

**9-19-2012**

Judge Shaw opened the regular Gilliam County Court meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 19, 2012 at the Gilliam County Courthouse-Condon, Oregon.

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

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions/revisions added.

IN THE MATTER OF SENIOR COORDINATOR STAFF REPORT

Senior Coordinator Delene Durfey reported on the following:

- Transportation revenue for the last quarter: OMAP-\$2,287, Veteran's- \$457 and donations- \$510. Donations are down and use of the service has increased and dispatch attempts to merge rides as applicable. Brought Arlington 2008 Dodge minivan to Condon to maximize use and mileage.
- Attended annual transportation conference in Seaside: several transportation districts are beginning to use volunteer drivers as we do. There are many changes in the transportation system as budgets decline. Conference provided useful information.
- Oregon Medical Assistance Program- OMAP had an audit at it was determined the driver/rider manual needs to be updated. Drivers will also have to sign a confidential agreement to protect OMAP client rights.
- New medically frail vehicle for Condon will be purchased in November. Grant funds were received to fund the purchase, and Durfey will be getting three proposals.
- Grants for 2013-2015 are forthcoming and Durfey will be attending grant training in Bend on October 25, 2012.
- April- June Arlington meal site served 447 over 60 meals and 97 under 60 meals. Meals served year to date: 1802 over 60: 343 under 60.
- April-June Condon meal site served 951 over 60 meals and 101 under 60 meals. Meals served year to date: 4011 over 60: 387 under 60. Susan Carr is retiring from Condon cook position after 7.5 years of service. During Carr's service the Condon meal site received 99%-100% ratings from the Health Inspector. Cook

ad placed in paper, one application received at this time. There may be an assistant cook position available soon.

- Resource Connections has three county intake contacts including Michelle Colby, Teddy Fennern and Durfey. Qualified clients may receive financial assistance with heating/energy costs.
- County staff (Durfey, Fennern and Colby) contacted CAPECO asking for a budget workshop to done locally. Workshop was well attended by 20 previous clients of CAPECO which required an RSVP. There were people turned away due to the RSVP requirement. Attendees came prepared with monthly bills and received budgeting advice. They were given a \$50 credit to go towards their oil/electric bill for their participation.
- CAPECO food boxes are delivered monthly and are available for pick up at the Elk's parking lot. Durfey delivers three boxes to residents. This food arrives the same day food pantry items are delivered.
- Columbia Hills Manor signed contract with Interior LLC. /Cascade Management to provide rental services. Ground breaking next week and the criteria for applicants will be the same as Summit Springs. Durfey has at present assisted two citizens with applications.
- MCCOG's Area Agency on Aging-AAA Director is retiring: Durfey is on committee to hire replacement, also sat on Meals on Wheels committee.
- Providing SNAP (Food Stamp) assistance to local seniors at meal sites.
- MCCOG has Shirley Ludlow providing Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance and meets clients in the Family Services office in the Courthouse.

#### IN THE MATTER OF MUNICIPAL/JUSTICE COURT AGREEMENT

Condon Police Officer Bill Gubser reported the City of Condon council met and reviewed the existing agreement for municipal court services between City of Condon and Gilliam County.

City Council under direction of Legal Council Will Carey added: 6. The Court may further award the City costs in addition to any fines imposed on defendants. In such cases, the City shall submit a cost bill for its actual costs of enforcement.

Judge Shaw reported Justice of Peace Cris Patnode agreed with addition to Agreement.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Agreement between the City of Condon and Gilliam County Justice of the Peace as prepared and submitted.

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 WEED CONTROL DISCUSSION

Gilliam County Weed Advisory Board members: Don Farrar, SWCD staff Sandy McKay, SWCD Interim Director Walter Powell and Doug Wilson joined the Court meeting.

Powell thanked the Court for providing this communication opportunity with the Weed Advisory Board. There has been a lack of communication including Weed Advisory Board meeting scheduling, road spraying effectiveness, which has caused complaints to be made to lay persons, not an effective problem solving solution.

Wilson added the Weed Assessment changes were applied without input or communication with the Weed Advisory Board. If the Weed advisory Board is a working board, there needs to be communication between the board and County Court. It was noted the Weed Assessment had two Public Hearings for input.

Discussion occurred on the ORS on Weed Advisory Board membership requirements: Farrar will check the ORS and report back to the board. It was noted Farrar should attend Weed Advisory Board meetings.

Commissioner Weimar agreed to attend Weed Advisory Board meetings: County Court members will begin receiving meeting reminders and other information via email.

Powell is interested in working with Farrar, shifting funds to bio-control, which will provide good projects for local youth involvement. Powell also felt there was a lack of communication between the Road Department and Farrar; could be improved with better structure.

There are a quarter to half million dollars of economic grants coming to the local area through the Soil Water Conservation District. The Weed Advisory Board will be added to the County Court schedule quarterly when Farrar does his staff report.

#### IN THE MATTER OF WEED DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORT

Don Farrar reported the following:

- County and State roads have been treated for summer annuals.
- Expanding treatment area for Skeleton weed control. Plan to mail picture and information on Skeleton Weed recognition to land owners who may be affected.
- Ferry Canyon and Rock Creek grant year end reports have been sent it. Plan to reapply for Rock Creek, Ferry Canyon and 30 Mile grants. Lonerock watershed has been using bio-control.
- Bio Control has been released on Knapweed 6 and Toadflux 15, with 40 new sightings.
- Leafy Spurge has been treated with no additional sites found in Gilliam County. Yellow Star was found in Lower Rock Creek and has been treated.
- BLM contract 80% complete: BPA contract complete except for billing.
- Surveys on Flag Iris-found in the Columbia River: Watersheds Research Cooperative survey -Sherman and Condon schools will be monitoring survey.
- Parks lands have been treated and will receive another treatment in the fall.
- Need to replace and plan to get bids for a North Star Sprayer, which was purchased in 1991-92.
- Spray Mapping reports being done as time allows. Judge Shaw asked if Terri Carnine has the program and could do the reporting. Farrar added she could enter the information into computer, but the required notebooks must be done by staff and include listing 12 items, and if work is done on seven roads, there must be seven reports in the notebook.
- Working with Oregon Department of Agriculture for funding-funds are limited and it doesn't look good at this time. Working on additional grants as well.
- Oregon Water Enhancement Board vegetation conference is October 9-14, 2012. Farrar would like Carnine to attend for training.
- North end of county had 3.5 miles of bad treatment caused by drifting of product. Investigation was done and the drift probably came from plane/helicopter. Noting the weed department staff uses limited water, aerial treatment uses a lot of water.

Walter Powell had information he will provide to the Court regarding pesticide use concerns, which may affect county.

#### IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the August 15, 2012 regular court meeting minutes.

SECOND: Judge Shaw.

Vote: 2-0  
Yes: Judge Shaw and Commissioner Gronquist  
No: None  
Abstained: Commissioner Weimar  
Absent: None  
Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF CC&F FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Commission on Children and Families Director submitted funding recommendations for the 2012-13 grant cycles. The CC&F board voted to continue with a contract extension for each of the programs which were funded last year. This decision was based on the fact the CC&F will no longer exist past June 30, 2013.

It was noted there was a discrepancy in the amount listed on the correspondence (\$11,088) compared to the contract (\$13,088). The contract amount of \$13,088 is the correct amount.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the funding recommendation from the Commission on Children and Families board which include: Condon Child Care-\$13,088, Arlington Child Care-\$6,588, Condon School District-\$8,000, Arlington Community Charter School- \$4,500 and Arlington Preschool-\$5,000.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Commissioner Weimar asked if the CC&F funding exhibits were available for the Court. It was noted the exhibits were not available in the packet, but could be obtained from CC&F office.

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

## IN THE MATTER OF HEAT PUMP INSTALL IN SERVER ROOM

Judge Shaw reported a failure in the heat pump system which caused the air conditioning system to stop working. The backup pump did not work either, which caused extreme heat. The heat can cause the computer and phone system to overheat and crash. If the system had quit working while the courthouse was close the damage could have been substantial. It was noted all individual office heat pump units required resetting after this occurrence.

A proposal was submitted in the amount of \$6,854 for a split system for the server room. Discussion on the type of unit but no decisions was made.

## IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Judge Shaw reported the following:

- Thank you from the Gilliam County Auction Committee for contribution to the Auction Pool which provided fund to purchase eleven animals at a cost of \$17,356.
- Hannah Davidson thanked Gilliam County for purchasing her hog.
- City of Condon Planning Commission Notice of Public Hearing regarding Colby variance request and Chase historic review application. It was noted the properties being discussed were close to county property.

## IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Judge Shaw reported MCCOG's Areas Agency on Aging program is being audited.

## IN THE MATTER OF WINDFARM EVALUATIONS

Assessor Dave Messenger stated the evaluation of Iberdrola's wind farm project revenue were not uniform. Messenger contacted Sherman County Judge Gary Thompson to discuss decrease in value. Iberdrola reports to Department of Revenue where a grant reporting error provided Iberdrola with a Production Tax Credit causing the decrease in the evaluation. Normally this decrease would be 1%-7%: Sherman County's decrease was 35%. This evaluation decrease will affect Community Service Fees which may hit taxing districts significantly. Messenger feels County funds will be fine, due to Iberdrola over maximum amount of SIP agreement. Department of Revenue reportedly cannot change evaluation, but were aware and made a presence in the matter.

## IN THE MATTER OF PILLAR CONSULTING PROJECT UPDATE

Pillar Consultant Jeff Schott reported on the following:

Platform lift should be shipped October 8, 2012. Required landing work and demolition will be done on weekends.

New library projects drawing package will be available tomorrow- 9/20/2012. A cost opinion change modification is needed for the west wall of the rear warehouse. This change came after original estimate was submitted and permits historic lumber eaves to be preserved. Some of the lumber from the warehouse may be salvaged and sold to offset cost. At this time no definite use of warehouse space has been decided. The cost of the project is up 10%.

#### IN THE MATTER OF LIBRARY PROJECT BUDGET

Jane Campbell reported the Library project has submitted eight grants and are waiting for results of funding from four of the applications. Campbell added after reviewing budget and potential grant funds there is a \$28,000 shortfall. If the library is successful with any of the four outstanding grants, the amount would be reduced.

Ford Foundation funds will not be released until this \$28,000 shortfall is committed, Campbell is asking for Court to commit funds.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve up to \$30,000 from Capital Projects Funds to cover the shortfall of funds needed for the library construction.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaw, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

Campbell asked for minutes from this meeting documenting funding commitment which she can forward to Ford Foundation.

Commissioner Weimar asked for a library project budget including funder/funding details. It was noted this Information would be a good article item to County Connections newsletter.

#### IN THE MATTER OF BLALOCK HISTORIC MARKER CONTRIBUTION

Court reviewed the information provided by Oregon Travel Experience Community Assets Officer Annie Von Domitz. In an email Domitz reported the marker becomes the property of the State of Oregon and Oregon Travel Experience, who will provide maintenance and promotion of marker. A photo was provided and no ongoing cost beyond initial sponsorship will be required of Gilliam County.

Total cost of project is \$10,000: discussion occurred on contribution and project completion.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to contribute \$2,500 to the Blalock Historic Marker to be placed at Blalock Canyon, with the understanding if the project is not completed, the contribution will be returned to Gilliam County.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

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

Contribution will be paid from Project Development Funds and Lottery Funds.,

#### IN THE MATTER OF ACCELERATED FORECLOSURE REQUEST

Judge Shaw acknowledged receipt of letter from Alcenia Walrath regarding 503 South Washington property which is moving towards foreclosure for unpaid taxes. Walrath is requesting an Accelerated Foreclosure process begin on this property stating health and safety hazards.

#### IN THE MATTER OF BURNS PARK RV RATES

Judge Shaw re-opened the discussion on possible rate changes at Burns Park. Matter was brought to Court's attention by a local RV business letter with suggested rates and concerns. Rates for other RV parks were provided by Maintenance Staff Darryl Houghtelling.

Commissioner Gronquist does not feel Burns Park rates should be above local rates.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve the funding increase recommendations submitted by Houghtelling: Daily rate to \$20; monthly rate to \$350 and abolish half price winter rate.

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

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



Discussion on the other suggestions submitted by RV Park owner asking Burns Park to do the following: Not accept RV's until his park is full: Court disagreed  
Close during winter: Court disagreed  
RV Park could have signage posted at Burns Park: Court agreed

## IN THE MATTER OF NORCOR JOINT RESOLUTION 2012-11

Honorable Judge Paul Crowley and NORCOR Administrator James Weed joined the Court meeting.

Judge Crowley reported he acted as mediator for the NORCOR meetings and his qualifications include background education in CPA accounting/financing and has 21 years' experience on the bench.

Four Counties went together and created NORCOR and agreed to fund the facility. Counties are now disputing their commitment causing a delay in this year's funding agreement.

Commissioner Gronquist was a Commissioner when the original agreement to form NORCOR was created. All counties were to pay their fair share, but feels it is small against big counties at this point. He also does not support the new funding formula or that this matter went to a mediator.

It was noted there has been a change in how business is done in Hood River which has resulted in reduced inmates. Hood River had not been willing to pay total amount due to NORCOR, but at this time have signed a promissory note to repay the quarters expenses over the next four years. First payment was received.

Wasco County voiced concerns about the cost of having the facility in their County. Noting while inmates are incarcerated family members move to area making additional expense for Wasco County services. Matter was considered in funding formula. It was noted Wasco is considering optional programs (work crew) and keeping their bed usage to a minimum.

Hood River has the highest rate of juvenile inmates and Gilliam uses the juvenile facility frequently. Noting before NORCOR juveniles were sent across the state which added travel/lodging costs. New program provided by Oregon Youth Authority adds \$177 daily revenue and brings accessible services to area.

Lessee DaKine is leaving the complex which will reduce revenue by \$144,000. NORCOR management has reduced staff and other costs and now provides electronic home monitoring services reducing inmates while promoting employment for clients.

Sheriff Gary Bettencourt added the five year average used in the funding allocation was fair and feels personalities may have made the process difficult. Noting deputies are out of Gilliam County three hours to book/release inmate. Judge Crowley asked where inmates are released after being released to Gilliam County deputies. Bettencourt said a verbal agreement made between Wasco and Gilliam states local transient inmates will be released in Gilliam County. In most cases highway inmates are picked up by friend or family or they are put on a bus.

Commissioner Gronquist again reiterated he believes the counties should be paying their share but does not want Gilliam County to pay more than their cost.

Changes to the draft Resolution were:

- Third paragraph: Add: Whereas, The Counties agree to act in good faith, and
- Fourth paragraph: remove “consensus of the member counties in open session”  
Add: “action of the NORCOR Board of Directors”.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to accept the joint Gilliam County Resolution No. 2012-11 as modified today, establishing the allocation of costs for counties subsidies of NORCOR and adopting formula for funding.

SECOND: Judge Shaw.

Discussion: Commissioner Gronquist stated he still does not like the way business was handled and is not 100% convinced, but will vote in favor

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

#### IN THE MATTER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Judge Shaw noted the following events:

- Shepherds Flat Wind Farm Dedication is Saturday, September 22.
- Condon Main Street Celebration is tomorrow 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Tri-County Court meeting next Wednesday, September 26 at OSU Extension Conference Room in Moro.

#### IN THE MATTER OF NEXT COURT MEETING

Next Court meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 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 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By \_\_\_\_\_

Patricia Shaw, Judge

By \_\_\_\_\_

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

*Marla Davies-Recorder*