

12/18/2013

Judge Shaffer opened the regular Gilliam County Court meeting at 10:08 a.m. which was held in the Arlington Municipal Building- Arlington, Oregon.

Commissioners Present: Judge Steve Shaffer, Commissioner Dennis Gronquist and Commissioner Michael Weimar. Absent: None.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONS/REVISIONS TO AGENDA

Judge Shaffer added the following agenda items:

- 1.5- Cargill Manager Keith Cross-Cargill update
**Leanne Durfey reported later in meeting Cross emailed her cancelling appointment.*
- 3.7- Changing Court Order No. 2013-06 to Resolution No. 2013-27: Declaring the former Library building as Surplus Property.
- 3.8- Resolution No. 2013-28: Gilliam County Library Propane expense
- 4.4- January County Court meeting schedule to accommodate Holiday

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING

The scheduled Public Hearing to consider redemption acceleration on tax foreclosed property in Mikkalo was cancelled: Landowner paid tax payment.

IN THE MATTER OF NUISANCE ORDINANCE

Planner Susie Anderson reported on the Nuisance Ordinance 2012-02 which was adopted and approved by County Court on October 3, 2012.

There have been ongoing issues with the Mikkalo property and the landowner's lack of maintenance on the property. The property has undergone extensive clean up by the Road Department six years ago. This service was documented but a lien was never filed. There have been continuous complaints/concerns over public health and safety at the property.

Any future work and removal of debris will be documented and the landowner will be billed for this service, and a lien filed. Additional Nuisance Ordinance fees/fines (\$1,000-\$2,000) could also be incurred.

Anderson reported the process and duties of Code Enforcement Officer which would include documenting other complaints while doing an investigation at property. If property were in Violation the Code Enforcement Officer-CEO would issue a detailed

Citation to landowner with specific duties and responsibilities. Property could then be cleaned up and the landowner will be billed/lien filed.

Anderson will be acting as the Code Enforcement Officer and was instructed by the Court to inspect property and move forward as necessary.

IN THE MATTER OF JUSTICE OF PEACE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Justice of the Peace Cris Patnode reported:

- Implementing a Behavior Modification Program which was designed by a retired Arizona Judge who came and trained staff on program. Provides accountability while some relief if youth follows/completes program.
- Voted in to be the National Judges Association Secretary.
- Reviewed a High School program "You and the Law" which educates youth about the law dominated society. Program cost \$40,000 and Patnode is looking for grants to cover cost.
- Working on the Education Committee for the upcoming Oregon Justice of the Peace conference scheduled for September 2014.
- Gilliam County Website has been under redesign and a link which provides a link for people to pay their citations by Visa has been removed from the Home Page. This option allowed consumers to pay their fine and eliminated staff involvement in the process. The program cost Justice Court a monthly fee of \$20 and the 5% Convenience fee incurred on each transaction is the payer's responsibility on top of the fine amount. Contacted web designer and asked for it to be reestablished on the Home Page.
- Interpreter language line service being used for non-English speaking patrons.
- Constitutionalist have become a concern for Courts/Judges: noting liens have been placed on Judges private property for decisions not favorable to these individuals.
- All of the Gilliam County Sheriff Department employees are patrolling: this will give a better measure on the new e-citation process.

IN THE MATTER OF SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE SEALED BID

Court members opened/reviewed the three sealed bids for the Surplus Equipment: 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan. Asia Motors: \$3,695 - Kathy Freeman: \$2,800 and Mark Dodson: \$4,051.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to accept the \$4,051 bid submitted by Hermiston Oregon resident Mark Dodson to purchase the 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan.

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT SUBMITTAL REQUEST

Special Transportation submitted a grant submittal request for \$30,000 from the Oregon Department of Transportation/Public Transit Division Federal Grant 5310. The funds will be used to augment operating costs and build contingency for unforeseen issues.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF WASTE MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Waste Management Representatives provided the following information:

Waste Management Oregon Environmental Protection Manager Jim Denson reported they are expanding the gas to energy which will be done in two phases. There will be eight (Four during Phase 1/Four in Phase 2) Caterpillar 3520 Internal combustible engines installed to convert landfill gas into energy. Planner Susie Anderson has been working with Waste Management on the permit which will cover both phases. The first Phase to begin January 2014- weather permitting and the second phase will be determined by gas: possibly 2017-2018.

Methane Gas will be generated for thirty years and the process for gas creation has become faster when liquids were added to waste. Seattle has agreed to a Purchase Power Agreement for 95% of the power generated.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Zoning Permit authorizing expansion of the Landfill to Gas Energy Facility under the existing Conditional Use Permit for Columbia Ridge Landfill and Recycling Center.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

Columbia Ridge Landfill Supervisor Kelly Gronquist reported Columbia Ridge Landfill waste tonnage: 2012 TYD-1,852,465 and 2013 YTD-1,989,854: 137,389 increase. The Host Fees for YTD 2013 are \$2,343,545.

There are 67 FTE and six positions are available: Bill McKinney has been hired as Rail Supervisor and a potential Maintenance Supervisor has been offered the job which will start December 30, 2013. The Safety Manager position was eliminated and they are working to retool the safety team.

Existing Supervisor staffs are taking on additional duties including safety: Concern was noted regarding the added work to staff and the high turnover of supervisors.

Waste projects include: Seattle Tunnel, Boeing Dredge, Jorgenson Forge, BC MSW and King County.

Gary Fisher introduced Alan Anderson to the Court and reported his position has him looking for new and innovative ways to treat Hazardous Waste.

Chemical Waste District Manager Alan Anderson reported CWM tonnage has increased: 2013 YTD-163,222 to 2012 YTD-123,961. Host Fees are up from 2012 YTD- \$144,000 to 2013 YTD \$177,000. There are 55 FTE and there are not any openings at this time.

Commissioner Gronquist asked Waste Management staff to find out how many employees live in Gilliam County.

Denson reported 2014 Construction projects include: Escavating and line Module 14, Second Leachate Impoundment, LFGTE Expansion, Re-permitting Compost area and provided a monofill update.

Commissioner Gronquist asked if S4 Energy was closing their facility? Denson reported operational people are laid off. Mechanics are working on modifications to equipment. This is a temporary stop while funding sources and other matters are considered to make the system economically sustainable.

IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to accept the December 4, 2013 Executive Session meeting minutes.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

IN THE MATTER OF MCCOG BOARD APPOINTMENT

County Court members are looking to fill a City Representative position on the MCCOG Board and having someone who will be able to attend meetings. The Court agreed they will search for potential board members which will meet criteria and attend meetings.

IN THE MATTER OF GILLIAM COUNTY FAIR BOARD APPOINTMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to appoint Bill Wagenaar to the Gilliam County Fair Board.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

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

IN THE MATTER OF CRCAC BOARD REAPPOINTMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to appoint Dennis Gronquist to the Columbia Ridge Community Advisory Committee: term expiration 12/31/2016

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2013-26

Judge Shaffer reported there were some Family Services grant funds which were not anticipated at budget time.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-26 making appropriations for Gilliam County General Fund as follows:

- Children, Youth and Families Expense: \$10,866
- Family Support Services Expense: \$2,500
- Service Continuity Expense: \$19,600

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2013-28

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-28 making appropriations for Gilliam County Library allowing the increase of beginning balance to accommodate unexpected propane expense in the amount of \$800.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION 2013-25

Judge Shaffer read a letter from Wheeler County Judge Perry stating Wheeler County will not be able to pay their portion (\$122,679) of the Pinnacle Public Finance payment. Therefore in accordance with original agreement Wheeler County will no longer remain an equal partner in the Digital Switch, noting percentage of ownership will be based on past contribution. Wheeler is requesting when the State reimbursed funds (\$1 million dollars) arrive in 2015 it be computed and Wheeler receive their percentage of ownership.

The Digital Switch was budgeted for \$155,000: leaving a balance of \$33,000 and the additional \$28,000 could come from Contingency. Gilliam and Sherman will need to pay an additional \$61,000 to cover Wheeler County.

The matter will be discussed with Sherman County.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve the \$61,000 expenditure to pay half of Wheeler County's Digital Switch payment to Pinnacle Public Finance.

SECOND: Commissioner Gronquist.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF FDN DIGITAL SWITCH WARRANTY

Judge Shaffer reported the Digital Switch warranty cost through Motorola costs \$190,000 annually. Day Wireless has interest in offering warranty services and have provided an estimate.

The Digital Switch investment and future costs are now the responsibility of Sherman and Gilliam County. Discussion on the expense the Digital Switch including: warranty, system upgrades and other financial responsibilities which are now Gilliam and Sherman County's.

Judge Shaffer will prepare an expense spreadsheet for the Court members to be reviewed at a future Court meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF RESOLUTION NO. 2013-27

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve Resolution No. 2013-27 declaring the former library building as surplus property.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF FORMER HAWK PROPERTY UPDATE

The former Hawk property assessment found Asbestos in the walls and siding. Discussion on next step: Move forward to RFP process which should include removal of asbestos, tearing down structure, removal of garbage.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

The following items were received and acknowledged by the Court:

Thank you from Rob and Lori Myers: Card and Flowers

Christmas Salutations e-card

Regarding the unsigned letter sent to the Gilliam County Court: There was no response/discussion to letter. County Court members invite anyone with any questions or concerns attend the Court meeting or contact a Court member directly.

IN THE MATTER OF COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Judge Shaffer reported:

- A Mid-Columbia Counsel of Government –MCCOG employee matter.
- Discussed switching placement on Oregon Regional Solution which would place us with our existing partners in the Mid-Columbia area. Matter is in the preliminary conversation stage.
- Cottonwood Canyon Park meeting to gather information for BLM is scheduled for January 13, 2014 at Condon's Memorial Hall beginning at 6:00 p.m.
- Received Auditors report: Court members were provided copies of report which will be added to future Court agenda.

Commissioner Gronquist met with Paul Burns and Bill Carr of Waste Management to discuss the gas to energy facility.

IN THE MATTER OF JANUARY COURT MEETING SCHEDULE

Statute states County Court meetings are to be held the first and third Wednesday of each month. January 1, 2014 is the first Wednesday and a holiday.

County Court meetings are scheduled as follows: January 8, 2014 and January 22, 2014.

IN THE MATTER OF NEXT MEETING

The next Gilliam County Court meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and will be held in the Gilliam County Courthouse-Courtroom-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 Shaffer adjourned the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By _____

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

Marla Davies-Recorder