

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES
May 20, 2026

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 10:15 a.m. with Commissioner Ron Jacobs and Commissioner Jim Mendiola present. Judge Joyce led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the media, public and staff had the opportunity to join the meeting electronically or in person. Present in the meeting room was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board, and emailed to the Argus Observer and those persons who have requested notice. The agenda is recorded as instrument # 2026-1825

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Crossing Permit #24-26 to Reese Goodrich/ADB for work on Gem Avenue #865; and Permit #25-26 to Romans Precision Irrigation for work on Willow Creek Road #502. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Special Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2026 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Vote: JM/RJ/DJ in favor. Approved.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Court Minutes of May 13, 2026 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Vote: JM/RJ/DJ in favor. Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Joyce asked for comments from the public. No public comments were received.

WORK SESSION – DRAFT MALHEUR COUNTY TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Krista Purser and Nick Foster from the consulting firm Kittelson & Associates; and MCOA&CS (Malheur Council on Aging and Community Services) Transportation Manager Brittany White held a work session with the Court regarding the draft Malheur County Transit Development Strategy. Krista Purser led the work session. The plan identifies ways to make transit connections better both within and outside the county. ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) requires projects be in an adopted plan to receive funding. A Technical Advisory Committee provided oversight in development of the plan. The Transit Development Strategy is different than the 5-

year Coordinated Plan. The existing transit service is concentrated in the cities. Improved access for northern Ontario residents was an identified recommendation. Interest was identified in increasing the frequency of the Ontario – Nyssa commuter route; and a separate more direct route to Vale. Data shows a need for more connections in Ontario with transfer opportunities to other regional transit services.

Non-service strategies were also identified such as expanding the youth transit pass program, bus stop improvements, and real-time trip tracking.

The finalized plan will need to be adopted by the Court.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.