provide the most important map information to first responders before wildfire season begins. The top 5 map resource needs are local names for canyons, landmark buildings, road layers, waters sources, gate type and condition, and landowner wishes on fields. During this ongoing project, in part made possible with the help of an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) grant, the group of stakeholders will continue to research and identify the top 5 needs and organize informational workshops. The SWCD goal is to have the project complete by March and will keep the Court informed on the progress.

IN THE MATTER OF COLUMBIA RIDGE LANDFILL CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Columbia Ridge Landfill Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair, Richard Harper, submitted a letter for the Court's review. The CAC met four times over the course of 2019. The CAC was given updates on the operations of both Waste Management, Inc. and Chemical Waste Management, Inc. Of particular interest was the traffic delay issue at the rail crossing, which is still under discussion. Another area of interest was the issue of a leaking substance (what appeared to be water) out of the gondolas. The

matter has been addressed and liners are being fitted to the gondolas. Another public priority issue was the use of the Arlington Health Clinic. The letter stated that after a lapse of approximately one year, Waste Management, Inc. will begin using the clinic again.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. R2020-01; A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A USE OF COUNTY CREDIT CARD POLICY

Judge Farrar referred to the County Credit Card policy for discussion. The purpose of the policy is to establish rules regarding the use of County Credit Cards to pay for the purchase of good or services, and to provide appropriate and consistent internal financial controls. Judge Farrar reported the policy has been presented to all the Elected Officials (twice), and their questions and concerns have been addressed. Commissioner Wetherell expressed concerns regarding the strict policy and many scenarios were discussed and clarified.

Motion by Commissioner Wilkins, seconded by Judge Farrar, to adopt Resolution No. R2020-01 and approve the Use of County Credit Card policy as presented. Farrar – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. R2020-02; A RESOLUTION DECLARING GRAIN LAB EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS

The Gilliam County Grain Quality Laboratory has not been active for some time, and given its dormant status, the Court needs to make a decision on how to dispose of the contents/equipment. Nathan Hammer who previously ran the lab and is most familiar with the contents/equipment, its usage and potential value, is requesting the Court surplus the contents through sealed bid, public auction, donation or any other legal manner available. After a discussion it was the consensus of the Court to have Commissioner Wilkins and Nathan Hammer create a new inventory list and bring this discussion back to the Court.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. R2020-03; A RESOLUTION DECLARING TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE AS SURPLUS

Marla Davies, Transportation Coordinator requests the Court surplus the 2010 Scion XB that was purchased nearly 10 years ago and has met the ODOT usage requirements of service. Davies is recommending the vehicle be declared surplus and sold through an online, public auction site – publicsurplus.com to streamline the process and reach a wider audience, with a minimum bid of \$3,000. After a discussion both Commissioner Wilkins and Wetherell would like to see if the vehicle could be donated to a local organization. Judge Farrar will reach out to local organizations who have expressed interest in the past and this matter will be brought back to the Court.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. R2020-04; A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE FY 2020-21 OPERATIONAL SUPPORT GRANT PROGRAM GUIDELINES

At the December 18, 2019 Meeting the Court conducted a work session to review the FY 2019-2020 Operational Support Grant Program and discuss changes to the program for FY 2020-2021. Those changes have been incorporated into the Operational Support Grant Program Guidelines. Judge Farrar asked the Court to revisit the percentage increase in the match funding as discussed in the work session. During the work session the Court discussed raising the minimum match funding percentage from 10% to 20%. Judge Farrar conducted some research on past grant recipients and although most applicants easily met the match guidelines, it was the consensus of the Court to increase the match funding percentage to 15%. Judge Farrar will amend the guidelines so Kelly can post the application process on the website.

Motion by Judge Farrar seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to adopt Resolution No. R2020-04 and establish the FY 2020-2021 Operational Grant Program Guidelines as amended and the amendments being that throughout the document references made to matching funds, that the figure be 15% rather than 20%.

Farrar – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF 2020 COURT BOARD & COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Each year the County Court reviews and adjusts the Court Member assignments for the various committees and boards Gilliam County participates in. Below are the 2020 Committee Assignments.

Judge Farrar: Courthouse Administration, Gilliam County Security Committee, Frontier Regional 911, Frontier TeleNet (alternate-Commissioner Wilkins), Tri-County Corrections, Community Counseling Solutions Advisory Board, Gilliam County Coordinated Care Organization Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC), Central Oregon Workforce Consortium (alternate-Commissioner Wilkins), Gilliam County 911 Board, Gilliam County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council, Community Renewable Energy Association (CREA)(alternate-Commissioner Wilkins), Eastern Oregon Regional Solutions Executive Committee, Fiber Council, Association of Oregon Counties Legislative Committee.

Commissioner Wilkins: Shutler Station Industrial Park Commissioner, NORCOR (alternate-Judge Farrar), Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee, CAPECO Board, Columbia Ridge Landfill Citizens Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Wetherell: County Road and Weed Commissioner, Lower John Day Area Commission on Transportation (alternate-Judge Farrar), North Central Public Health District, Gilliam County Investment Advisory Board, Gilliam County Emergency Management Planning Council, Board of Property Tax Appeals.

Motion by Commissioner Wilkins, seconded by Commissioner Wetherell, to approve the 2020 County Court Member Committee Assignments as presented. Farrar – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Wetherell:

- Attended the Senator Merkley Town Hall Meeting on January 5, in Condon. The meeting was well attended, the Senator addressed questions on recent events in the Middle East, prescription drug costs, the foster care system, foreign trade and rural broadband.
- Attending the North Central Public Health District meeting on January 14, 2020.

Commissioner Wilkins:

- Attended NORCOR Meeting December 19, via telephone. The committee approved the bi-laws and elected officers. Will be attending the next meeting scheduled for January 23, 2020.

Judge Farrar:

- Attended the Oregon Leadership Summit in Portland on December 16.
- Reported that, with assistance from legal counsel, she has sent an email to the Port of Arlington in hopes to move forward with talks to resolve the Willow Creek dispute.
- Reported she is continuing to work with the State of Oregon and the City of Boardman on the County's building code process.
- Chief of Staff and the Judge have started talks on the County's strategic planning. During the holidays the County received an impressive strategic plan tri fold brochure from Umatilla County. The brochure was presented at a staff meeting and was well received. They will work together to develop a brochure similar for Gilliam County and present it to the Court, possibly at the next meeting.
- Attending the Frontier 911 Board meeting January 21, 2020.
- Attending Tri County Court, hosted by Sherman County on January 29, 2020.

IN THE MATTER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judge Farrar noted the following:

- Next County Court meeting will be held January 22 in Condon.
- Special County Court meeting will be held January 15, 2020, 9:00 a.m., to consider Resolution No. R2020-05; A Resolution Establishing the FY 2020-21 Capital Investment Grant Program.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

It appearing to the Court that there was no further business to be conducted at this time, Judge Farrar adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____
Elizabeth Farrar, Judge

By _____
Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner

By _____
Sherrie Wilkins, Commissioner

Teresa Aldrich _____
Court Administrative Assistant