

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES
January 10, 2024

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. in the County Court Office of the Malheur County Courthouse with Commissioner Ron Jacobs and Commissioner Jim Mendiola present. Members of the media, public, and staff had the opportunity to join the meeting electronically or in-person. Present in the meeting room was Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board and emailed to the Argus Observer, Malheur Enterprise, and those persons who have requested notice. The meeting was audio recorded. The agenda is recorded as instrument # 2024-82

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Travis Johnson updated the Court on a grant application through Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Board. Grant funding in the amount of \$428,000 was approved; funding is for two servers for the Sheriff's Office to support the Motorola software project as well as some equipment for Nyssa and Ontario police departments. Additional grants will be explored for opportunities to improve technology and efficiencies (such as additional in-car cameras).

Sheriff Johnson also requested funding for a body scanner for the jail. A high-quality body scanner is available that was previously used in the state of Washington in a juvenile facility (approximately two years old); purchase price is \$150,000, which includes an onsite four-year warranty and preventative maintenance. There is a need for a body scanner in the jail. After discussion, Commissioner Mendiola moved to authorize the purchase of the body scanner. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

BDO ZONE RATING- GRANT APPLICATION

Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski discussed with the Court applying for a Rural Development grant to gather data and build a marketing plan if it is determined that there is enough feed stock in the County for biofuels. A high enough BDO (Bioeconomy Development Opportunity) Zone rating would allow the County to market itself to biofuel companies. Consensus of the Court was for Mr. Rembowski to apply for the grant.

CROSSING PERMIT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Crossing Permit #38-23 to Idaho Power Company for maintenance on Airport Road #1100; Sand Hollow Road #660; Bench Road #1010; Greenfield Road #1009; Hope Road #569; and Mecham Road #1006. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The original permit will be kept on file at the Road Department.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Court Minutes of January 3, 2024 as written. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Accounts Payable Register for December 2023. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ROAD USE AGREEMENT - IDAHO POWER

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Malheur County Road Use Agreement between Malheur County, Nyssa Rural Road Assessment District No. 2 and Idaho Power Company. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The County and Nyssa Road District have jurisdiction over Malheur County Roads located within their boundaries and Idaho Power may utilize Malheur County Roads during construction of a transmission line project.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Judge Joyce adjourned the meeting.