

4-2-2014

The regular Gilliam County Court meeting was called to order by Judge Shaffer at 10:06 am. The meeting was held in the Gilliam County Courthouse-Courtroom- Condon, OR

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

IN THE MATTER OF AGENDA ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

Judge Shaffer added the following appointment to the agenda:

- E-Commerce Discussion- Planner Susie Anderson

IN THE MATTER OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included: March 19, 2014 regular Gilliam County Court meeting minutes and March 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 ADDICTION/MENTAL HEALTH AGREEMENT #141410

Community Counseling Solutions Director Kimberly Lindsay recommended approval of Amendment #01 to Agreement #141410.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to accept Amendment #01 to the 2013-2015 Intergovernmental Agreement for the Financing of Community Addictions and Mental Health Services Agreement #141410.

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 ODOT GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 29515

ODOT provided additional funds increasing the Gilliam County Special Transportation biennium budget from \$110,000 to \$140,000. This coincides with the Gilliam County Special Transportation supplemental grant request amount of \$30,000.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to accept Amendment No. 1 to the ODOT Grant Agreement No. 29515 between Gilliam County and the State of Oregon in the amount of \$140,000.

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 CASA VOLUNTEER SWEARING IN

Judge Shaffer swore in Christine Eakin as a new Court Appointed Special Advocate-CASA for Gilliam County.

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT SUBMITTAL REQUEST

Dispatcher Marla Davies submitted a request to apply ODOT Public Transit Division for a grant in the amount of \$5,000 noting the match amount of \$1,000 would be in-kind services of staff time. Grant funds will be used to market transportation availability.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Gilliam County Special Transportation grant submittal request in the amount of \$5,000.

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 EVERGREEN ECONOMICS VALUATION PAYMENT

Judge Shaffer explained Sherman County contracted with Evergreen Economics to prepare an impact analysis on the wind projects in Sherman County: \$20,520. This matter was discussed at an earlier County Court meeting where it was decided not to have the impact study done for Gilliam County at this time.

However, the additional Department of Revenue training cost was \$9,200 and was attended by Assessor Dave Messenger and Appraiser Chet Wilkins. It was proposed Gilliam County pay for half of the training.

MOTION: Commissioner Weimar moved to reimburse Sherman County \$4,600 for the Oregon Department of Revenue training provided by Evergreen Economics.

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 ROADMASTER REPORT

Roadmaster Dewey Kennedy reported the following:

- Baseline project at Crum Pit is finished to subgrade. Plan to remove old road and culvert after spring grading completion.
- Excavation of (2) Skinner's Corners on Baseline Road, nearly complete will finish after spring grading.
- Crusher completed crushing excess material at Hartfield Quarry: 25,000 to base rock which was used to complete projects.
- Widening and line of sight improvements on Barnett and Morrison Roads. Finish when spring grading completed.
- Two snow storms and two ice storms caused wash out and runoff in Mayville, East of Condon. Most areas are repaired, except Cottonwood between 4 Corners and Bates Road. These will be completed when the road/shoulders are dry enough.
- Former Hawk property had 46 loads which went to the landfill, and 13 loads of topsoil to back fill property. Seeding will occur later.
- Hosted Mine Safety and Health Administration-MSHA training with 32 people in attendance from Sherman/Wheeler County and private sector participants from Maupin, Heppner, Wasco and Bingen, WA.

- Metal thieves hit the Crusher again during an ice storm and cut the main feed cable and several other small lines including propane and water hoses. Replacement cost of just the wire was \$4,887. New surveillance cameras are being purchased to replace the inoperable cameras.
- Spring grading began March 17, 2014 and are in the Condon area now.
- Attended an Eastern Oregon Road Master meeting in John Day and Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors-OACES in Portland.
- Road inspections of Earth Bind product showed good results except in Condon. Curing time/heat must have been the problem, and the material will be remixed/reapplied in warm weather. Sherman County has interest in using the Highway 97 grindings with the Earth Bind product for projects.
- Surplus Equipment consisting of: 2- Sullair Air Compressors (parts missing), 1- Arrow Pneumatic Air Dryer, 1-Comp Air, Oil/Water Separator, 2-Compressed Air Tanks, 10-Funnel Bottom Poly Tanks, 1-Monitor Oil Heater, 2- 200 Amp Meter Based Breakers and 1-Sears Clothes Washer. Items came from IBR and County foreclosed properties and some items have been stored for past three years.

The Court discussed the process of reviewing and keeping the equipment list accurate and ownership of replaced equipment at County owned facilities.

Judge Shaffer inquired about fees for rock sales and revenues received from the private sector. Kennedy said the process had been in place before he started working for County and the process should be reviewed.

Discussion on ethics and policies regarding public employees being able to use County owned property/equipment. Public employees are to pay the rental fee and wage of operator as any other citizen is required to pay.

IN THE MATTER OF ARLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT TUTORING CONTRACT

Judge Shaffer reported the original agreement was submitted in December 2013, but was not signed by appropriate school staff. The \$5,000 will be paid to the Arlington School District with Juvenile Crime Prevention funds and Angie Mundy will be providing the program to students.

MOTION: Commissioner Gronquist moved to approve the Arlington School District contract providing \$5,000 to be paid from Juvenile Crime Prevention fund stream to provide tutoring for Arlington students.

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 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

Judge Shaffer opened the Joint meeting

Port of Arlington representatives: Duane Johnson, Denise Ball, Peter Mitchell, Tim Wetherell, Ron Wilson, Laura Pryor and Dewey Kennedy joined the Court meeting

Audience included: City of Condon Administrator Kathryn Greiner and Realtor/Gilliam County Planning Commission Board member Linda Jo Smith

Wetherell thanked the Court for the support over the years and felt additional communication/meetings between the Port of Arlington and County Court would be beneficial. He requested the Court consider a long term funding agreement using Economic Development funds for the Port of Arlington. This would alleviate the Port's annual request and improve budget and overall project planning and commitment for both entities.

Judge Shaffer summarized the large infrastructure projects being financed by county funds. There are also several entities which require county support to operate, and without some of these services such as day care economic growth is futile. He would like to develop a financial plan which will provide silos for sustainable funding through 2035-2040.

Mitchell added all funding received from the county has been project funding, noting staffing funds are not included. The Port of Arlington receives revenue from the elevator lease with Mid-Columbia Producers, which will increase in 2017. The request letter is asking for \$500,000 from the Court and asked if a percentage of the Landfill Host Fee Economic Development Line item could be available for the Port. Mitchell said with a guaranteed percentage they could leverage, expand construction provide flex building options for business/rental buildings.

Mitchell added the county wide Port has delivered services to Condon including the Airbase asbestos removal project and continue to market the property. In addition the Port is working on a feasibility study on a potential Condon based brewery.

Commissioner Gronquist added the Host Fee agreement will expire the end of 2015, and Waste Management Columbia Ridge Landfill contract with Metro expires in 2019.

These funds are not a long term funding solution. The Court met with financial analysis Scott Clements to build a long term financial plan. Noting local government sustainability at its current level may be excessive for the future. With revenue projections and community funding requests it is imperative we develop a financial plan/ordinance to safeguard funds for county needs such as large economic development and sustainability, etc. Clements agreed to review the information and will either present a proposal for consulting services or recommend a consultant for the project.

Commissioner Weimar added the Economic Development funds are flexible spending funds and are allocated to programs. He added the strategic plan developed by community members should be a reference as we move forward inquiring if the Port of Arlington's strategic plan is compatible to the County's plan.

Pryor provided history of the Port's inception and Measure 5 requirements. It was her belief the Port was to serve the entire County's needs. Commissioner Gronquist concurred Mitchell should be providing economic development services on a county wide basis. A Partnership has been successful and with good communication the Port of Arlington and County Court can build and recruit businesses and jobs for the area.

All parties had a broad discussion on financial planning, projects and how to improve the process. The following items were discussed:

- The economic base of Gilliam County has changed from what it was several decades ago. The economic base used to be agriculture at both ends of the county which is no longer the case. There is more diversification in the north and south economy than there ever has been.
- Mitchell will prepare a county wide analysis in order to look at the current economic base of the County so the two boards can meet again and discuss the current economic situation and future goals.
- Improve communication between the Port of Arlington and County Court.
- Refocus goals using strategic/transportation plans and other relevant data/information

The County Court recessed for lunch: Commissioner Gronquist was unable to attend the afternoon County Court session.

IN THE MATTER OF EMS WEEK PROCLAMATION MAY 18-24

Arlington Medical Center Director David Anderson submitted an Emergency Medical Services-EMS Week Proclamation to recognize the value and accomplishments of EMS providers.

MOTION: Judge Shaffer moved to proclaim May 16-24, 2014 as Emergency Medical Services week in the County of Gilliam.

SECOND: Commissioner Weimar.

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

IN THE MATTER OF NACO PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

Judge Shaffer and Commissioner Weimar discussed the NACo program which could provide Gilliam County residents with a reduced prescription cost. It was agreed that further communication with Murray's Pharmacy is needed to see if this plan is beneficial or detrimental to their business. Judge Shaffer will contact Murray's about the matter.

Tabled to next meeting

IN THE MATTER OF COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Weimar attended CAPECO meeting where they discussed:

- Workforce Investment program
- The Apple Wood Village is undergoing an audit where the maintenance and operating costs made it apparent the high cost of operating a housing project.

Judge Shaffer participated in a MCCOG Board meeting where The Oregon Consortium/Workforce Alliance was discussed. Concerns the federal population requirements for assistance may hinder rural communities.

IN THE MATTER OF BLM LANDS

Present for the discussion were: BLM District Manager Carol Benkosky, BLM Field Manager for Central/Eastern area Chip Faver and BLM Supervisory Fuels Management Specialist Dan Ridenour. The following information was provided:

- Faver has been a Field Manager for four years and acts as a line officer in the event of a fire.

- Faver is working with multi counties and partners to develop the proposed John Day Basin Proposed Resource Management Plan-JDBRMP which includes 456,000 acres.
- The John Day River Launch Fee Proposal has been set for groups at \$10 for day-use and \$20 for overnight use. These fees are required from Service Creek to Tumwater Falls and must be paid at time of reservation and the fee is non-refundable. Launch fee/permits will be in effect May 20-July 10.
- BLM is developing the Cottonwood Canyon State Park Environmental Analysis of alternatives to provide the public recreational experience while enhancing resource values in the park property. Analyzing public comments where fire, emergency response, wildlife, hunting, erosion, fish and other concerns have been documented. Public comment process was completed in a two-month time period in which two public meetings were held. BLM plans to educate the public on park boundaries by building trails which will keep patrons in park area. Additional signage and information will be created and BLM wants to educate not write citations. BLM will have staff at the raft take out area checking boater passes and law enforcement officers will be on duty as well.

Commissioner Weimar expressed concern about the undefined boundary of Cottonwood Canyon State Park, and is unsure trails and signage will alleviate trespassing.

- Successful grant providing \$1.9 million in Emergency Site Rehabilitation which will provide herbicide and seed to the 73,000 acres which were burned. Herbicide will be applied to prevent Medusa Head and Cheat Grass.
- Multiple grazing permit renewal environmental assessment is in place to evaluate the effects of renewing 32 grazing permits and leases of property.
- Bravo Bentonite has submitted an application to mine in the Clarno area of the Prineville District. Bentonite is in foundry clay used for kitty litter and cosmetics and absorbs several times its mass in water. The mine site is outside the Wild and Scenic River Corridor but is undergoing an Environmental Assessment. The application proposes operation would be from 2015-2042 with a 345,000 ton a year capacity. Site will be re-vegetated and all roads and buildings removed when project is completed. Should provide good employment opportunities locally.
- BLM fire response will remain the same as in the past. The Grass Valley office would coordinate services for the area, noting Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler

partner on fire services. An Intergovernmental Agreement is in place providing local fire districts will assist in firefighting effort.

Fire Services Coordinator Shannon Coppock added concern with the Cottonwood Canyon-CWC State Park fire plan as discussed today. CWC seasonal review needs to be done and she has tried to make appointments with CWC Park Ranger Tom Peterson to begin conversations. Coppock wanted to be clear CWC State Park fires are the responsibility of the State Park. Limited resources, volunteer fire fighters have been related concerns during the Park planning process which is addressed in the Conditional Use Permit. Coppock added she can provide a signed accurate IGA to Ridenour.

Benkosky is working to update county Memorandum of Understanding-MOU and realizes the concern over firefighting capabilities.

Judge Shaffer closed with the increased public usage Sheriff Bettencourt has reported he would like communication and involvement as the process moves forward.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Acknowledged receipt of Assessor David Messenger Memorandum with 2014-15 M50 Budget Estimates for Tax Districts.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next Gilliam County Court meeting will be Wednesday, April 16, 2014 beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the Gilliam County Courthouse-Condon, OR

The first Gilliam County Budget Committee meeting will be Wednesday, May 7, 2014 beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the Gilliam County Courthouse-Condon, OR

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 2:24 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By _____

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

Marla Davies-Recorder