

Gilliam County Court  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 2, 2020

Judge Farrar called the Gilliam County Court Regular Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Gilliam County Courthouse, Condon, Oregon. Present via video conference were Judge Elizabeth Farrar, Commissioner Sherrie Wilkins, Commissioner Leslie Wetherell, Chief of Staff Lisa Atkin and Court Administrative Assistant Teresa Aldrich.

**IN THE MATTER OF REVISIONS TO AGENDA**

None

**IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

Judge Farrar reviewed correspondence received from Wayne Standiford regarding a Resolution for the Censure of Governor Kate Brown. Standiford addressed the Court with the hope that the Court will stand up for the law of the land and follow through with a resolution condemning the Governor's violation of her Oath of Office.

**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 August 19<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting Minutes

Approval of August Bills Pending Review

Approval of Proclamation of Support for Zero Suicide Initiative

**IN THE MATTER OF DISCUSSION WITH WASTE MANAGEMENT SENIOR MANAGEMENT – DAVE LOWE, DIRECTOR OF DISPOSAL OPERATIONS**

Judge Farrar introduced Dave Lowe and thanked him for being available to the Court. Commissioner Wetherell declared a possible conflict of interest, as her husband works at Waste Management.

Lowe clarified for the Court the Chamber Donations in lieu of energy payments email received by Judge Farrar. Lowe stated WMRE needs to be in the revenue share discussion if the gas plant expands. However, Lowe stated he just approved the \$25,000 (\$12,500 each) donation to the Arlington and Condon Chambers. Commissioner Wilkins complimented Lowe on the grounds and landscaping around the main offices, look better than it ever has, and creates a good first impression. Commissioner Wilkins inquired about the Stone Ranch Barn that has recently been blown over, it is an eye sore, however there could be some salvaged barn wood available if someone was interested. Lowe stated he will investigate the matter.

Lowe verified that WATCO has signed another contract and will continue to provide services and will be moving into the new Depot in Arlington. The discussion turned to recruitment and busing of workers from outside the area. Lowe stated the company would rather have workers and management live locally however the availability of housing is limited and suggested the County and/or PCDC address the issue. Waste Management is willing to help with the relocation of Cedar Springs Lane, providing equipment and manpower. Fire fighting assistance was discussed, however at this time more research needs to be completed regarding insurance coverage and mandatory training.

### **IN THE MATTER OF BUILDING CODES UPDATE**

Judge Farrar reported that the first rough draft of the IGA between the State, City of Boardman and Gilliam County has been received. The document has been given to County Counsel to review. Judge Farrar is hopeful the final draft will be before the Court in late fall or early winter for approval.

### **IN THE MATTER OF IGA TO PROVIDE STABLE FUNDING FOR CONDON SWIMMING POOL**

The current IGA between the City and County will expire later this month and the City has requested the agreement be extended for another 3 years and the funding be increased to \$60,000 annually due to the increases in minimum wage and other operational expenses. The funds come from the Recreational Revolving Fund line item in the 235-100 Energy SIPs Fund.

**Motion** by Commissioner Wilkins, second by Commissioner Wetherell to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide Stable Funding for the Condon Swimming Pool as presented. Farrar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

### **IN THE MATTER PIONEER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (PCDC) QUARTERLY REPORT**

PCDC Executive Director, Rob Turrie presented the Court with a summary of completed and upcoming projects. PCDC is funding a new single-family dwelling under construction in Arlington, however Turrie recommended the Court consider building apartments in Arlington. Turrie added he would be willing to discuss redirecting funds back to the County, since apartments were out of PCDC's scope.

### **IN THE MATTER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next Court meeting will be held September 16<sup>th</sup> via the Zoom platform.
- A Work Session is scheduled prior to September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, topic Economic Enhancement Ordinance.
- Frontier Telenet Meeting scheduled for the week of September 14<sup>th</sup> to review bids for the Roosevelt project.

- Commissioner Wilkins is continuing to work on the possible lease of the Wheat Lab.
- Commissioner Wilkins will be attending the NORCOR meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioner Wilkins will be attending the CAPECO meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Commissioner Wetherell reported the August NCPDH meeting was cancelled and the Board has finished the second round of interviews for the Executive Director position.
- Commissioner Wetherell reported the steel bridge has arrived for the Lonerock Bridge Project and is in place. The job is 65-70% complete, with the completion date of October 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Judge Farrar updated the Court on the surveys that will be distributed regarding Strategic Planning. The surveys will be emailed to all who have signed up for the electronic newsletter, there will also be a notice in the Times Journal directing the community to the Gilliam County website to complete the survey.

**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 11:05 a.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By \_\_\_\_\_

Elizabeth Farrar, Judge

By \_\_\_\_\_

Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner

By \_\_\_\_\_

Sherrie Wilkins, Commissioner

Teresa Aldrich \_\_\_\_\_

Court Administrative Assistant