

## 5-16-2012

Judge Shaw opened the regular Gilliam County Court meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the Arlington Municipal Building-Arlington, Oregon.

Commissioners Present: Judge Patricia Shaw, Commissioner Dennis Gronquist and Commissioner Michael Weimar. Absent: None.

### IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Letter from Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation-GEODC
- July County Court meeting dates
- Budget issues
- Sheriff Department new hire
- WI Inc. invoice discussion
- Senator Merkley visit

### IN THE MATTER OF MYERS CONTRACT

Consultant Rob Myers was present. As a follow up to a discussion at the previous Court meeting Judge Shaw reported she and Myers met to discuss revisions to the personal services agreement. Changes to the agreement include:

- The terms of the agreement term is from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013
- Compensation not to exceed \$10,000 annually, which includes out of pocket/travel expenses with no fringe benefits.

Myers noted the possibility of a road tax initiative in the 2013 Legislative Session to include taxes to electric vehicles. With the decline of fuel purchased, and the increase of electric vehicles, ODOT will need to find additional revenue. This will directly affect rural Oregon.

Myers provides services for Frontier Digital Telenet, but at this time does not receive compensation. Myers would like to discuss this matter with Wheeler, Gilliam and Sherman Counties in the future.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Personal Services Agreement between Gilliam County and Robert E. Myers & Associates, LLC. not to exceed \$10,000 annually.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaw, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

Commissioner Gronquist opened discussion on the availability of fiber optics to Arlington T.V. Coop to further their services. Myers reported the existing Arlington fiber optic service is provided by Windwave and was installed with the financial assistance of an Oregon Health grant received by Greater Oregon Behavioral Health Inc. Myers added it would cost about \$1.3 million to bring fiber optics to Condon.

#### IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the consent agenda including the April 25, 2012 Special session minutes, May 2, 2012 regular meeting minutes, May 2, 2012 Executive Session minutes and the Lane County Intergovernmental Agreement to support Manatron Software development and support.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaw, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF OBSIDIAN TECHNOLOGIES CHANGE ORDER

Judge Shaw reported Obsidian Technologies submitted a Change Order No. 2 to cover an additional port purchase to accommodate the Courtroom phone. This item was also purchased to accommodate the fax machines.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve Obsidian Technologies Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$183.92.

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaw, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None  
Abstained: None  
Absent: None  
Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF WI LETTER

Judge Shaw reported reviewing the monthly bills and found a WI, Inc. invoice for concrete for the Condon Pool project which had been submitted to the Treasurer's office. Discussion occurred on the contract language regarding compensation on the prepayment of concrete contract and it was noted WI, Inc. was only to receive transportation costs when supplying concrete to the County. The invoice had been coded to pay for 25% of the cost; Judge Shaw changed the submission to pay only the transportation costs. WI, Inc. will be advised to submit invoices to the County Court.

#### IN THE MATTER OF ENTERPRISE APPLICATION

Discussion occurred on the Gilliam County Enterprise Zone Re-Designation Resolution document submitted by Planner Susie Anderson.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-04 in and for the County Court of the State of Oregon for Gilliam County for the re-designation of the Enterprise Zone.

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

Vote: 3-0  
Yes: Judge Shaw, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar  
No: None  
Abstained: None  
Absent: None  
Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF EMS OPERATIONS PLAN

Emergency Management Coordinator Chris Fitzsimmons reported the Columbia Gorge Operational Area-CGOA was established to implement an Emergency Alert System-EAS administered in The Dalles by Bi-Coastal Media. CGOA includes Wasco, Sherman, Hood River and Gilliam counties, and will utilize local radio stations for EAS messaging services. Fitzsimmons plans to contact Portland TV news stations: KATU, KGW and KOIN and inquire if they would be willing to voluntarily run a ticker tape EAS message for Gilliam County in the event of an emergency. Wasco County received a Homeland Security grant which covers the cost of the project. Fitzsimmons has contacted the local TV carriers, but at this time is unable to provide EAS messaging

services without the purchase of a digital encoder, which at this time is too expensive. Fitzsimmons will add a resource list of contacts to the plan before submitting.

Commissioner Weimar asked if FEMA grants could pay for these encoders. Fitzsimmons is attending Homeland Security grant guideline training on June 7, 2012 and reported Gilliam's breakdown will be \$9,000 and the system is working towards a regional approach.

It was noted this would be a discussion item for Senator Merkley visit.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Columbia Gorge Operational Area Emergency Alert System Operations plan.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaw, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF COURTHOUSE LIFT PROJECT

Jeff Schott, Pillar Consulting Group, reported two bids were received for the wheelchair lift at the Courthouse, there were six contractors contacted for the project. Schott reported the bids did not fully cover the request for proposal conditions, and further discussion with the entities is required.

A special meeting will be scheduled next week to approve Notice of Intent to award wheelchair lift replacement project.

Schott reported the swimming pool project is moving forward; solar panels will be installed next week, boiler is in place and water should be added the end of next week.

#### IN THE MATTER OF FLEET SAFETY PROGRAM

Tabled.

#### IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET DISCUSSION

Judge Shaw informed the Commissioners of budget concerns she noted following yesterday's Budget Committee meeting.

- Judge Shaw prepared and submitted a salary schedule to the Budget Officer Alcenia Wright. Following the Budget Committee meeting it was discovered salaries had been adjusted by the Budget Officer. It was noted the union

contract is not complete, and at this time there is a discrepancy on the step schedule increases, which may cause changes in the budgeted salary amount. Information was shared with the Budget Committee which was not approved by the Court. Union contract language Section 10.2-Steps in Compensation Plan were discussed.

- Discussion on the difference in salary of some elected officials and other county positions. It was noted elected officials have a step schedule as do employees, and when a person is newly elected the position is paid at the base rate.
- Budget Officer is to convene a Budget Compensation Board meeting annually and this meeting has not occurred.
- The proposed budget included in the County Court budget an increase of \$25,000 for a total of \$65,000 for consulting. The additional funds in this line item could be used for salary increases if an employee classification study was not done. The Budget Officer decreased the consulting line item to \$10,000 in the approved budget. It was noted the County has spent up to \$30,000 in project consulting in the past. With this change there will not be adequate funds available.
- Sheriff Department did not communicate with the Court regarding the new hire position; there is inconsistency with the advertised salary exceeding the existing base rate. Discussion occurred regarding experience/requirements for the position; conceivably there could be additional salary if person hired had experience. It was noted the Court recently adopted a hiring policy which should be followed. Sheriff Bettencourt will be contacted regarding the hiring process.
- The Industrial Park spraying line item was to be reduced from \$9,000 in the proposed budget to \$7,500 in the approved budget but this did not occur.
- Judge Shaw spoke about the Treasurers work schedule noting she has received comments from others. Brief discussion occurred. Commissioner Gronquist felt the Treasurer should be included for any further discussion on this matter.
- Economic Development funds were reduced by \$30,000 due to the Rural Internet project, anticipating completion by June 30, 2012. This project will not be completed in this fiscal year, which will increase the beginning fund balance. Funds may be put in Project Development or Capital Project. Commissioner Weimar added the rural internet project should be added to the asset list.

Communication concerns discussed, and Budget Committee should be advised.

#### IN THE MATTER OF SENATOR MERKLEY

Judge Shaw reported Senator Merkley will be at the Arlington School on Tuesday, May 29, 2012 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Elected officials portion of the meeting is 2:00-2:30 with open public from 2:30-4:00. Judge Shaw will be unavailable due to previous appointments.

#### IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Weimar reported: attended the tri-county court meeting; discussed article in Kiplingers Letter regarding the Plasma Gasification leading edge project at Waste Management;

Judge Shaw reported North Central Public Health Department is working towards separation from Wasco County. Six Rivers Mediation services through Mid-Columbia Counsel of Governments will facilitate the discussion. She also attended a Juvenile Justice meeting in Salem which discussed the Oregon Youth Authority and the work they provide to the County.

#### IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Judge Shaw was in receipt of a thank you letter from DEQ Joni Hammond: It was a productive meeting.

County Court received a letter from Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation-GEODC terminating loan service agreement contract with Gilliam County. It was noted the Court will send acknowledgement and thank you correspondence to GEODC.

Notice of Condon Planning Commission meeting scheduled on May 16, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the restoration of the façade to Trim West building and the Condon Main Street project.

#### IN THE MATTER OF AUDIT REPORT

Judge Shaw reported concerns regarding an action required in response to letter from the Oregon Audits Division. Per ORS 297.477 the County is to submit a resolution to correct the violations/deficiencies in meeting standards with a timeline of completion.

#### IN THE MATTER OF JULY MEETING SCHEDULE

Judge Shaw asked the Commissioners for suggestions on the July Court schedule. Regular court day would be Wednesday July 4, 2012: consensus to move Court meeting to July 5, 2012 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF NEXT SCHEDULE MEETING

Next Court meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 6, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the Gilliam County Courthouse-Condon, Oregon.

It appearing to the Court there was no further business to be conducted at this time, and no additional matters to be considered, Judge Shaw adjourned the meeting at 11:43 a.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By \_\_\_\_\_

Patricia Shaw, Judge

By \_\_\_\_\_

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

*Recorder: Marla Davies*