

8-19-15

Judge Shaffer called the regular Gilliam County Court meeting to order at 10:00 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 EXECUTIVE SESSION ORS 192.660 2(e) (h)

Judge Shaffer declared the meeting to be in Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 2 (e) (h) real property transactions and legal counsel. Separate minutes were taken and will be filed in the office of the County Clerk.

IN THE MATTER OF CULTURAL COALITION: STAFFING DISCUSSION

Gilliam County Cultural Coalition (CC) Board Member Boyd Harris was present to discuss the future of the Cultural Coalition. Harris informed that former Community Development Director Michelle Colby for the past 10 years was the glue that kept the CC going by doing all of their administrative work. The Court decided earlier this year administration for the CC was taking up too much of Community Development staff time. Harris informed the CC has leveraged \$60,000.00 into Gilliam County over the past ten years for projects ranging from rodeos to art shows. On behalf of the CC Harris asked the Court for \$6000.00 to fund a part time staff person to assume administrative duties. Harris proposed Gilliam County remain the fiscal agent for CC grant funds. There was a brief Court discussion of whether or not the Court should fund the request. Members of the Court agreed the CC has done a good job funding projects at both ends of the County and will make a decision on the funding request at the next County Court meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT FOR CONDON SWIMMING POOL

City of Condon Administrator Kathryn Greiner was present to discuss renewal of City of Condon/Gilliam County intergovernmental agreement for funding and operation of the Condon Swimming Pool. Greiner is requesting funding for one year rather than for the customary biennium due to significant changes in pool operations next summer. She

will have a better idea of funding needs next year at this time. Greiner informed the Condon School will be participating in pool operations for the first time in a number of years. They will likely be responsible for the perimeter fence and will likely apply for a Special Projects grant to fund repairs.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve renewal of the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Condon and Gilliam County for funding and operations of the Condon Swimming Pool for one year in the amount up to \$50,000.00; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF COLUMBIA HILLS MANOR BOARD MEMBERS UPDATE

Columbia Hills Manor Board Members Nancy Proctor and Alcenia Wright were present to give the Court an update on their Senior Center/Community Center project. Proctor announced they have an accepted offer to purchase two lots from the Columbia River RV and Mobile Home Park in the amount of \$45,000.00. They presented an aerial map showing the two lots and how they adjoin China Creek Golf Course. To complete the purchase the Board asked the Court for approval to spend \$53,100.00 of their grant for this purchase. This amount includes the price of the two lots, \$2,800.00 for a survey for the lot line adjustment and the real estate commission. There was a brief Court discussion of the request. Commissioner Gronquist stated he felt it would be a good idea to try and recruit a few additional Board Members. Proctor said she has reached out to Commissioner Diane Wetherell and Mayor Bufton for suggestions. Commissioner Gronquist said he would make a motion to approve the \$53,100.00, but the CHM Board will need to get approval from the Court for any additional expenditures.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to approve Columbia Hills Manor expending \$53,100.00 of their previously approved grant to purchase the two lots, the land survey and the real estate commission; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF OREGON MARIJUANA LEGISLATION

Gilliam County Sheriff Gary Bettencourt was present to discuss possible County restrictions on marijuana in response to recent legalization. Gilliam County voted down Measure 91 by over 55% so under Senate Bill 3400 the County can impose restrictions on all commercial marijuana operations putting them to a vote. Bettencourt said he is trying to stay open minded since Measure 91 is now law and he understands there are revenue implications for the County. Judge Shaffer said he thinks that any revenue from marijuana would be minimal. Bettencourt said his concern is for any associated crime that might come into the County due to commercial marijuana activity. Bettencourt gave members of the Court a report from the State of Arizona on Responsible Drug Policy.

Commissioner Gronquist said he is also open minded about the new marijuana law, but thinks there will ultimately be some restrictions put in place. Judge Shaffer said he thinks there should be public discussion at both ends of the County before imposing restrictions. Bettencourt has observed people in Arlington are more inclined than people in Condon to approve marijuana operations. However, he said he believes Arlington would ultimately vote no on allowing a dispensary. The Court decided to resume the discussion in September.

IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE TO FOUR RIVERS EARLY LEARNING HUB

Judge Shaffer asked the Commissioners to appoint Gilliam County Family Services Director Teddy Fennern as Gilliam County's representative to the Four Rivers Early Learning Hub. There was a brief Court discussion of why Fennern would be a good choice.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to appoint Gilliam County Family Services Director Teddy Fennern for one year as the County representative to the Four Rivers Early Hub retroactive to July 1, 2015 until June 30, 2016; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF COLUMBIA RIDGE LANDFILL CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Judge Shaffer informed that Waste Management would like to replace the current Citizens Advisory Board Representative Bill Carr with Bill Mullholland, Kip Eagles and Alan Anderson.

Motion by Commissioner Gronquist, seconded by Commissioner Weimar to accept the Waste Management request to replace Columbia Ridge Landfill Citizens Advisory Committee Representative Bill Carr with Alan Anderson, Columbia Ridge Landfill and Chem Waste Management Sr. District Manager, Bob Mulholland, Chem Waste Management District Manager, and Kip Eagles, Columbia Ridge District Manager; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF NEW ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN JOB DESCRIPTION DRAFT

The Court reviewed draft job description for the new Assistant Librarian position as submitted by the Library Board. It was noted the job description is very detailed.

Leanne Durfey said Library Board Chair Kim Farrar has asked if a member of the Court would like to be on the Selection Committee. It was consensus of the Court that the Court will not be represented on the Selection Committee.

Motion by Commissioner Weimar, seconded by Commissioner Gronquist to approve the draft job description for the new Assistant Librarian; Shaffer – Yes; Gronquist – Yes; Weimar – Yes; **motion carried.**

IN THE MATTER OF NEW HIRE JOB DESCRIPTION DRAFT

Judge Shaffer asked the Commissioners if they had had a chance to read the draft of the job description for the new proposed Human Resources/Risk Management position. Commissioner Gronquist said he had not had a chance to read the draft. Judge Shaffer said he and Leanne Durfey will be refining the job description and will re-distribute the draft upon completion.

IN THE MATTER OF COURT MEMBER REPORTS

Commissioner Gronquist and Commissioner Weimar informed they had nothing new to report.

Judge Shaffer reported he attended the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) Summer Conference. The main topics of discussion were communication and collaboration between Oregon counties regarding both traditional and social media. Judge Shaffer learned many counties are adding Public Information Officers (PIO) as an interface with the public and media outlets. Wasco has used their PIO to respond to issues regarding the Google campus. Senator Wyden was at the conference to give a speech on his Eastside Forest Bill. Judge Shaffer said the Conference was also a good networking opportunity.

Judge Shaffer informed he attended a meeting with Frontier Telenet to discuss the fiber build. Sherman County Judge Thompson and Wheeler County Judge Perry were also at the meeting. Frontier Telenet is trying to decide how they want to proceed on the fiber build. What data speeds do they want and what the investment to return ratio will be. Frontier has decided that they don't want to own the fiber backbone because they are not equipped to maintain it. Frontier is not interested in being the retail Internet Service Provider (ISP). Frontier Telenet Manager Rob Meyer is drafting a document for members of the Court to review outlining various options in order to get input from the Court.

Judge Shaffer informed he will be attending a North Oregon Regional Correctional Facilities (NORCOR) meeting on August 20th and will have a report for the Court at the next Court meeting.

Judge Shaffer informed the Commissioners he and Leanne Durfey discussed with County Court Staff individually regarding the three job openings, vacant and proposed, the County has. Judge Shaffer and Durfey will be meeting to discuss the staff input. Durfey said a consideration is to move the Custodian position to a contracted position. Commissioner Gronquist questioned why it was necessary to discuss the vacant positions with staff. There was a brief discussion of why Judge Shaffer and Durfey elected to do so. Judge Shaffer said it was good for employee moral since all County employees are responsible for multiple jobs within their job descriptions. There was also a discussion of how the County has actually eliminated jobs over the past few years as well as looking at creating a new Human Resources/Risk Management position. The Grain Lab Manager and Administrative Assistant in the Treasurer's office were not replaced. Family Services staffing was reduced from three to two following employee retirement.

Commissioner Gronquist expressed frustration at not being able to get a dollar value for the remaining cost to the County for the Grain Lab if they decide to close it. Members of the Court noted they might not be able to find what the cost would be in advance of closing the Lab.

IN THE MATTER OF SEPTEMBER COURT MEETINGS

Members of the Court discussed the September meeting schedule. Judge Shaffer said he will have to leave the Courthouse by 1:00 pm on September 2nd. Members decided to start the September 2nd Court meeting an hour early at 9:00 am. The second September Court Meeting will be September 16, 2015 in Arlington. The September 16th meeting will include a public discussion on the InEnTec Columbia Ridge LLC Conditional Use Permit application that has been filed with the County. County legal counsel Tim Ramis will be in attendance at the Hearing.

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEXT COURT MEETING

The next Gilliam County Court meeting will be held on September 2, 2015 beginning at 9:00 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 1:53 p.m.

GILLIAM COUNTY COURT

By _____

Steve Shaffer, Judge

By _____

Dennis Gronquist, Commissioner

By _____

Mike Weimar, Commissioner

R. Weinstein/Recorder