

12-16-15

Judge Shaffer called the regular Gilliam County Court meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. The meeting was held at Arlington City Hall, Arlington, OR. Present were Judge Steve Shaffer, Commissioner Michael Weimar and Commissioner Dennis Gronquist. Absent: None.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Change Order No. 5 at the Gilliam County Road Department Warehouse

IN THE MATTER OF PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR CONDON CITY PARK

Condon Chamber of Commerce Executive Director K'Lynn Lane returned to Court to present three competitive bids on new playground equipment for Condon City Park. Ross Recreation Equipment was the low bid at \$31,619. Lane informed that the other two companies, Wildwood Playgrounds NW and Buell Recreation specified structures closer in materials and of better quality than Ross. Lane questioned whether in Condon's harsh climate the equipment Ross specified would have equivalent longevity to the other two manufacturers. Wildwood Playgrounds NW was the second lowest bid and Lane noted that Wildwood offered the best warranty at 100 years versus 3 years for Ross Recreation Equipment, better liability insurance and their equipment is more durable than Ross Equipment's. Lane asked the Court for \$30,000 toward the cost of the project.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve granting the City of Condon \$30,000, to be paid out of the Recreation Services line item for new playground equipment at Condon City Park; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 5 AT THE ROAD DEPARTMENT WAREHOUSE

Jeff Schott with Pillar Consulting Group informed that change order No. 5 is for a concrete slab in the breezeway between the two buildings and totaled \$1,454.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded Commissioner Gronquist to accept change order No. 5 at the Gilliam County Road Department Warehouse in the amount of \$1,454; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF LOCAL COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Judge Shaffer said the Court received a Community Advisory Council application requesting the Court appoint Katie Hams to the Council. The Council in turn works with the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization on how best to meet the needs of County residents enrolled in the Oregon Health Plan.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to appoint Katie Hams to the Community Advisory Council; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF REAPPOINTMENTS TO GILLIAM COUNTY COMMITTEES

Judge Shaffer said he would entertain a motion to accept reappointments to Gilliam County Committees for people on the list who have agreed to serve another term for Gary Miller to the Budget Committee for a three year term; Gary Miller, Wally Powell and John Qualls to the Compensation Board for a one year term; Chris Fitzsimmons to the Fair Board for a three year term; Steve Shaffer to the North Central Public Health District Board for a three year term; Leah Watkins to the North Central Public Health Budget Committee for a one year term; Marta Mikkalo to the Planning Commission for a four year term; and Shirley Ludlow, Mike Cronk and Crystal Holmes to the Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee to a two year term.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to accept the Gilliam County committee members who have accepted reappointment to an additional term; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR GRANT REQUEST

Gilliam County Emergency Management Coordinator Chris Fitzsimmons requested permission to apply for a State Homeland Security Grant to purchase new radios for Gilliam County 911 in the amount of \$114,008.90. No match is required.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to approve the Gilliam County Emergency Management Coordinator request to apply for a State of Oregon Homeland Security Grant to purchase additional radios for Gilliam County 911 in the amount of \$114,008.90; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF FAMILY SERVICES COORDINATOR GRANT REQUEST

Family Services Coordinator Teddy Fennern requested permission to apply for two Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization grants. Neither grant has a matching fund requirement. The first grant, in the amount of \$23,514, is for developmental screening and tracking of as many children as possible at the Condon Child Care Center and to partner with the North Central Public Health Department to hire a Community Health worker to work with County Oregon Health Plan patients to facilitate overdue examinations. The second grant is a Transformation Grant through the Local Community Advisory Council in the amount of \$55,000. This grant will pay for Counselor position for the Condon and Arlington schools. The Counselor will both counsel students individually and also work in classrooms on building student's self-esteem, anti-bullying skills and on steps to respect. The individual will also work with HAVEN, a domestic violence agency on teaching a Healthy Relationship curriculum in the schools.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve Family Services Coordinator Teddy Fennern to apply for both of the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization grants in the amount of \$23,514 and \$55,000 respectively; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF EXECUTIVE SESSION ORS 192.660 (2) (e) (g)

Judge Shaffer declared the meeting to be in Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 2 (e) Real Property Transactions and (g) Trade Negotiations. Separate minutes were taken and will be filed in the office of the County Clerk.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

The Court received a letter of resignation from Gilliam County Fair Board member Christine Eakin. Due to her work schedule she will be unable to attend Board meetings.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to accept Christine Eakin's letter of resignation from the Gilliam County Fair Board; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

The Court received a letter of resignation from Gilliam County Public Library Board member Joe Haley.

Motion by Judge Shaffer, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to accept Joe Haley's letter of resignation from the Gilliam County Public Library Board; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

Library Board Chair Kim Farrar sent communication noting the resignation leaves them with five Board members and the Board is comfortable with a five member Board at this time.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Judge Shaffer asked Members of the Court to revisit the County Business Development Loan Program. The program was put on hold near the end of Judge Shaw's term. Judge Shaffer said he had recently received a loan request and advised the Court to revisit the Program language in the coming year. After a brief discussion Members of the Court decided a first step would be to look at what neighboring counties have in place and revisit the issue in 2016.

IN THE MATTER OF WI CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT TRADE UPDATE

Judge Shaffer informed there hasn't been any progress in finalizing WI Construction's Equipment exchange for debt. Commissioner Gronquist talked with Road Master Dewey Kennedy and he is only interested in equipment if there is no cost to the Road Department. Commissioner Gronquist said he thought the County should surplus and sell the remaining equipment. Commissioner Weimar said he thought the County needed to have the equipment independently appraised and not rely on WI to establish value. Judge Shaffer said he would contact Kennedy and try to have the issue resolved by the second County Court meeting in January.

IN THE MATTER OF WASTE MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Alan Anderson and Kip Eagles were present to give the Waste Management Inc. quarterly report.

Columbia Ridge:

- Volumes 2015 QTD-4: 417,059 tons, down 6.4% vs 2014

- Volumes 2015 YTD: 2,040,949 tons, down 1.1% vs 2014
- Host Fees 2015 QTD-4: \$472,045
- Host Fees 2015 YTD: \$2,496,471

Chem Waste – October 2015. Anderson apologized for not having final quarterly figures for Chem Waste.

- Volume 2015 QTD-4: 8,047 tons, up 18.5% vs 2014
- Volume 2015 YTD: 80,128 tons, up 11.1% vs 2014
- Tax 2015 QTD-4: \$9,496
- Tax 2015 YTD: \$94,551

Site Updates:

Safety – Neither site has had any significant injuries.

Employee engagement and recognition – There will be an employee appreciation picnic on September 26, 2016 in Arlington. They will also be scheduling an appreciation dinner at the Fire Hall in Arlington in January of 2016. Members of the Court are welcome to attend both events.

Hiring – Waste Management has hired several full time employees. They still have approximately four open positions for Operator/Laborer.

Community Engagement:

- Support for the business community – This year Waste Management donated \$12,500 to the Arlington and Condon Chambers of Commerce. This represented the first of a five year commitment to both communities, for a total of \$125,000.
- Support for youth education – Waste Management funded 5 college scholarships in 2015 for local high school students. For 2016 Anderson informed they plan to transition to a “workforce development” focus, providing support for technical training they believe will be more applicable to the community.

Support for youth recreation, athletics and leadership development.

- Little League – Waste Management plans to purchase a pitching machine.
- Gilliam County Fair – In 2015 Waste Management contributed a premium for all children participating in the livestock auction. They understand that the Fair is important to the community and expect to be involved in some way again in 2016.

RUTE Foundation Project – Waste Management continues to support the project.

Business Development in Today’s Ultra-Competitive Environment – Waste Management is committed to responding to competitive pressures (abundant landfill capacity in the region) with a focus on growing revenue via tons to the site. The benefit to Gilliam County has been significant as they have increased the Sales Team from six to 11 employees who are working to sustain current business and develop new business in an ultra-competitive environment.

Citizen’s Advisory Committee – Bill Mulholland will continue to serve on the Committee.

IN THE MATTER OF MARIJUANA ORDINANCE NO. 2015-03 CONSIDERATION

Members of the Court resumed discussion of proposed Ordinance 2015-03 after conducting public hearings at both ends of the County on December 2, 2015. City of Condon Administrator Kathryn Greiner reported that the Condon City Council decided not to pass an ordinance opting out. Greiner informed Measure 91 lost in Gilliam County by 38 votes and lost by 58%. In the north County it would have only taken 7 votes to pass Measure 91. It was noted that none of the cities in the County passed an ordinance opting out. Arlington revised the language for their business licenses to state that businesses in Arlington must adhere to federal law; effectively banning marijuana business. Judge Shaffer asked Community Development Director Rachel Weinstein what businesses would need to have their products lab tested. Weinstein responded that prior to retail, all marijuana grown and processed would need to be tested. Commissioner Gronquist asked about provision number three in the draft Ordinance regarding, who is exempt from the proposed Ordinance. Weinstein said any legal medical marijuana business in existence prior to the November 2014 election is grandfathered in and not subject to the Ordinance. Commissioner Gronquist pointed out the three options before the Court regarding the Ordinance. Pass the Ordinance, let the deadline expire, or put the Ordinance on the ballot in the November 2016 general election. Commissioner Gronquist suggested putting the Ordinance to a vote since there was limited information available prior to the November 2014 election. Since that time the issue has received a lot of publicity and much more information is available. Commissioner Gronquist asked Weinstein if what was put on the ballot in November could be specific. Weinstein said it was her understanding that the Court would have the option to put each of the six opt out options to a vote individually, but advised the Court check with legal counsel. Commissioner Weimar agreed with Commissioner Gronquist that since the original vote there have been opportunities for the public to become more educated on the subject and advocated for putting the issue back on the ballot in the next election. Commissioner Weimar informed that since October of 2015 when recreational marijuana sales became legal, it has had a burdensome effect for medical marijuana producers which has limited medical availability.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to put the topic on the ballot in the November 2016 election and let voters decide whether or not to opt out on marijuana businesses. Discussion: Commissioner Gronquist said he was not advocating for the use of marijuana in Gilliam County, but because the vote was close and there is additional information available he thought putting the issue to the voters was the fair thing to do. Judge Shaffer suggested the Court check to see how cities and counties putting the Ordinance on the ballot in November to see how they are planning to proceed. Vote: Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF PATU WIND FARM

Ormand Hildebrand, owner of PaTu Wind Farm, LLC in Sherman County was present to give an account of how he developed his wind farm. PaTu has six G.E. 1.5 MW wind turbines that produce 9 megawatts of energy. Judge Shaffer asked Hildebrand if he was familiar with the Test Turbine project the County is exploring. Hildebrand said he had seen some of the preliminary data. Since he has been through the process Judge Shaffer asked Hildebrand to lead the Court through the necessary steps ahead of being able to make a decision on whether the Test Turbine project is a good idea. Hildebrand relayed that he came from an international business development background and that he approached his project methodically as he would any development project. Hildebrand said performing his due diligence was a lengthy and expensive process. There are two pieces of research that have to be done whether it's a single turbine project or a 200 turbine project. Hildebrand said it is important to gather bonafide information on all the resources at your turbine

site and have those assets verified. This will be critical information for any financial institution considering funding your project. Financial projections will also be necessary. Those projections will be dissected by any financial institution in the vetting process. Hildebrand hired a financial consultant and tasked him with putting together the financial analysis for his site. They hired wind resource analysts and transmission consultants. With that information he was able to develop financial projections for the site. Hildebrand said he had looked at the financial projections Brian Skeehan has put together and all the numbers make sense on the surface and the analysis appears well done. His concern would be how many of those numbers have, or have not been stress tested. For instance the capacity figure of 34% is in the ball park, but there needs to be probability analysis done considering various scenarios. He hasn't seen the background data so he couldn't tell whether what he looked at was accurate. Once completed, that probability analysis needs to be broken down and assessed further, because that is what any bank is going to look at. He advised the Court to do what he did and hire a financial consultant who can really look into the numbers and perform those stress tests. Hildebrand said he went to 50 different banks before he found one that was willing to work with him. Co-Bank required him to hire their consultants to vet his project. There were financial consultants, legal consultants, insurance consultants and engineering consultants. Hildebrand had to pay for all of the consultants up front, and he had to personally assume all of the risk one way or the other before Co-Bank was willing to sign off on his loan. Hildebrand said he didn't know if there would need to be specialty insurance required on an untested foundation prototype. He thought the Court was at the point now where they needed to hire an independent consultant to look at everything, drill down into the financial projections, stress test them and verify what the County has been shown by RUTE and Skeehan can be independently verified as being accurate. What happens if there is a jump in maintenance costs for example? What happens in an off wind year? What type of cash reserves will the County need to have on hand and available should costs exceed projections? The Court needs to be 100% confident that the project pencils out. Hildebrand said once they get to that point he didn't feel there was any more inherent risk with a single turbine project than a six turbine project like his. Hildebrand said things will always go wrong, and did so in his case, but he had amassed the financial reserves to handle any deviations in the process. One cost the County will likely not have, that he has, is having a certain amount of mechanical percentage availability. That is a requirement from his off-taker Portland General Electric. Hildebrand said that in this region there is so much wind farm activity that should the County need turbine repair they should easily be able to find a technician and a crane available for repairs. He cautioned the process of stressing the financial was going to take some work. Judge Shaffer said the County has hired a consultant who is currently gathering all of the information and financials to be able to verify the accuracy of what RUTE Foundations has projected the costs to be. As a public entity there is a Request for Proposal (RFP) process the County will need to adhere to. Judge Shaffer asked Hildebrand where in the data collection process the County should be in the timing of when to hire that financial consultant. Hildebrand said that depending on the County's objectives he felt that County was at the point it needed to hire the financial consultant now to prove this RUTE asset is viable or not. He said he wouldn't spend a lot of money on the project until that was completed. Commissioner Weimar asked what Hildebrand considered a lot of money during the due diligence phase. Hildebrand said just on the consulting required by Co-Bank he spent \$750,000. Hildebrand said that in his opinion the Court would not need to vet the RUTE project to the same degree he was subjected to. Judge Shaffer informed that Evergreen Energy has given the County a quote of \$15,000 to perform a financial analysis of the entire project. Commissioner Gronquist said Judge Shaffer has been working on this project for a long time, but there are still a lot of unknowns and advocated for a completely independent review of the project. Hildebrand noted there are great consulting firms like Garrad Hassan, who might not be willing to consult on a

single turbine project, but it would be important to hire a consultant within the renewable energy industry. Hildebrand's take away message was at the end of the due diligence period, when it's time to write the check, the County Court should feel 100% certain the project has been properly vetted. Judge Shaffer said Evergreen Energy's quote was for the following scope of work: estimate the annual power production based on the actual turbine model selected and the wind regime of the site; anticipate the net revenues based on the PPA provision; estimate the operation, maintenance and administrative costs of the project; prepare a financial projection for the project and determine the debt service and coverage ratio to determine project feasibility; review warranty provisions; review and advise regarding the construction schedule; identify key risk factors and advise regarding potential mitigation methods; review the NREL model and potential complications. Hildebrand advised he would not hire Evergreen until after the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Columbia Basin Electric Co-op is signed. Commissioner Gronquist asked Hildebrand how long it took him to get his project up and running. Hildebrand said it took him five years from the time he started to obtain his financing. However, he didn't think the County's project would take that long. Judge Shaffer informed he is waiting to hear from Columbia Basin regarding the PPA. Members of the Court thanked Hildebrand for his time and for sharing his development process.

IN THE MATTER OF ROAD WAREHOUSE PROJECT UPDATE

Jeff Schott with Pillar Consulting Group was present to give a Road Warehouse project update. Griffin Construction is currently putting the skin on the Warehouse. Griffin is still working on the Fire Station project so until they complete that they will have a reduced crew on the Warehouse project. After they finish the skin they will begin work on the interior wood framing. Griffin anticipates being finished with the Fire Station project the end of January.

IN THE MATTER OF CTE WIND TURBINE PROJECT SCOPE REVIEW UPDATE

Jeff Schott with Pillar Consulting Group gave a turbine project update. Whether or not the turbine is a public works project will have an impact on his cost analysis. It is his understanding that if there is a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the turbine project with Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, one of the provisions is the turbine be publicly owned. If that is true the turbine project will be a public works project, subject to Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) wages and public contracting rules. Schott thought that one of two approaches would work. One is a CMGC project where the County would hire a Construction Manager/General Contractor to oversee the project and that entity would hire out sub-contractors. The other possibility would be to approach the project as a Design/Build project. The Court would need to check to see if there is a provision for this in their public contracting regulations. The County could work with legal counsel to effectively put out an RFP for a turbine and foundation system required to meet certain requirements, but that would allow RUTE to respond. However, they would be subject to competition in the RFP process and it is possible that would not get the contract. Schott agreed with Hildebrand that insurance is going to be a significant issue with RUTE's foundation prototype. In order to protect themselves in the event that the foundation footer fails, the County would need to make sure they are covered financially. Commissioner Gronquist asked Schott how long the turbine would need to be in production before developers would feel comfortable placing an order. Judge Shaffer said according to Krause RUTE needs certification from Garrad Hasson that the foundation footer is sound, but didn't know how long that would take. Schott informed he is approaching the project from a Career Technology Education (CTE) perspective and is not specifically focusing on RUTE's

footer system as a necessity for the project. Commissioner Gronquist said he thought the foundation technology should have an independent engineering review. Schott said the foundation footer has passed a preliminary third party first principle vetting. What they are working on now is engineering a modular piece that can be erected in the field. They are looking at potentially using steel fabricated elements plus pre-cast elements both of which are already legitimate construction systems used for other applications and therefore should be fundamentally sound. Judge Shaffer informed the Commissioners that Sherman and Gilliam County schools did not receive the CTE grant they had applied for. The consultant has offered to reapply for the grant at no cost to the counties.

IN THE MATTER OF FUTURE OF GILLIAM COUNTY GRAIN LAB

Gilliam County Grain Laboratory Technician Jodie Gentry was present for discussion of the future of the Gilliam County Grain Lab. Gentry informed she has acquired two new clients in 2015. Dave's Killer Bread came on board January of 2015 and has steadily been increasing the amount of samples they send and currently send 12 samples twice a month. She has also started receiving individual samples from Montana Milling, the mill that supplies flour to Dave's Killer Bread. Commissioner Gronquist asked Gentry how much revenue the Lab is generating a month. Gentry informed the Lab currently generates just under \$3,000 per month. That would increase if Montana Milling were to increase the number of flour samples they send per month. Court Administrator Leanne Durfey asked Gentry if the sample fees she is charging are the original fees. Gentry said yes, but she recently checked what other labs are charging and the Grain Lab's fees are in line with her competitors. Commissioner Gronquist said while it's nobody's fault, the Grain Lab has never generated the kind of income originally intended. Grain growers just didn't sign up for testing. Since 2004 Gilliam County has subsidized the Lab over \$1.6 million and revenue for the same period is just over \$165,000; and that's a problem. Commissioner Gronquist asked Gentry what she thought could be done to generate more income for the Lab. Gentry said she thought the Lab needed to be marketed to multiple other food industries. Commissioner Gronquist noted that the County is fairly limited to what they can do under the rules of the Economic Development Grant (EDA). Commissioner Gronquist said that the choices before the Court are to either, keep the Lab open and spend another \$1.6 million to fulfill the Lab's obligation or close the Lab and pay off \$500,000 or \$600,000 for the EDA grant. Commissioner Weimar agreed that the cost of operating the Lab vs. revenue generated is out of balance, even when you factor in using the Lab for education which was part of the Lab's mission. Commissioner Gronquist said the Court needs to make a decision soon so that Gentry will know whether or not she has a job going forward. Judge Shaffer said that in discussions with IBR, closing the Lab would not be a hardship for them. Judge Shaffer noted that Dave's Killer Bread had only planned on using the Lab temporarily until they purchased their own equipment. Montana Milling informed there were several pieces of equipment they were interested in purchasing. Judge Shaffer said he felt for Gentry, but the County is spending the taxpayer's money to keep the Lab open and he wondered if that money could be put to better use in serving the community. Commissioner Gronquist wanted to make sure the Court gave Ardent Mills enough time to make alternate arrangements. He also wanted to make sure that the Court gave Gentry some notice if they decide to close the Lab. There was a brief discussion of how the EDA might proceed if the County closed the Lab. Judge Shaffer said the Lab would likely be appraised and that would be the basis for negotiating a settlement. He said Assessor Dave Messenger, said the building was valued at \$650,000.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to close the Gilliam County Grain Lab, effective January 31, 2016. Discussion: Commissioner Weimar questioned the need to set a specific closing date, but needed to give businesses using the Lab time to secure replacement facilities. After a brief discussion Commissioner Gronquist said he was going to stand by his original motion, which was then seconded by Commissioner Weimar. Vote: Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF FIBER SERVICE IN GILLIAM COUNTY

Judge Shaffer informed he had received a request from State Representative John Huffman and State Representative Greg Smith to discuss some ideas they have for connecting fiber from Sherman to Gilliam and on to Wheeler County. They have mentioned 0% interest loans from the State of Oregon. Judge Shaffer asked the Commissioners for some guidance. They want to discuss the \$1.8 million backbone build from Cedar Springs to Condon. Commissioner Gronquist said he is interested in a grant if the Court has a choice. Commissioner Weimer pointed out that the adjacent counties have been awarded grants from the State of Oregon and it would be unfortunate if the State of Oregon expected Gilliam County to self-fund the backbone. Judge Shaffer said that the problem is while Gilliam County doesn't have the internet speeds that are as fast as people would like, current speeds exceed the minimum that government is looking to fund. Commissioner Gronquist asked where the County is in respect to getting fiber to Ardent Mills. Judge Shaffer informed that legal counsel Will Carey recently determined that Wind Wave can hook up Ardent Mills as a sole source entity. There was a lengthy discussion of possible scenarios for bringing fiber into Gilliam County and how those scenarios might be developed over the two or three years. City of Condon Administrator, Kathryn Greiner informed that as the City of Condon pursues bringing high speed affordable fiber to Condon they are having a hard time figuring out who owns the two fiber lines that come into town. Port of Arlington Manager Peter Mitchell asked if the fiber at the airbase was military. Mitchell informed when work was being done at the airbase he also had trouble finding out who owned the fiber. He said that Road Master Dewey Kennedy said that after a wash out along the John Day River he saw that there was fiber buried there that continued to run further east. Judge Shaffer informed that fiber comes into Slatt in Arlington and from there the signal is microwaved to Condon at the airbase. Signals also come to the airbase from various points in Sherman County. Therefore, during peak use periods the speeds slow way down due to the bottleneck at the airbase. Judge Shaffer said the two options are to either bring fiber from Arlington, or lease fiber from someone who already has it at the airbase. Commissioner Gronquist asked Greiner if it would be beneficial for the County to focus on bringing fiber to Condon from Cedar Springs. Greiner said that would be great. At the end of the discussion Judge Shaffer and the Commissioners agreed the goal is to make sure that Gilliam County will be served with fiber optic as soon as possible.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEXT COURT MEETING

The next Gilliam County Court meeting will be held on January 6, 2016 beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Gilliam County Courthouse in Condon.

It appearing to the Court there was no further business to be conducted at this time and not additional matters to be considered Judge Shaffer adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By _____

Michael Weimar, Commissioner

R. Weinstein/Recorder