

Gilliam County Court
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2020

Judge Farrar called the regular Gilliam County Court meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Hall in Condon, Oregon. Present were Judge Elizabeth Farrar, Commissioner Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner Sherrie Wilkins and Court Administrative Assistant Teresa Aldrich.

REVISIONS TO AGENDA

None

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

No Public Comment or Correspondence

IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

The Consent Agenda included the following:

Approval of February Bills Pending Review

Approval of February 19th Regular Meeting Minutes

Approval of Aurora Solar, LLC Application for Activities in the County Right-of-Way

Approval of Drive-In Loan Modification Promissory Note and Trust Deed Addendum

IN THE MATTER OMEGA MORGAN LEASE AMENDMENT

Commissioner Wilkins was contacted by Erik Zander, representing Omega Morgan, requesting a temporary increase of three (3) acres to their current lease at Shutler Station for a period of two months. Commissioner Wilkins clarified for the Court all the terms and conditions of the lease remain the same, the amendment is only for the additional temporary acreage increase.

Motion by Commissioner Wilkins, second by Commissioner Wetherell, to approve the request from Omega Morgan to add three acres to their current lease at Shutler Station for a period of two months. Farrar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; Wilkins – Yes;

Motion Carried.

IN THE MATTER OF A PROCLAMATION EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 1530; AN ACT RELATING TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Commissioner Wetherell presented the Court with a Proclamation expressing opposition to Senate Bill 1530. The Proclamation addresses several concerns related to the Cap & Trade legislation; including increased utility and fuel prices, unnecessary use of the emergency clause, inappropriate use of the legislative short session, and the impact of

the current stalemate of passage of other critical legislation. Commissioner Wetherell recommended approval by the County Court.

Motion by Commissioner Wetherell, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to approve the Proclamation Expressing Opposition to Senate Bill 1530; an Act Relating to Greenhouse Gas Emissions as presented. Farrar – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF BRIEFING AND TOWN HALL DISCUSSION REGARDING OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NOTICE OF VIOLATION TO CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

On February 13, 2020 the Oregon Department Of Energy (ODOE) issued a Notice of Violation to Chemical Waste Management of the Northwest, a subsidiary of Waste Management, Inc., for violations of Oregon Administrative Rules prohibiting the disposal of radioactive materials within the State of Oregon. The Gilliam County Court invited representatives from ODOE and Waste Management, Inc. to provide the public with information regarding the Notice of Violation and answer any questions. When Chemical Waste Management (CWM) learned of the issue, they immediately stopped accepting the waste materials. The waste materials included filters, pipe scale and debris from oilfield operations in North Dakota. CWM accepted the materials between 2016 and 2019. ODOE worked with multiple Oregon agencies to determine that there was no immediate risk. ODOE sent an informational notice to all Oregon landfills to raise awareness of this type of waste and ensure illegal disposal isn't happening elsewhere.

ODOE is requiring CWM to conduct a detailed technical risk analysis and evaluation of remediation alternatives. ODOE will then consider the analysis, make it available for public review, seek public comments, and accept or reject the CWM analysis to leave or remove the waste materials. Both ODOE and CWM are taking the necessary steps to improve the process and will be working with Legislature to address shortcomings in the existing statutes.

IN THE MATTER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judge Farrar noted the following:

- Next County Court meeting will be held March 18th, in Arlington.
- Town Hall Meeting, tonight March 4th in Arlington.
- North End Road Tour scheduled for March 11th.
- Operational Grant Applications are due Friday, March 6th, by 5:00 p.m.

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 2:26 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Elizabeth Farrar, Judge

By _____

Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner

By _____

Sherrie Wilkins, Commissioner

Teresa Aldrich _____
Court Administrative Assistant