

**9-18-2013**

Judge Shaffer opened the regular Gilliam County Court meeting being held at the Arlington Municipal Building in Arlington, Oregon at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Judge Steve Shaffer and Commissioner Michael Weimar.  
Absent: Commissioner Dennis Gronquist.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITION REVISIONS TO AGENDA

- 3.9 appointments to Four River's Early Learning Hub

IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve:

- September 4, 2014 regular Court meeting minutes
- September 4, 2013 Executive Session Court meeting minutes

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENT

Judge Shaffer reported Dave Jones is interested in filling Gilliam County's third and final North Central Public Health Board position. Judge Shaffer and Carmen Gronquist are the other two board members.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to appoint Dave Jones as Gilliam County's third North Central Public Health District Board member.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

IN THE MATTER OF ARLINGTON PRESCHOOL FUND RELEASE

Judge Shaffer read the letter submitted by Arlington Community Preschool requesting the allocated funds for the 2013-2014 fiscal year for the record.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve the release of \$33,000 to the Arlington Community Preschool for their 2013-2014 fiscal year allocation.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

#### IN THE MATTER OF RESOURCE CONNECTION/FOOD PANTRY FUND RELEASE

Judge Shaffer acknowledged a letter submission from Resource Connections and Condon Food Pantry requesting the 2013-14 fiscal year allocation.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve the release of \$10,000 to Resource Connection for their 2013-2014 fiscal allocation.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve the release of \$1,000 to Condon Food Pantry for their 2013-2014 fiscal allocation.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

#### IN THE MATTER OF ARLINGTON LIBRARY FUND RELEASE

Judge Shaffer acknowledged a letter submission from the Arlington Public Library requesting the 2013-14 fiscal year allocation.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve the release of \$20,000 to the Arlington Public Library for their 2013-2014 fiscal allocation.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

Vote: 2-0  
Yes: Judge Shaffer and Commissioner Weimar  
No: None

Abstained: None  
Absent: Commissioner Gronquist  
Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF BOPTA BOARD APPOINTMENT

Judge Shaffer acknowledged a submission from BOPTA Board Clerk Rene Durfey asking the Court to appoint the 2013 BOPTA Board.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to appoint the following to the 2013 Board of Property Tax Appeals:

Chairperson's Pool: Mike Weimar and Pat Shaw

Non-Office Holding Pool: Leah Watkins and Peter Mitchell

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Gronquist

Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF PORT OF ARLINGTON QUARTERLY REPORT

Port of Arlington Economic Developer reported the following:

- Site monitoring at the Grain Elevator is completed, waiting for engineering report.

Commissioner Weimar asked Mitchell to inquire why Mid-Columbia Producer's-MCP did not use the Gilliam County Grain Lab for more sample testing. Mitchell noted perhaps MCP is reluctant to change from their current long term sample testing provider.

- Arlington Mesa's three phase power has been hooked up to the lower booster pump station. Pacific Power is working to install line to Mesa and the upper pump house. This should be completed mid-October allowing DCR/Insitu businesses to be hooked up to water and sewer services. Ribbon cutting ceremony will be scheduled.
- Port has decided November will be the month to adopt a marketing campaign for Shutler and Mesa Industrial properties and Marina.
- The Port submitted a proposal to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to manage Phillippi Park on the John Day River. The Port has obtained support from Sherman County, City of Rufus and the Marine Board to cover operational expenses for the park. Sherman County has reported a drop off of visitors to LaPage Park since the closure of Phillippi Park, and the decision to not allow

overnight camping. The proposal included a park service fee which will be collected at the LaPage gate for using Phillippi Park. To make the Phillippi bathrooms operational and two hundred foot section of pipe will need to be installed.

A recent study revealed over \$4 million dollars is spent annually on the river between John Day/Deschutes River. The Port's goal is Phillippi Park will be self-sustainable from user fees. The Park will provide two part time (full time in summer) positions.

- The Port was awarded almost \$320,000 in grant to build a new fuel dock, replace gangway and utility upgrades at the Marina.
- Several industrial prospects have expressed interest in locating at Arlington Mesa/Shutler Station Industrial Parks. Noting a need for a larger sub-station which would accommodate interested party.

Mitchell reported the Condon Airbase information gathering meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2013 in Condon. Noting the infrastructure is in place (water, sewer) now the plan needs to include potential usage for the buildings/site.

#### IN THE MATTER OF CITY OF ARLINGTON UPDATE

Mayor Jeff Bufton reported:

- Thanked the Court for the financial support, thanked the Port for the resource assistance on Mesa and other projects.
- Working to bring power upgrades including a larger substation to the Mesa.
- Final Rough Draft for Columbia River water rights has passed: Water extraction points to include: Willow Creek, Arlington and Phillippi Canyon. Noting this will be a good industrial component in the future.
- Business Oregon's Certified Industrial Land process is moving forward on Mesa property with assistance from Anderson/Perry.
- Looking for land conservation development grant assistance to re-evaluate land usage and build a new comprehensive plan.
- Plan to meet with CEO of Pacific Power to discuss the frequent loss of power in Arlington: noting antiquated equipment is unacceptable.

Port of Arlington Economic Developer Peter Mitchell reported meeting with Gilliam resident Dick Krebs regarding possible siting for the expanded substation. Krebs is willing to provide property for substation to expand industrial opportunities.

Gilliam County resident Julius Courtney added appreciation for the Court being held in Arlington.

#### IN THE MATTER OF EQUIPMENT LEASE IBR/CARGILL/GILLIAM COUNTY

Judge Shaffer reported Legal Counsel Will Carey had reviewed the Equipment Lease between Gilliam County and IBR/Cargill regarding language in Section 1. Amendments.

The Court discussed the Agreement.

The matter was tabled.

#### IN THE MATTER OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ROAD DEPARTMENT

Judge Shaffer reported Roadmaster Dewey Kennedy is requesting a letter of support from the Court asking Oregon Department of Transportation-ODOT for more I-84 asphalt grindings. At this time Gilliam County is scheduled to receive 40% of the grindings, and Kennedy would like more material, noting the Road Departments successful paving process development.

Judge Shaffer read a draft letter of support for the record.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve Gilliam County Court submission of a letter of support asking the Oregon Department of Transportation for additional asphalt grindings from the I-84 project.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

<u>Vote</u> :	2-0
Yes:	Judge Shaffer and Commissioner Weimar
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	Commissioner Gronquist

Motion Passed.

#### IN THE MATTER OF EARLY LEARNING HUB APPOINTMENT

Judge Shaffer reported the Early Learning Hub submissions which include Wasco, Hood River, Sherman, Wheeler and Gilliam Counties have two proposed governance schedules.

Proposal 1: Columbia Gorge ESD Governance structure has fifteen representatives from the five counties: Providers making up a substantial portion on governing structure. Noting if CGESD Hub is chosen by state, board appointments would occur at Tri-County Court.

Proposal 2: Four Rivers' (Sherman County) would have five Commissioners- one from each County, and representatives from Business, Health and Education. Providers would not be included in board, noting concerns of personal agenda and not overall interest. Judge Shaffer added he would be Gilliam's representative to this board.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to appoint Judge Steve Shaffer as Gilliam County's representative to the Four Rivers' Early Learning Hub.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer.

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

#### IN THE MATTER OF WASTE MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Waste Management Representatives: Paul Burns- Director of Operation, Bill Carr- Senior District Manager, Gary Fisher-Chemical Waste District Manager, Kelly Gronquist-District Manager.

New Waste Management staff members Jim Densen-Environmental Protection and German Heredia Environmental Protection joined the Court.

Jim Densen reported he has been with Waste Management as an Environmental Protection Manager for twenty years and has operated several special projects throughout United States.

German Heredia is the new Environmental Protection staff for Columbia Ridge and Chemical Waste landfills and has worked for Waste Management for 60 days. He started out in Puerto Rico has 20 years' experience: seven years as a Process Engineer for Safety Clean Environmental Systems and the next thirteen years as an Environmental Engineer for pharmaceutical agencies.

Gronquist reported Columbia Ridge Landfill:

- 2013 YTD Tons: 1.392 million/2012 total 1.26 million.
- 2013 YTD Host Fees: \$1.66 million/2012 total \$2.45 million.
- 2013 YTD DEQ Fees: \$938,000/2012 total \$1.8 million.
- 64 regular employees: recruiting for six open positions.

- 2013 Projects: upgraded two railroad crossings, repaired highway crossing, landfill gas system enhancements, haul road from rail site to landfill will be repaved.
- 2014 Projects: Excavation/lining of cell, second leachate impoundment, Gas Energy expansion: currently have eight 3516Cat motors, adding four 3520Cat motors which will double capacity. Looking to re-permit composting facility, last permit expired two years ago- working with Planner Susie Anderson.
- Community donations: Purchased grand champion pig, \$20,000 Columbia Hills Manor, Summit Springs and Columbia Basin High School Rodeo club.

Carr added:

- Seattle Tunnel project waste has been sporadic due to the Long-Shore man strike which has been resolved. Project started last year: YTD we have received 470,000 tons.
- Seattle Boeing dredging project should bring 250,000 tons. This project will run through fish season 2015.
- Jorgensen Forge clean up should provide 25,000-30,000 tons.
- Internalize Nanaimo; BC MSW is providing four-six loads weekly.
- WM looking at leasing vans to transport out of town employees to sites: employees would provide fuel share cost and be provided reliable transportation.

Judge Shaffer added he would prefer housing the employees locally and work on economic development.

Burns noted:

- Internalizing definition: WM holds the collection contracts for the waste, and we are working to get the waste to our disposal facility. Much of waste collection is disposed of at a third party facility.
- 2014 Construction proposed budget: \$7 million.

Fisher reported:

- 2013 YTD tons: 65,876/2012 total 122,511
- 2013 YTD Host fees: \$77,734/2012 total \$144,564
- 2013 YTD DEQ fees: \$826,263/2012 total \$1,713,356

- Large Waste Projects: Umatilla Army Depot-60,000 tons, Port of Tacoma-25,000-35,000 tons and Alaska-1,200-1,500 tons
- 56 employees with no open positions
- 2013 project major modifications to Organic Recovery Unit (cost \$150,000) and operating a 24/7 crew.
- 2014 projects include cell construction (\$5-\$6 million) dependent on volume.
  - Evaluating: Dolphin Center Fuse and Thermo-Flite screw auger thermal processing hazardous waste technologies.
  - Pilot testing of Reterro: Reterro has developed and patented proprietary technology and equipment to enable cost-effective, high output treatment of contaminated soils.

Burns added if Dolphin/Therma-Flite processes are implemented business opportunities would expand, potentially offering more employment opportunities.

Burns added Chemical Waste is hiring a new District Manager, Alan Anderson beginning September 30, 2013. Fisher is glad to be moving to a technical role.

Business Development includes Sales representative Tim Crosby who will be traveling to meet potential customers and contracts.

There is an addition of three sales representatives: Paul Krebsach from Portland and Matt Essig in Seattle, and another national sales representative with some refinery experience is being sought.

#### IN THE MATTER OF OREGON NATURAL DESERT ASSOCIATION

Ben Gordan, John Day Coordinator for Oregon Natural Desert Association-ONDA introduced the Lower John Day River Conservation concept which includes 54,300 acres from Service Creek to the Columbia River. Which would ensure this stretch of the John Day River remain the recreation and wildlife haven we enjoy today.

ONDA has been in Bend, Oregon for eight years and Gordon has been with ONDA for a year, noting predecessor left quickly.

ONDA is looking for county, landowner and farming community member collaboration in building a wilderness study for the area which will include listening and feedback sessions. Noting there is a lot of information to process and at this time no formal proposal



Judge Shaffer asked for Wilderness area clarification.

Gordon stated land which has primitive character, where the hands of man are not easily recognized. Noting land which has remained as it was when the Wilderness Act of 1964 was passed. This would not affect PILT payments since any land exchange between private/public entities would be acre for acre.

Gilliam County Planner Susie Anderson will be the contact person for Gordon on this matter.

#### IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Judge Shaffer shared:

Oregon WWII Memorial Foundation thanked the Court for the \$2,000 pledge for the Memorial which will be located in Salem. The Court agreed to release the funds by October 31, 2013 as the Foundation has nearly reached the goal of \$1.135 million.

Cindy Osterlund thanked the Court for the donation to the Gilliam County Fair Livestock Auction fund.

#### IN THE MATTER OF HSA BANKING PARTNER

Court Administrator Leanne Durfey reported Regence has recommended three HSA banking options for the Court to consider: HealthEquity, HSA Bank and US Bank. The Court reviewed the various account fees submitted by the three options, noting no one was aware of fee schedules when the insurance options were discussed and voted on.

Durfey and Clerk Rena Kennedy reviewed the options and are recommending HealthEquity due to being integration which allows easy employee account accessibility comparable usage rates.

The Insurance research group: Terri Carnine, Rena Kennedy and Leanne Durfey are scheduled to have a meeting to discuss monthly service fees. The fee matter will be discussed at a later date.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to approve HealthEquity as Gilliam County's Health Savings Account banking partner.

SECOND: Judge Shaffer

Commissioner Weimar appreciated the staff's hard work researching the different plans and making recommendations.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Judge Shaffer and Commissioner Weimar

No: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Commissioner Gronquist

Motion Passed.

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

Commissioner Weimar attended the AOC-Transportation meeting where they discussed the Columbia River Crossing. Noting the proposal included the State side bridge approaches would be paid for by Oregon and Washington, federal dollars were paying for the rest of project. Matter will be discussed further during a legislative special session.

Judge Shaffer attended the AOC-Energy Environment where waste storage and recycling was discussed. He is serving on a committee which will be discussing the process of handling waste, noting the ultimate goal would be no waste, ability to use everything.

Judge Shaffer reported on the initiative to list existing hydro-power as renewable energy. He also was in Salem where the Renewable Portfolio Standard-RPS where the businesses excise tax for Shepard's Flatt project was discussed.

Arlington resident Julius Courtney, who has twenty-five years' experience with the US Forest Service, asked the Court to be cautious regarding the ONDA proposal. Noting restrictions such as "mechanized equipment" and "buffer zones" can have a broad definition. Only Congress can create a Wilderness Area, and only Congress can terminate a Wilderness Area. Cases have gone to the Ninth Supreme Court, and environmental matters always win.

#### IN THE MATTER OF NEXT MEETING

Next Court meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. and will be held in the Gilliam County Courthouse- Condon, Oregon.

Public Hearing to take public comment on former library building at 6:00 p.m. on October 2, 2013 at 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 Shaffer adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

#### GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Shaffer, Judge

By \_\_\_\_\_ Absent \_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

*Marla Davies-Recorder*