

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

June 3, 2026

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Jim Mendiola present. Commissioner Ron Jacobs was absent. 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 and 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 and those persons who have requested notice. The agenda is recorded as instrument # 2026-1950

CROSSING PERMITS

Judge Joyce moved to approve the following Crossing Permits to Idaho Power for maintenance at locations on the following roads: Permit #55-26 for Foothill Drive #869; Permit #56-26 for Canyon Three Road #1030; Permit #57-26 for Boat Landing Road #915; Permit #58-26 for Rolland Road #965. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

Vote: DJ/JM in favor. Approved.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Court Minutes of May 27, 2026 as written. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed.

Vote: JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

AMENDMENT – IGA #185822

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Eighth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2025-2027 Intergovernmental Agreement #185822 for the Financing of Public Health Services. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. Program Element 82-01 Rural Health Transformation Program – LPHA (Local Public Health Authority) Transformation is added and funding is awarded. See instrument #2026-2071.

Vote: JM/DJ in favor. Approved

OWYHEE BASIN STEWARDSHIP COALITION (OBSC)

Owyhee Basin Stewardship Coalition member Lynn Findley met with the Court. Mr. Findley explained that Senator Wyden's bill now includes a new version of maps that are acceptable to OBSC; and OBSC supports the bill. The new version of maps includes the cherry stem roads that is acceptable.

Paramount Gold (Grassy Mountain Mine) is working diligently with ODFW (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) on the sage grouse matter and DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) on residual cyanide measurements.

Eagle Nuclear Energy is working to obtain permits for additional core drilling (Aurora uranium exploration project) in the McDermitt area.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Mendiola moved to adjourn the meeting. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed.

Vote: JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

Clerk's Note: On December 31, 2025, and Pursuant to Section 2.2 of the Contract between Malheur County and Western Rivers Conservancy, (instrument # 2024-1235) Malheur County received from Western Rivers Conservancy (WRC) 90-day Notice of Conveyance setting forth notice that WRC intends to transfer ownership of Disaster Peak Ranch to Oregon Desert Land Trust (ODLT) in 2026. See instrument # 2026-1995 for the Notice of Conveyance. On June 6, 2026, the Statutory Warranty Deed between Western Rivers Conservancy and Oregon Desert Land Trust was recorded as instrument # 2026-1978 and the Assignment and Assumption of Contract was recorded as instrument # 2026-1979.