

**12-30-15**

Judge Shaffer called the regular Gilliam County Court Special Session to order at 11:00 a.m. The meeting was held at Arlington City Hall, Arlington, OR. Present were Judge Steve Shaffer and Commissioner Michael Weimar. Commissioner Dennis Gronquist attended via telephone. Absent: None.

#### IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON MARIJUANA ORDINANCE

Judge Shaffer opened the Public Hearing at 11:00 a.m. to receive testimony from members of the community on Gilliam County Ordinance 2015-03 to receive public testimony and respond to questions regarding Ordinance No. 2015-03 opting out of the six state licensed or registered marijuana businesses; requiring referral of the question with a moratorium in the meantime; and declaring a state of emergency. The Gilliam County Court desires to refer to the voters of Gilliam County the question of whether to allow the operation of medical marijuana processing sites; medical marijuana dispensaries, retail marijuana producers, retail marijuana processors, retail marijuana wholesalers, and/or retail marijuana retailers.

Testimony was received as follows:

Julius Courtney from Arlington, Oregon testified against Ordinance 2015-03. Courtney cautioned Members of the Court to research the six topics carefully before voting for Ordinance 2015-03. He stated he believed that should apply all six opt out options. Courtney also stated that if the Court votes to put the issue on the November 2016 ballot that all six options should be addressed individually and they needed to be carefully researched and carefully written so that people will really understand what they are voting on. Courtney said he understands there will be law enforcement issues that will need to be addressed if the Gilliam County or the Court elect to allow some marijuana uses, but thought that those issues could be successfully addressed. Commissioner Gronquist asked Courtney if he was for Gilliam County opting out or against Gilliam County opting out. Courtney said he wasn't exactly sure, but he wanted to leave the door open to allow for some revenue producing options. Courtney asked if as a City of Arlington resident he will be able to vote in the November election if the Ordinance is on the ballot. Commissioner Gronquist said the State of Oregon is in the process of figuring that out. Judge Shaffer informed he received a correspondence from the State of Oregon Elections Office that Deschutes County has the same question and he imagined that Wasco County will have questions also. Courtney said he hoped he would be allowed to vote since he pays County taxes. Members of the Court said they hope all citizens will be allowed to vote on the six categories. Gilliam County Sheriff Office Deputy Chris Fitzsimmons asked if proceeds from marijuana would be distributed throughout the State. Judge Shaffer said he thought funds would be distributed to all cities and counties who do not opt out, but the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) has not made a final decision. Commissioner Gronquist said that he has not changed his opinion and the decision should be put back out to the voters. Commissioner Weimar said imposing a moratorium until the November election would allow the County and citizens time to take a methodical approach and enable time to research the issues carefully.

**Motion** by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to adopt Ordinance 2015-03 imposing a moratorium and declaring a ban on medical marijuana processing sites, medical marijuana dispensaries, recreational marijuana producers, recreational marijuana processors, recreational marijuana wholesalers, and/or recreational marijuana retailers and

requiring referral of the question to the voters of Gilliam County and declaring a state of emergency. The Ordinance will apply to county jurisdiction outside the boundaries of the incorporated cities and declaring an emergency; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

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 special meeting at 11:21 a.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

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

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

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Weimar, Commissioner

*R. Weinstein/Recorder*