

6-17-2015

Judge Shaffer called the Court to order at 10:12 a.m. The meeting was held at the Gilliam County Courthouse in Condon, OR. Present were Judge Steve Shaffer, Commissioner Mike Weimar and Commissioner Dennis Gronquist. Absent: None.

IN THE MATTER OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: NONE

IN THE MATTER OF COMMUNITY COUNSELING SOLUTIONS: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Director Kimberly Lindsay handed out the new 2015-17 contract between Gilliam County and Community Counseling Solutions (CCS).

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve the 2015-17 contract between Community Counseling Solutions and Gilliam County; after a brief Court discussion of Lindsay and her work in Wheeler County; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

Lindsay presented her semi-annual report. Lindsay used a series of graphs and charts to show how Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc. (GOBHI) funds were spent for the fiscal year through April 30, 2015. Lindsay reported CCS received \$1,302,000.00 from GOBHI for adult and children services in the 4 counties. CCS sent in requests of \$1,600,000.00, so they overspent by \$292,000. GOBHI as a whole underspent during the same period. From a health care provider perspective the ideal ratio would be dollar for dollar, but it's better to overspend than underspend because actual dollars spent becomes the model for setting future rates. The funding model doesn't breakdown need by county or community, need is assessed on a regional or state level. Based on the overall GOBHI model Lindsay would stand to lose .30 cents/per \$1.00 going forward. This would be a significant hardship. Fortunately CCS also has some soft money in the form of grants Lindsay can use to help bridge the gap and some private insurance payments clients can use to help offset the funding deficit. Medicaid remains their largest source of funding.

Lindsay said CCS accomplished 85% of their last strategic plan for 2012-15. CCS has not reached the penetration rates (number of people served per 100 in a community) they had hoped for. Statistically you would like to be serving 5%; for the year they reached 3.7%. One of the goals of their new strategic plan is to have a larger presence in the community. They used to get their data by county and Lindsay noted if she received data by County that data would show the numbers for Gilliam and Wheeler counties would be higher than 3.7%. Morrow County used to be the county that brought the regional penetration rates down and Lindsay informed that was largely due to the stigma associated with formal mental health services in the Hispanic culture. Their new strategic plan will focus on 5 areas over the next 3 years.

1. Attract and Retain Exceptional Talent
2. Communication and Integration of Services
3. Develop Innovative Programs
4. Provide Excellence in Operations
5. Provide Agency and Health Promotion

Lindsay recently conducted a training session for Gilliam and Wheeler law enforcement officers and dispatch that was requested by Sheriff Bettencourt through the Advisory Board which talked

about civil commitments, crisis services, how agencies interact, what happens when we go to NORCOR or to Mid-Columbia Medical Center. Lindsay encouraged members to follow up with Sheriff Bettencourt. The training was well received and rated highly on participants follow up survey. Lindsay is hoping to make the training an annual event. CCS is very pleased with their school based counseling programs. Lindsay sends her reports to Vicki Winters in the Juvenile Department. Lindsay will follow up with Judge Shaffer and Leanne Durfey on the next contract cycle. Judge Shaffer thanked Lindsay and praised the good work she and CCS does for Gilliam County. Lindsay said CCS loves being here.

IN THE MATTER OF NORTH GILLIAM COUNTY SPECIAL PROJECTS GRANT APPLICATIONS

Judge Shaffer informed this year each end of the County received \$47,070.00 for Special Project Grants. The South end of the County had more funds than requests in fiscal 2014-15 and the Court elected to roll those funds over to fiscal 2015-16. Judge Shaffer informed the Court there were more requests in the North for Special Project Grants than the County had funds available. Judge Shaffer noted the largest amount of increase was from the Arlington Community Charter School. Commissioner Weimar said although all of the projects are worthy, there will need to be cuts across the board. Commissioner Gronquist proposed cutting all applicants on a percentage basis. Judge Shaffer pointed out the growing pattern is that Special Grants requests are getting larger all the time, but the County only has so much money available. There was a lengthy Court discussion of possible funding solutions. The Court decided to use the model Commissioner Gronquist proposed. However due to the size of the request, the Arlington Community Charter School award was funded at the same percentage they were awarded in fiscal 2014-15. Judge Shaffer said going forward, if the request trend continues getting larger and larger each cycle, the Court should consider developing an alternative approach to awarding Special Project Grants by percentages. The Special Project Grants were awarded as follows:

Arlington Community Chamber of Commerce: \$2,391.00

Arlington Saddle Club: \$9,100.00

China Creek Golf Course: \$16,981.00

Friends of Gilliam County: \$6,800.00

Arlington Community Schools: \$11,799.00

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The Court decided to table the minutes the June 3rd minutes until the July 1st County Court session.

IN THE MATTER OF WASTE MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Present from Waste Management was Alan Anderson, Kip Eagle, Dean Kampfer and Jackie Lang.

Alan Anderson presented Waste Management's (WM) quarterly report to the County Court.

Columbia Ridge:

Volumes 2015 QTD-2: 325,341 tons, down 1.7% vs 2014

Volumes 2015 YTD: 854,791 tons, up 1/3% vs 2014

Host Fees 2015 QTD-2: \$431,788

Host Fees 2015 YTD: \$1,070,820

Chem Waste Management:

Volume 2015 QTD-2: 11,929 tons, up 17% vs 2014

Volume 2015 YTD: 30,525, down 18.6% vs 2014

Tax 2015 QTD-2: \$14,077

Tax 2015 YTD: \$36,020

Site Updates

Safety: Neither site had any significant injuries. Safety Committee re-focus is to have a site specific sub-committee. Both sites are part of the companywide “100 Days of Summer Safety” program, which will kick off with an employee luncheon on June 24th. WM worked on this last year with “Listening Sessions”. They are using their daily meetings to share information, brainstorm and get feedback. As a thank you to employees and their families, WM will host the company picnic again this year on September 26th in Arlington.

Innovation: The metal recycling project has been completed.

Hiring: WM has moved four temporary personnel to full time and are seeking up to three new positions for Equipment Operator/Laborer.

Community Engagement: WM is stepping up their community engagement efforts to be the best community partner and employer they can be. To date, their involvement has included support for the business community. They have committed support for the Arlington and Condon chambers of commerce with annual donations of \$12,500.00/year for five years. WM presented the 2015 check to the Arlington Chamber at the June 6th Fishing Derby and to the Condon Chamber at their June 11th monthly meeting.

Support for youth education: WM has awarded college scholarships to five local students. The purpose of the scholarships is to recognize graduating seniors from Arlington and Condon high schools for academic achievement as well as leadership and involvement in their schools and the community. This year, they awarded scholarships ranging from \$750.00 to \$3,000.00 to Alyson Wiley, Matney Jamieson, Deana Harris, Brandon Wagenaar and John Greiner. WM has also supported youth recreation, athletics and leadership development: Little League and the Gilliam County Fair.

RUTE Foundation Project: WM thanked the County Court for inviting them to learn more about this opportunity.

Educating the public about their work: WM recently participated in a public education project initiated by toxicology students from Western Washington University. The result is a multi-media presentation explaining the role of hazardous waste landfills in protecting public health and the environment. The short videos are quite informative and WM urged the members of the Court to view and share them. The students also developed a quiz for teachers to use with high school students.

Host agreement: WM's host agreement with Gilliam County expires December 31, 2015. WM is looking to schedule initial discussions.

Dean Kampfer presented the quarterly update with Metro. Long-term management of discards: Metro continues to plan for the expiration of the disposal contract with WM. A key part of new planning is focused on what will happen with discards. The Metro Council and staff are very interested in non-disposal options – processes and technologies that use waste for beneficial purposes. Toward this end, Metro recently issued a Request for Expression of Interest (RFEOI) to Propose Long-Term Options for Solid Waste Management. Eighteen companies from 6 countries responded. WM's response addressed the critical role of a collaboration partner and explained why WM is the company best equipped to serve in that capacity. WM's assessment is that waste technologies show promise, but that there is no technology at a stage of maturity able to handle Metro's volume. Metro staff is now studying responses and will report to Council at a date to be determined. WM will make sure the Court has information about the Council meeting and WM encouraged the members of the County Court to attend.

Judge Shaffer asked if there are any technologies that are beyond garage stage technology and what percentage of interested parties who responded to the RFEOI have technology that is viable to handle Metro's need. Kampfer informed to date there is no new technology to date which is commercially viable and makes economic sense. Metro knows by 2020 there won't be any commercially viable new technology available.

At Metro's, Let's Talk Trash, Metro presented Gilliam County's video for their Let's Talk Trash program. Kampfer informed the video was well received. Dave Alloway from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) spoke to the audience.

Kampfer informed Metro is reorganizing their Solid Waste Department back to be one department. He thinks the internal changes will be good for communications.

Jackie Lang told the Court she thinks it is always a good idea for members of the Court to attend the Metro work sessions when WM presents to the Metro Council. Kampfer informed next one will be near the end of July, but no date has been announced. He noted Metro always takes note of when Gilliam County Court members are in attendance. The last time Commissioner Gronquist attended he was recognized by the Council. Lang said WM has more experience and is better positioned to be able to fulfill Metro's needs than any other company going forward in 2019.

Judge Shaffer asked if Metro has concerns about landfills reaching their capacity. He said he believed by the time landfills reach capacity there will be technology available to address repurposing waste. Kampfer said he thinks Judge Shaffer's thinking is in line with DEQ.

Judge Shaffer brought up the RUTE Foundations project. He asked the group to encourage Waste Management's energy consultants to get in touch with RUTE to explore siting the test tower at Columbia Ridge and tie it into their grid. Judge Shaffer said Brian Skeahan would be the person to work with and he will give them his contact information. Skeahan used to manage Klickitat PUD and has worked in the renewable energy industry for approximately 20 years. Judge Shaffer asked Kip Eagles what he thought about RUTE after the tour they had on June 11th and the potential tie in for educational opportunities. Eagles informed he was impressed and thinks there is good infrastructure in place to tie into educational opportunities. Judge Shaffer described RUTE's

foundation system. Judge Shaffer said the plan is to have an education tie in with both Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC) and STEM education in the secondary schools. Judge Shaffer asked WM to look seriously at available property where RUTE could site a tower and let them hook the tower up to their sub-station. Lang asked if there were funds through the high school program to fund the tower. Judge Shaffer said no, but RUTE has commitments for \$1.75 million toward the \$4.5 million projected cost. The current plan is to have the tower be owned by a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) with maintenance handled by Columbia Gorge Community College and crews from Iberdrola helping out.

Commissioner Gronquist thanked Waste Management for their generous support of the Arlington and Condon Chambers of Commerce. It is a big help in both communities. Judge Shaffer agreed.

IN THE MATTER OF ARDENT MILLS UPDATE

Judge Shaffer informed the Court Ardent Mills were not able to attend so at 11:40 Judge Shaffer cancelled the matter.

IN THE MATTER OF APPOINTMENT TO THE GILLIAM COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Judge Shaffer to appoint Cindy Osterlund to the Gilliam County Library Board for a four year term to expire June, 30 2018; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF THE JOHN DAY RIVER TERRITORY BUDGET REQUEST

Judge Shaffer informed the Commissioners the John Day River Territory (JDRT) budget request came in the form of a letter. Judge Shaffer informed the Court that Rachel Weinstein, Director of Gilliam County Community Development has been involved with the JDRT and various tourism endeavors. Weinstein informed the Court the reason the JDRT is asking Gilliam County for \$4000.00 for fiscal 2015-16 is the Eastern Oregon Visitor Association (EOVA) has asked all four JDRT counties to pay per county year what the other 7 member counties pay to EOVA for marketing. Weinstein informed after attending Travel Oregon (TO) and Eastern Oregon Visitors Association (EOVA) final budget meetings that TO is changing their regional funding model and as a result EOVA will be receiving over three times the funding they have received per year previously. EOVA should be able to help each of the destination marketing organizations (DMOs) within the region. Weinstein recommended the Court approve the funding request. Weinstein asked former Community Development Director, Michelle Colby if she had thoughts she would like to share further insight since she has been involved with the JDRT longer. Colby said Gilliam County has always been a participant with the JDRT and EOVA and thinks EOVA will be able to provide the JDRT with even more support in the future and encouraged the Court to approve the budget request. Commissioner Weimar asked where the money had come from. Judge Shaffer reported that when Michelle Colby held the position she had project development funds and the money for the JDRT came out of there. Judge Shaffer said based on what he has heard, he would recommend approving the budget request.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to approve the 2015-16 budget request from the John Day River Territory in the amount of \$4000.00; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF JUVENILE DIRECTOR REQUEST TO APPLY FOR A JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION GRANT

Vicki Winters, the Juvenile Department Director asked the Court to approve her department's request to apply for a Juvenile Crime Prevention grant. The grant is for juvenile crime prevention and is different than Juvenile Crime Basic grant money the Court had previously approved. That money comes from the Oregon Youth Authority and goes toward paying her salary. There is an annual process for the grant they have to go through each year, which is what is before the Court. Winters informed she is very happy with how these grant funds have been spent in the past. Rebecca Humphries, the schools counselor, has been doing a great job. Humphries will also be doing summer programs at both ends of the county including being available to families for counselling sessions. The Youth summer work experience program is just getting going and kids who participate in the program have stayed out of trouble. Commissioner Weimar asked if she is asking for the same amount of money as last year. Winters informed until this coming year the grant was issued annually, but beginning this cycle it will be awarded on a biennial basis; which is why the grant request amount is \$45,000.00. Judge Shaffer said he thinks the Juvenile Department has done a good job spending those funds and asked Winters how the kids are doing in general in the County. She informed the Court there used to be problems at both ends of the County, but in recent years, since having a counselor in the schools, things have improved dramatically. Judge Shaffer asked how things are going with Julie Erickson. Winters reported Julie Erickson has been in the Juvenile Department for over a year now and has a real compassion for the CASA program and CASA has been well received. Erickson has some great volunteers and she has some new people interested in becoming volunteers and she will be conducting another volunteer training soon.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to apply for the Oregon Youth Council Crime Prevention grant in the amount of \$45,000.00; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF AWARDING THE BID FOR THE ROAD DEPARTMENT WAREHOUSE REPLACEMENT

At the June 3rd Gilliam County Court meeting Jeff Schott with Pillar Consulting Group informed the Court the Road Department Warehouse replacement received two bids. Griffin Construction was the low bidder. Donald W. Thompson provided the second bid. At the June 3rd meeting the Court decided to table the award until after the County heard back from the insurance company. The insurance company will be paying for the building replacement. The County Road Department will be paying for the lean-to. Judge Shaffer noted the lean-to came in lower than expected, but the bid overall came in higher than expected.

Motion by Commission Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve the Griffin Construction bid for construction of the new Road Department Warehouse replacement in the amount of \$548,363.00; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF AWARD BID FOR COURTHOUSE FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PROJECT

There were three bids for the Gilliam County Courthouse Fire Protections System project. JR Merrit was the low bidder. Donald W. Thompson and Griffin Construction submitted the other two bids.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve the JR Merritt bid for Courthouse Fire Protection System project in the amount of \$247,913.00; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF ROADMASTER DEWEY KENNEDY: STAFF REPORT

Dewey Kennedy presented the Road Department quarterly staff report. Spring grading has been completed.

Kennedy has been doing road straightening at Harper's Corner on Baseline. The culvert has been installed and the road department has moved over 40,000 cubic yards and placed as fill.

Tom Shamberger and Chris Doty from Deschutes County came to tour the County's Earthbind paved roads. They are looking for options for their recycled asphalt.

The Road Department attended an 8 hour MSHA refresher training in February in Heppner. Miller and Son's Excavating hosted the training.

The Department did some road work for the City of Lonerock for their new reservoir project.

The 15,000 gallon surplus water tank was moved to Devil's Butte from Shutler Station Industrial Park for fire protection services. The road department leveled the site and re-poured and finished the concrete pad and set and anchored the tank. State Parks and locals are going to do the plumbing for the water.

They have completed the earth work for the South Gilliam County Medical Center new parking area. The main parking lot needs to be chip sealed.

Kennedy has been working with County Planner Michelle Colby on the new System Transportation Plan.

The Crew has been crack sealing whenever the weather permits and they have available time.

The Crew completed the first phase of chip seal last week. They chipped Cottonwood, Richmond, part of Ferry Canyon, the east end of Lonerock, Lost Valley, Clem, Pennington, Scott Canyon, the west end of Mikkalo, Middle Rock Creek and the west end of Rattlesnake. They are sweeping and will fog seal next week.

In July the Crew will patch Cedar Springs and chip seal it and will do Rhea Road in August. Morrow County will do our road stripping sometime in September.

The Road Department has lost two employees. Ron Markus has retired and John Girvin has taken a job with the Grant County Road Department so there are two positions to fill. Kennedy told the Court he would like to conduct interviews as soon as possible. Judge Shaffer asked if Ron Marcus thinks Brad Carnine is ready to become the Head Crusher. Kennedy said Marcus thinks Carnine is ready to step up after 13 years to Head Crusher. Carnine has already started running the crusher by himself and Marcus will be available if there are problems. Carnine has also had additional training. The members of the Court decided the interviews should be conducted by the Road Master and the Road Commissioner and then the Court can meet and decide what the new salaries should be. The Court decided to discuss salaries in Executive Session.

Commissioner Gronquist asked about Cedar Springs. Kennedy informed they are waiting on their hot mix supplier, Granite Construction. The Crew will put up signs and anticipates starting the project after the Fourth of July.

Columbia Basin has filed two applications for a new right of way. One is on Tree Lane Crossing and the other is on Lower Eight Mile. Kennedy informed Columbia Basin Electric Co-op is doing some updating on the power lines up and down Eight Mile. About 75% of the right-of-way applications they receive are from Columbia Basin for work on power lines. Very few projects have any impact on the County's road system. Occasionally there will be a farmer who wants to run a new waterline under the road and in those instances Kennedy will mark the location on a map and provide a load of gravel so the entire ditch is compacted with gravel and is much easier to repair. Judge Shaffer asked the Court how they would like to deal with right-of-way issues going forward. Commissioner Weimar asked if right-of-way applications needed to go through the Planning Department. After a brief Court discussion it was decided all future right of way applications should go to Terri Carnine and Michelle Colby for review and then be presented to the Court.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve the two applications for activities in the County right-of-way filed by Columbia Basin Electric, Tree Lane Crossing and Lower Eight Mile Crossing; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN

Planner Michelle Colby presented the Transportation System Plan (TSP) that is being developed. Colby noted Commissioner Weimar has been very involved in attending TSP meetings. There will be one last meeting with the consultants on July 8th, one in Condon and one in Arlington ahead of when the plan will be presented to the Court for approval. Colby would like to set the meeting up as a joint work session. The presentation in Condon meeting will be more in depth. Colby asked the Court if they would like the meetings be advertised as formal work sessions. Commissioner Gronquist and Judge Shaffer said they trust Commissioner Weimar so if he is able to attend one of the meetings there won't be a need for a formal work session. Judge Shaffer asked Dewey Kennedy if the County Transportation Plan has any overlap with the ODOT Region 4 Strategic Transportation Investment Plan (STIP) plan. Kennedy and Colby informed the Plan does not. The current transportation plan expires on June 30th, Colby advised the Court approve an amendment to extend the current Transportation Plan until October 30, 2015.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to extend the Transportation Growth Management Grant Agreement #30187, the Transportation System Plan until October 30, 2015; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF THE WEBSITE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

Michelle Colby presented the County Website Maintenance renewal contract with Elizabeth Farrar. The current contract is set to expire on June 30th. Colby advised the Court to approve the 2015 web maintenance agreement with Liz Farrar. The terms of the contract will remain the same as they were in fiscal 2015-16.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to approve the 2015-16 County Website Maintenance contract with Elizabeth Farrar; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IGA CONTRACT

Michelle Colby informed the Court there an intergovernmental agreement with the State Department of Energy which is set to expire on June 30, 2015. The Court decided to postpone making a decision on the contract until the next County Court meeting on July 1st after the agreement has gone through a review by legal counsel.

IN THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE

Rena Kennedy's retirement party will be held at the Roundup Grill on June 26th at 5:30 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF LIBRARY HOURS

The Court revisited a request from Library Board Chair Kim Farrar to increase the Librarian hours from part time to full time. Judge Shaffer informed he had a lengthy discussion with Kim Farrar on the subject. Judge Shaffer informed Farrar his concern is the cost to the County would be \$40,000.00 and produce only 4 more hours a week open to the public. Judge Shaffer told Farrar that in order to be open 4 more hours a week the County could increase the Youth Librarian's hours to 19.5 hours or hire an additional part time employee cover those hours and save approximately half of the \$40,000.00. Farrar said her concern was creating full time jobs. Commissioner Gronquist said that only makes sense if it's a good idea and makes good financial sense for the County. Judge Shaffer suggested to Farrar she give the Commissioners a call to get their opinions. The Court agreed they need to make a decision at the next County Court meeting on July 1st.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BASKETBALL CAMP

The Court reviewed an email received from Condon/Wheeler Girls Varsity Basketball Coach, Kevin Gramson for a summer basketball camp at the Condon Grade School Play Shed and at the Condon High School this summer. Gramson requested \$400.00 to offset the cost of the camp. Judge Shaffer suggested the Court has a Youth Activities line item the \$400.00 could be drawn from. Judge Shaffer said he would entertain a motion to take the \$400.00 out of Court's Youth Activities line item.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve the funds for the Youth Basketball Camp at the Condon High School and Grade School in the amount of \$400.00; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ARLINGTON TV COOPERATIVE DISCUSSION OF THEIR FIBER STRATEGIC PLAN

Arlington TV Co-op Board Chair Alan Cunningham and the Port of Arlington Economic Development Officer Peter Mitchell were present. Alan Cunningham informed the Co-op Board has a new proposal and asked the Court to consider granting funds to the Hub/Head House portion of their project. Cunningham said the Co-op would find grants and take out loans to fund the retail portion of their project. The preliminary plans for the Hub show the Hub would have enough space

to house necessary equipment and still have space left over the Co-op could rent out as retail office space. They would have two full time Arlington TV Co-op employees. The Co-op asked the Court for \$776,000.00 which would include construction of the head house, one year of operating expenses, hardware and equipment for the wholesale portion of the project, training for Co-op employees, fiber to essential services in Arlington – the Port, City, Fire, Police, Columbia Hills Manor and ambulance - and the cost of regular TV operations for one year. Cunningham said the Co-op has 6 or 7 months of operating money left the Port of Arlington had given them and is confident within 2 years they will be cash flow positive. Peter Mitchell asked if the Court had received the letter Rob Myers had written in support of the Co-op project. Mitchell said the Mayor of Arlington has also written a letter of support on behalf of the City Council. Cunningham said they also have letters of support from the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Bank of Eastern Oregon. Judge Shaffer noted there is a fiber optic Hub located in Condon which is owned by Frontier Telenet that Gilliam County has 25 ownership. Judge Shaffer suggested the Co-op use that Hub to house their equipment and send the data back to Arlington. Frontier Telenet created the Hub in Condon for the 911 Regional Call Center. Cunningham said the problem with that approach is they can only do data transmission if the Hub is in Condon. The Co-op needs the Hub to be in Arlington for television transmission. Cunningham said if Frontier Telenet wants to use their Hub they would be welcome to. Judge Shaffer suggested bringing Robert Waltenburg, Co- Superintendent of the North Central ESD into the discussion since he is very knowledgeable and understands the technology top to bottom and would be helpful in explaining technology in layman's terms. The North Central ESD is one of the partners in Frontier Telenet. Like Gilliam County, they have a 25% share. J & N Cable has put in the same ask of the North Central ESD that the Arlington TV Co-op has put to the County, only without asking to the ESD to fund their project. Frontier has budgeted \$475,000 for fiscal 2015-16 to upgrade the Hub for microwave. However, if the Hub were to be converted for fiber, the cost would be about half that amount which is why the North Central ESD is so interested in bringing fiber optic to Condon. There was a lengthy Court discussion of possibilities and scenarios of fiber options within Gilliam County. The Court decided to invite Robert Waltenburg to the July 15th County Court meeting to discuss fiber with the Court.

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL UNION #3326 FROM 7-1-2015 – 6-30-2018

Judge Shaffer informed the Court the employee union has tentatively approved the Union contract with Gilliam County.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to approve the agreement as presented between Gilliam County and Local Union #3326 from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF FY 2015-16 SALARY SCHEDULES

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to approve the 2015-16 salary schedules and the addition of recognition pay; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **Motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF THE MEAL SITE CONTRACTS WITH MID-COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Court decided to table this issue until the next County Court meeting, July 1st in Condon when they can get some input from Family Services Director Teddy Fennern.

IN THE MATTER OF NEXT MEETING

The next Gilliam County Court meeting will be held on June 17, 2015 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and will be held at the Gilliam County Courthouse, Condon, OR.

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 4:37 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____
Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____
Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By _____
Mike Weimar, Commissioner *R. Weinstein/Recorder*