

4-18-18

Judge Shaffer called the regular Gilliam County Court meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Gilliam County Courthouse in Condon, Oregon. Present were Judge Steve Shaffer, Commissioner Michael Weimar and Mary Dyer, Recorder. Commissioner Leslie Wetherell was present for part of the meeting via speaker phone.

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Judge Shaffer announced the following changes to the Agenda:

- An Intergovernmental Agreement between Gilliam County and the City of Condon isn't yet available. However, the Court agreed to use the time slot for discussion of matters pertaining to the Arlington to Condon fiber build.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were offered. (See Commissioner Reports below regarding Commissioner Weimar's comments made at this time).

IN THE MATTER OF APRIL 4 REGULAR AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

The Court agreed to table approval of the April 4 Regular and Executive Session minutes until Commissioner Wetherell has an opportunity to review and comment.

IN THE MATTER OF MARCH CLAIMS

MOTION by Commissioner Weimar, second by Judge Shaffer, to approve March claims pending review. Shaffer – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT TO GILLIAM COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

The Court acknowledged a letter previously submitted by Leslie Jamieson, in which she expressed willingness to fill an empty position on the Gilliam Library Board.

MOTION by Commissioner Weimar, second by Judge Shaffer, to appoint Leslie Jamieson to the Gilliam County Library Board to fill the remainder of the term previously held by Scott Maley, term to expire June 30, 2021. Shaffer – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2018-06

The Court agreed to table a discussion of Resolution No. 2018-06 regarding a loan to Road Department for purchase of 2017 140 K grader.

IN THE MATTER OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

In regards to the Arlington to Condon fiber build, Commissioner Weimar stated he thinks the County should do its own fiscal work, which will also make it easier for the Court to

stay abreast of what's going on with the project. He suggested that the Court give Judge Shaffer authority to approve progress reports and authorize payments.

Commissioner Wetherell, who was present for the discussion via speaker phone, agreed that keeping the matter in-house would simplify the process. Judge Shaffer said he was unaware of any problems with the current plan for the City of Condon to handle payment for both entities, but that he had no problem if the County decides to assume responsibility for its share of the payments.

MOTION by Commissioner Wetherell to rescind a previous motion at the March 7 Court meeting that the City of Condon be appointed fiscal agent for the Arlington to Condon fiber build. Shaffer – Yes; Weimar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

MOTION by Commissioner Weimar, second by Commissioner Wetherell, that Gilliam County will be its own fiscal agent for the Arlington to Condon fiber build, and giving Judge Shaffer authority to approve reports and authorize payments. Shaffer – Yes; Weimar – Yes; Wetherell – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF HIRING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Judge Shaffer reported that the Hiring Committee has recommended a candidate for the Court Administrator position.

Regarding the Court's previous decision to reduce hours for a background check, Judge Shaffer said that Ruth Mattox of LGPI indicated she would do a full background check or none at all, as reducing the hours would compromise the final product. Judge Shaffer noted that Tamara Jones of CIS agreed that the position warrants a thorough investigation and prepared final report.

Judge Shaffer said that a full investigation by LGPI will increase the cost of LGPI's estimate from \$5,116 to \$6,376.91.

The Court agreed to proceed with LGPI's estimate for a full background check.

MOTION by Commissioner Weimar, second by Judge Shaffer, to accept the recommendation of the Hiring Committee and begin the process with LGPI for a full background check. Shaffer – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF GRANT APPLICATION SUBMITTAL TO RARE PROGRAM

The Court agreed to table approval of a grant application submittal to RARE AmeriCorps program until the application is received. However, the program is still moving forward. Placing a RARE person in Gilliam County is part of a partnership with other John Day River Territory counties to advance development of tourism in the area. The grant would pay for a RARE person to be housed and supervised in the Courthouse.

IN THE MATTER OF 2018-19 FUNDING REQUESTS

Judge Shaffer provided information about 2018-19 funding requests as follows:

- Arlington Child Care: received \$76,500 last year, requests the same amount.
- Arlington Community Childcare: received \$34,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Condon Child Care: received \$100,375 last year, requests \$115,000.
- South Gilliam Health Center: received \$150,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Gilliam County Fire Services: received \$60,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Arlington Public Schools – early college program: received \$50,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Arlington Public Schools – re-roof elementary school: received \$350,000 last year, requests \$400,000.
- Condon School District – early college program: received \$50,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Condon School District General Fund: received \$350,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Arlington Public Library: received \$20,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Arlington H.E.L.P.: received \$8,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Condon Community Food Pantry: received \$11,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- USDA Wildlife Services: received \$67,202 last year, requests \$70,261.
- OSU Extension Services: received \$106,112 last year, requests \$104,765.
- Pioneer CDC: received \$50,000 last year, requests \$25,000.
- Port of Arlington: received \$250,000 last year, requests \$350,000.
- Gilliam County SWCD: received \$50,000 last year, requests the same amount.
- Summit Springs Village Corp: received \$150,000 last year, requests the same amount.

Subtotals: last year - \$1,933,189; requested this year - \$2,074,526.

Judge Shaffer noted that the County has already committed \$750,000 to Pioneer CDC for the Affordable Housing Program, which brings the total to \$2,824,526.

All applicants will be invited to talk to the Budget Committee regarding their requests.

The Court would particularly like to hear from applicants who have requested increased amounts.

Judge Shaffer also noted that the first meeting of the Budget Committee is scheduled for April 25 at 2 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Judge Shaffer acknowledge receipt of a letter from Court Administrator Leanne Durfey confirming her PERS retirement date of May 1, 2018. Judge Shaffer expressed hopes of working out a contract with Durfey for part time work during the transition to a new Administrator.

MOTION by Commissioner Weimar, second by Judge Shaffer, to accept the resignation letter from Leanne Durfey effective May 1, 2018. Shaffer – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion Carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Weimar:

- Commented on a recent article in the East-Oregonian regarding a recent “Dancing with the Stars” event hosted by CAPECO, at which the organization earned \$12,000 to \$13,000 from ticket sales. The money will be used to help fund CAPECO’s food program. (Reported earlier in the meeting).
- Reported that he discussed the possibility of establishing a reserve fund for County roads and building maintenance with the auditor, who said there is no statute limiting how much money can be placed in reserves.

Judge Shaffer:

Attended a recent meeting of the Lower John Day River Base Place planning for water in the area, in which possible options for storing water were discussed.

Attended a meeting of CREA (Columbia Renewable Energy Association). PUC and PGE are in the early stages of developing an RFP for renewable energy. The Montague II wind power facility is expected to submit a proposal for funding. Judge Shaffer also said that CREA has hired an energy consultant to provide an analysis regarding the economics of purchasing energy from outside the state. Additionally, CREA is hiring an intern – a graduate of Lewis and Clark Law School, to study the amount of revenue community renewable provides to local governments. The John Day River Pool has changed the name of the project to Goldendale Energy Storage. A get-together is planned for May 15 at the Klickitat County PUC office.

Attended a meeting of the Coordinated Care Organization local advisory council. The CCO has initiated the Veggie RX program to encourage people to eat more fresh fruits and vegetables. Vouchers will be provided to help purchase fresh produce.

Attended a Regional Solutions meeting. Although funds are limited and projects will be prioritized, the Arlington Port Commission and City of Arlington will apply for funding for Arlington Municipal Airport project engineering study.

Attended a meeting of Connect America Now, which included updates on current activities.

IN THE MATTER OF ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Arlington Public Schools Superintendent Kevin Hunking told the Court that the Oregon Legislature’s Joint Committee on Student Success is touring Eastern Oregon as part of a statewide search for best education practices. Sixteen members will stop in Arlington to speak with students and staff on April 26.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEXT COURT MEETING

The next regular Gilliam County Court meeting will be held Wednesday, May 2, 2018, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Gilliam County Courthouse in Condon, Oregon. It appearing to the Court that there was no further business to be conducted at this time and no additional matters to be considered, Judge Shaffer adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____
Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____
Michael Weimar, Commissioner

By _____
Leslie Wetherell, Commissioner

Mary H. Dyer/Recorder _____