

3-5-2014

Judge Shaffer called the regular Gilliam County Court meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. which was held in the Gilliam County Courthouse-Court Staff Office - Condon, Oregon.

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

IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Consent Agenda including February 21, 2014 regular County Court meeting minutes and February Claims pending review.

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 MAINTENANCE STAFF REPORT

Maintenance staff Darryl Houghtelling reported the following:

Courthouse/Grounds:

- District Attorney's office wing consisting of three rooms received new paint and had carpet installed.
- Asbestos tile removal and painting completed in three rooms including lower closed conference room, court staff offices. Carpet installation date March 13, 2014.
- Ordered ADA toilets and assist bars, Jamison and Marshall will install units-no date confirmed.
- Cleaning and Maintenance performed five days a week

Burns park:

- Opening park March 14, 2014 to accommodate the Tumbleweed Tournament attendees. Tree debris removal was extensive and has been completed. The fairground/Burns park borders were discussed.

- Asked the Courts permission to move forward on pursuing bids for pavilion improvements including Stainless Steel cabinets, table and a barbeque. Houghtelling estimated the cost \$12,000-\$20,000 which is available in the Maintenance budget, noting the funds are Oregon State RV Fee allocations. There was a short discussion on the possibility the RV Fee funds the county receives could increase substantially. Discussion on gas/briquette BBQ option possible rental fee and liability concerns. Judge Shaffer added Risk Management Officer Terri Carnine attended the CIS Conference and reported property/liability coverage is increasing across the board by 28% across the state.

Shutler Industrial Park:

- Water testing has been done quarterly: safe water results. Noting U.S Postal Service broke the last sample submitted.
- IBR still in process of replacing the warehouse lights: disposing of lights as needed.
- Lab experienced freezing issues, but everything is fine at this time.
- Water Tower will need to have Sacrificial Anecdotes replaced this summer to stop corrosion. Estimated cost \$5,000-\$10,000 which will need to be included in the upcoming budget.

Driving Special Transportation trips as needed: about two trips per month.

Road Department and Library have the bathrooms and sinks cleaned weekly. Noting the new Library needs additional cleaning during the week.

Safety inspections for all Gilliam County buildings are completed quarterly.

Commissioner Weimar asked for the water cost at Shutler Industrial Park. Houghtelling will work on expenses and provide spreadsheet to the Court.

IN THE MATTER OF WEED CONTROL STAFF REPORT

Weed Control Officer Don Farrar provided the following:

- Provided a weed control update during the Soil, Water Conservation District meeting on March 4, 2014. Noting no quorum was available at the meeting.
- Fully funded Weed Control grants: 30 Mile/Ferry Canyon, Lower John Day River Basin Skeleton Weed. Contract should be received late March.

- County roads being sprayed with bare ground treatment: roadsides too soft at this time slowing process. 40% completed.
- ODOT roads are 60% complete: with recent rain some areas will need retreating due to runoff.
- Met with ODOT to discuss this year's treatment in Moro. Adding the chemical bulk amount has reduced by 25% due to state wide goal. Chemical with high active ingredient provides less bulk product application, but is more expensive.
- BLM purchased Juno GOS units for the Weed Department which will provide BLM the data they have requested. Current Garmin units were not compatible with format requirements. May have to carry both units unless Salem IT Tech is able to change Spraymaster Program settings to streamline data entry portion. Farrar is concerned the Juno's will take more time in the field.
- BLM funding remained at 23,000, Tamarisk funding \$6,000, noting Tamarisk is nearly removed in County. No fire rehabilitation funding information at this time.
- Union Pacific has not paid last year's invoice. UP plans to train weed staff on rail access procedure.
- Bonneville Power Administration will be sending five year contract later in March.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs plans to renew contract for 2014.
- Reseeding roads: Baseline project has not been seeded and a landowner contacted Farrar with concerns. Farrar added Roadmaster Dewey Kennedy has some additional work at Baseline before seeding can be done.
- Meeting with Western Rivers Conservancy on March 11, 2014 to discuss and make recommendation for weed control work plan at Cottonwood Canyon State Park.
- Courthouse and park lawns have been winter fertilized.
- Submitted Oregon Department of Agriculture interim reports for 2013 funding cycle. Final report due end of March.
- Permission from the Court to sell equipment: two pick-ups and spray chassis. County Court Administrator Leanne Durfey will prepare Resolution listing items as Surplus Equipment for the Court.

- Weather permitting Farrar will treat the Industrial Park during March. Noting the chemical can have additional water added at application time if treatment is done later in season.
- Received email from absentee landowner on weed assessment notice. Landowner inherited property and was looking for information and had no opinion to share.
- Weed Awareness type of education meeting with Arlington and Condon citizens may be beneficial to weed control efforts. Providing free labor to apply chemical which would be paid for by property owner.

Commissioner Gronquist asked Farrar to monitor the county property located next auction lot in Arlington for weeds and treat accordingly.

Judge Shaffer will provide Farrar with addresses of County owned property inside city limits in Condon/Arlington. Farrar will monitor and treat as needed.

IN THE MATTER OF NCPHD MEMORANDUM: STATE/FEDERAL FUNDS

Judge Shaffer reported North Central Public Health District has asked Gilliam County to be a pass through entity for funding streams. Funds must come through a taxing entity or government agency. Tracking of funds would be done through the Treasurer's office and NCPHD. Discussion on administration fees which at this time were not going to be probable. Noting this could be revisited if need prevails.

Consensus to approve Memorandum of Agreement when completed.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC HEARING

This being the time and place advertised Judge Shaffer opened the Public Hearing to gather evidence as to the need, who will benefit, and receive public input on the 2014-15 Weed Control Special Assessment Rate.

Guests:

Patrick Kilgore-Alville Lane – Condon, OR

As a Commercial Spray operator I am aware of area weed problems and believe in the weed control program. If the Weed Department was not assisting landowners the work may not get done which would impact agriculture. The program allows landowners to curve the spreading of weeds. Some people may not agree with the cost to implement the program. Looking back at historic land pictures where natural grasses covered the area it is clear the program is needed. Bug control efforts are effective working 24/7

and works as a vehicle to get landowners educated and start prevention efforts. He also encourages non crop and livestock landowners to be educated on weed control.

Andrew Kilgore- K2 Aerial Application, Alville Lane – Condon, OR

Operating helicopter chemical application in Condon, Hood River and Hermiston for the past year and wants to be on the ground floor of weed prevention. Supports program and also offered business services. He is concerned with Medusa Head taking over and the impacts on agriculture and wildlife. Agrees the cost share program is needed due to the high cost of the chemicals.

Leanne Durfey asked if the cost share program was enough to get people to participate. Farrar added the helicopter cost is \$50 an acre, landowner pays \$12 an acre for the service. Farrar added the Weed Department receives \$53,000 in grant funds.

Mac Stinchfield asked about Weed Department revenue: \$46,500

Judge Shaffer recessed the public hearing until March 19, 2014, 11:00 a.m. which will be held at the Gilliam County Wheat Lab- Arlington, Oregon.

IN THE MATTER OF DD AGREEMENT #134276 - AMENDMENT #05-IGA

Judge Shaffer reported Community Counseling Solutions Director Kimberley Lindsey recommended the Court accept Amendment #05-IGA.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to accept the Fifth Amendment to Developmental Disability Services 2011-2013 Intergovernmental Agreement for the financing of Community Developmental Disability Services Agreement #134276.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

<u>Vote</u> :	3-0
Yes:	Judge Shaffer, Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar
No:	None
Abstained:	None
Absent:	None

Motion Passed.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDICTION/MH AGREEMENT #141410/AMENDMENT #02-IGA

Tabled: Waiting for additional information.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDICTION/MH AGREEMENT #141410/AMENDMENT #03-IGA

Tabled: Waiting for additional information.

IN THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS/VALUATION OF WINDMILLS

Judge Shaffer reported Assessor Dave Messenger has been working with Sherman County Assessor Ross Turney and the Department of Revenue to develop a taxing valuation process for wind projects.

Sherman County has agreed to begin the process with an Economic Impact Analysis and Valuation Support on their wind projects. Sherman has agreed to Evergreen Economics proposal in the amount of \$29,720 which covers cost of compiling data, modeling, reporting and Department of Revenue training.

Reportedly Assessor Dave Messenger would like the Court to consider paying \$4,600, half of the Department of Revenue training cost. Messenger and Appraiser Chet Wilkins would attend the training. The Economic Impact Analysis could be done later if applicable. It was noted Morrow County has declined to participate in the DOR training or Impact Analysis.

No decisions were made.

IN THE MATTER OF WHEELER COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POSITION

Judge Shaffer reported Wheeler County's Economic Developer has been Representative Greg Smith and receives a \$30,000 salary. Discussion with Wheeler County Commissioner Anne Mitchell and Sherman County Commissioner Mike Smith an idea to hire a Tourism Economic Developer who could focus on tri-county tourism needs.

Discussion on tourism services being provided by the John Day River Territory group and local Chambers. Judge Shaffer reported Economic Developer Peter Mitchell feels his strength is bringing industry to area.

No decisions were made.

IN THE MATTER OF CONDON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROGRESS REPORT

Condon School representatives: School Board-Nichole Schott, Interim Superintendent Jay Kosik and Staff Michelle Geer

Kosik started by thanking the Court for continued monetary support and feels the Court should be aware of goals/plans of the school and feels it is important to provide accountability of the funds.

Geer reported:

- \$50,000 college program had an average of ten students who collectively received 172 credits. One student will graduate this year lacking only one term and a class for Associates.

- \$350,000 went into General Fund which helps offset substantial shortfalls in the State School Fund and School Levy. Funds were used for staff development: common core standards professional developer on writing, with plans to provide reading and math development in the future.
- Expanding High School class choices and electives. Developing a career technical education program. Will begin with seventh and eighth graders being moved back to grade school with classroom teacher who will be existing staff. High school staff can then expand and deliver more class choices.

Schott reported:

- The Board is working to develop and address goals, based on challenges.
- Changing Administration structure: The revolving Superintendents have caused leadership vacuity. The key to succeed is strong leadership including: Geer has agreed to Principal, and after two years of continued education will be certified. Kosik has agreed to stay on as half time Superintendent.
- Consolidating to one campus planning has been ongoing and the group feels building size needed has been developed. The March meeting will be a deciding factor on moving forward with discussion on a bond attempt in 2014 or 2016. One campus will save utilities, provide staff operating efficiency and administration accessibility.
- Condon Education Foundation has a meeting with Oregon Department of Education representative to discuss options. Noting many Charter school regulations are now available to other schools: open enrollment, career education certified staff option.

Kosik added the Vernonia School District was successful on a substantial grant for career technical classes and feels Condon School should be positioned to apply for the many large grants in 2015.

The Court had the following input: Judge Shaffer added he is working on getting workforce dollars to the schools, now the funds stop at the college level. Commissioner Weimar requested the high school graduation rate for the past five years.

It was noted there are 43-45 students in the Condon High School.

IN THE MATTER OF COUTY COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Judge Shaffer reported:

- Plans to attend today's tour with State of Oregon Circuit Court representatives to evaluate Courthouse safety.
- Former Hawk resident demolition near completion. There were more loads of debris than anticipated going to landfill. Neighbors are happy.
- Participated in Early Learning Council meeting and reported the group is in the process of submitting the HUB application in for the second round of consideration. If HUB application successful, Sherman County will be fiscal agent and the possibility of the five counties filing a Chapter 190 was discussed.
- Attended MCCOG by phone due to weather on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 adding it was hard to hear meeting details.
- MCCOG Board member Maui Meyers has stepped down from the Oregon Consortium and Oregon Workforce Alliance Board. Wheeler County Judge Perry will take his vacant position. Good to have local representation on the board.

Commissioner Weimar reported:

- Attended CAPECO meeting where the focus on maintaining a sustainable housing project was discussed. Discussion on the benefits CAPECO provides to our area: food pantry, heating assistance.
- May 1, 2014 CAPECO is having a fundraiser to be held at the Budweiser Distributors in Pendleton. There will be beer and wine tasting and CAPECO is soliciting auction items.

Commissioner Gronquist reported the concrete credit matter between WI Inc. and Gilliam County needs to be resolved.

Judge Shaffer spoke to WI Inc. owner Jack Ingram three months ago and discussed the matter. Ingram was provided Gilliam County's concrete ledger amount and was asked to review and report any discrepancies to the Court. There has been no contact by WI Inc.

The interest free contract signed by Gilliam County (who provided a total of \$130,000 for start-up/operating expenses) and WI Inc., who agreed to provide concrete to repay the loan. Then contract was signed nine years ago, and a balance of \$70,000 remains. The contract stated WI Inc. was obligated to track concrete usage which was never presented to Gilliam County. Former Treasurer Alcenia Wright tracked usage and Ingram was contacted by Wright and provided concrete usage amount prior to her retirement.

The Court agreed a letter should be sent to Ingram inviting him to Gilliam County Court on March 19, 2014 which will be held at the Gilliam County Grain Lab- Shutler Industrial Park. Correspondence should include a copy of: concrete usage amount and contract.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Judge Shaffer acknowledge Rene Durfey's card thanking the Commissioners and staff for the retirement gift. Durfey last day was Friday, February 28, 2014.

IN THE MATTER OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday- March 19, 2014 at the Gilliam County Grain Lab at Shutler Station Industrial Park located in Arlington, Oregon beginning at 10:00 a.m.

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 12:10 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By _____

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

Marla Davies-Recorder