

September 4, 2019

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

Judge Farrar tabled unfinished business item 5.4 Consider Approval of Chief of Staff Candidate Letter of Employment as negotiations with the preferred finalist are still pending.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

There were no public comments.

Judge Farrar acknowledged the following correspondence:

- City of Condon City Administrator, Kathryn Greiner submitted a letter to the Court summarizing the infrastructure grant for the 2018-19 fiscal year. As of June 30, 2019 the City of Condon has expended \$2,821,814.31 of the \$3 million grant. The remaining grants funds of \$178,185.69 are earmarked for water projects. The City of Condon extends sincere appreciation for the funds that were received from Gilliam County to complete the infrastructure projects.

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 August Bills Pending Review

Approval of August 7th Executive Session Minutes

Approval of August 21st Executive Session Minutes

Approval of August 21st Regular Meeting Minutes

Approval of FY 2019-2021 Tri County Community Corrections Plan

Approval of Oregon Department of Corrections IGA #5841

IN THE MATTER OF FRONTIER TELENET UPDATE

Judge Farrar noted that the Frontier Telenet Board of Directors will meet in October. No other updates.

IN THE MATTER OF PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF MCCOG BUILDING CODES RESERVES

Judge Farrar gave an overview of past meetings and negotiation percentages. Wasco County rejected the Court's counterproposal and sent a letter to the Court suggesting the three smaller counties receive and split amongst themselves 20% of the reserves.

The question is how far the Court wants to push the percentage negotiations. Judge Farrar stated she thinks Wheeler County's proposed 3% portion of the reserves should come from Wasco County, and not from Gilliam or Sherman Counties' percentages. Commissioner Wilkins agreed. There was a discussion and the Court is in agreement that this needs to be finalized. Judge Farrar shared a conversation she had with the City of Boardman. According to the Chief of Police, they are still interested in serving as Gilliam County's building inspector. Judge Farrar said she would do some historical research on how many permits were issued in the County, and this information will then be shared with the City of Boardman.

MOTION by Judge Farrar, seconded by Commissioner Wilkins, to accept the distribution of the MCCOG Building Reserves in the following portions: 10% to Sherman County, 10% Gilliam County and up to 3% to Wheeler County and the remainder to Wasco County; and to authorize the County Judge, with the assistance of County Counsel, to finalize and sign any agreements necessary to complete the distribution of the funds. Farrar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; Wilkins –Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF CITY OF CONDON FIBER MANAGEMENT IGA

Tabled until October

Judge Farrar did add that one of the city council members had some questions that needed clarification. Judge Farrar said she would send the agreement to the fiber attorney, Christy Monson, for review. There was a discussion regarding the fiber committee and the Court directed Court Administrative Assistant, Teresa Aldrich, to advertise the Committee vacancy.

IN THE MATTER OF SURPLUS BIDS FOR FORD TAURUS

Judge Farrar opened the one bid received. Judge Farrar read the bid from Darryl Houghtelling for \$851.00.

MOTION by Commissioner Wetherell, second by Commissioner Wilkins, to accept the bid received from Darryl Houghtelling in the amount of \$851.00 for the 1999 Ford Taurus Vin ending in #9878. Farrar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; Wilkins – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF ARLINGTON SADDLE CLUB

Sarah Rucker and Jody Gentry were present representing the Arlington Saddle Club and referred to a letter and map the Court had previously received. The letter stated that the Arlington Saddle Club would like to acquire approximately 0.56 acres of Gilliam County owned property adjacent to the clubs rodeo grounds. There was a discussion and explanation of the reasons why the Arlington Saddle Club is interested in the property. Commissioner Wilkins first recommendation was to donate the property to the Saddle Club, but had concerns about the surplus process to do so. The court

discussed the possibility of a long term lease. The consensus was to have Judge Farrar check with counsel for the best option - lease, sale or gift - and bring it back to the Court.

IN THE MATTER OF UPGRADES TO GILLIAM COUNTY LIBRARY DOORS

Cindy Osterlund, Chair of the Gilliam County Public Library Board was present to request upgrades to the library's doors. Specifically, the library would like to install push button entries to improve accessibility and door lock upgrades to prevent staff from locking themselves into the building. After a discussion the Court would like the library to go back to Jeff Schott and get more options and a detailed bid on the upgrades and report back. In closing, Cindy Osterlund thanked the Court for their contributions for the upgrades to the shooting range in Arlington. The upgrades have been well received and used by members of the local gun club, 4H Clubs and high school clubs.

IN THE MATTER OF COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Wetherell:

- Re-scheduled the irrigation tour next week.
- Attended Rep.Greg Walden Town Hall in Arlington.
- Attending the AOC District meeting in Boardman September 26th.

Commissioner Wilkins:

- Volunteered at the ELKs food booth at the Gilliam County Fair.
- Attending Port of Arlington Meeting on September 10th.
- Attending City of Arlington Planning hearing September 10th.
- Attending Columbia Ridge Landfill Citizens Advisory Committee on September 17th.
- Attending the final County College meeting September 19-21st.
- Attending the AOC District meeting in Boardman September 26th.

Judge Farrar:

- Noted that we are moving forward with the Ward Street lease. Jeff Schott has completed the walk through and the repairs and upgrades will be close to the \$35,000 in rent credit contained in the lease with the City of Condon. The Judge will be meeting with legal counsel and Kathryn Greiner today to finalize the lease.
- Judge asked the commissioners how they felt about the current way mandatory reporting and staff reports were being presented to the Court. Commissioner

Wetherell asked for the schedule and would like to have some time to review and revisit the topic.

- The Judge informed the commissioners that she had received a call from Hood River Sand and Gravel and they are reconsidering leasing the batch plant. Hood River Sand and Gravel had requested a copy of the lease that Thompson Brothers had signed, which they have received. The surplus has been on hold to give Hood River Sand and Gravel one more opportunity.
- The Judge reported she has had potential buyers in her office inquiring about the Liberty Theatre and loan the county has on the property. The question is whether or not the Court is willing to extend or create a new loan for a potential new owner. Commissioner Wilkins and Commissioner Wetherell are willing to be flexible with knowing there is potential for another business on Main Street. Nathan Hammer, County Treasurer, was in the audience and added that he would prefer all other loan avenues be exhausted before the court makes a decision to fund another loan.
- Reported the Local Community Advisory Committee (LCAC) has some state requirements that are currently not being met by staff. The Judge asked the Court to consider whether to reassign those duties elsewhere. Commissioner Wilkins asked for time and more information before a decision was made.

IN THE MATTER OF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Judge Farrar noted the following:

- A work session to discuss the RRed Zone (Rural Renewable Energy Development), is scheduled for 8:30 – 10:00 am prior to the Regular Court Meeting on October 2, 2019.
- The next regular meeting of the Gilliam County Court will take place Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at 10 a.m. in Arlington.

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 10:38 a.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Elizabeth Farrar, Judge

By _____

Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner

By _____

Sherrie Wilkins, Commissioner

Teresa Aldrich _____
Court Administrative Assistant