

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

August 6, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. 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 were Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois, Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski, and public member Scott Nichols. 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 # 2025-2628

TREASURE VALLEY PARAMEDICS (TVP) - QUARTERLY UPDATE

TVP, Inc. President Steve Patterson and Vice-President Heather Land met with the Court and provided a quarterly update per the terms of the personal services contract amendment. TVP has encountered some staffing challenges again; several staff have relocated out of state. TVP is utilizing a number of part-time staff as many agencies are sharing paramedics. Staffing challenges are causing TVP to turn down some calls for transfers which impacts TVP financially. Equipment challenges include the loss of two vehicle engines and a transmission. The Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) tax is a substantial amount of money (5% tax on revenue). The use of the chase car is still working well.

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Crossing Permit 95-25 to Idaho Power for installation of a pole on Mesquite Road #946; and the following Crossing Permits to Farmers Mutual Telephone Company (FMTTC): Permit 96-25 for Hop Road #884; Permit 97-25 for Foothill Drive #869; Permit 98-25 for E Island Road #870; Permit 99-25 for Community Road #932; Permit 100-25 for Claggett Lane #890; Permit 101-25 for Cedar Road #945; Permit 102-25 for Butler Blvd #887; Permit 103-25 for Alameda Drive #863; Permit 104-25 for Hyline Road #911; Permit 105-25 for Jacobsen Gulch Road #771; Permit 106-25 for King Avenue #866; Permit 107-25 for Lincoln Drive #903; Permit 108-25 for Malheur Drive #896; Permit 109-25 for Morgan Avenue #926; Permit 110-25 for NW 10th Avenue #1541; Permit 111-25 for NW 4th Avenue #890; Permit 112-25 for NW 5th Avenue #1536; Permit 113-25 for NW 6th Avenue #1537; Permit 114-25 for NW 7th Avenue #1538; Permit 115-25 for Onion Avenue #1102; Permit 116-25 for Ontario Heights Road #761; Permit 117-25 for NW 11th Avenue #1542; Permit 118-25 for NW 31st Street #1539; Permit 119-25 for NW 32nd Street #1540; Permit 120-25 for NW 34th Street #1541; Permit 121-25 for Pioneer Road #917; Permit 122-25 for Railroad Avenue #874; Permit 123-25 for Sage Road #933; Permit 124-25 for SE 18th Avenue #876; Permit 125-25 for SE 2nd Street #871; Permit 126-25 for SE 6th Street #877; Permit 127-25 for Siphon Drive #646; Permit 128-25 for Sugar Avenue #889; Permit 129-25 for SW 12th Avenue #3151; Permit 130-25 for SW 13th Avenue #3152; Permit 131-25 for SW 36th Street #537; Permit 132-25 for SW 4th Street #940; Permit 133-25 for SW 4th Avenue #888; Permit 134-25 for Vista Drive #977; and Permit 135-25 for W Island Road

#3026. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Court Minutes of July 23, 2025 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VALE CITY PROPERTY

The Court again discussed purchase of the old Vale city hall and fire hall properties. Commissioner Jacobs expressed support for purchasing the old city hall property and noted that Circuit Court needs additional space for another judge and courtroom and the courthouse facility is full. Purchasing the property may potentially put the county in a better position to receive funding from the state to construct a new building; and meanwhile, the County could utilize the building and also possibly rent out some of its space. The old fire hall building could be demolished and utilized for parking; there are concerns regarding the cost of demolition.

Commissioner Mendiola noted the location of the old city hall is extremely convenient as it is across the street from the courthouse and sheriff's office and expressed support for the purchase. Commissioner Mendiola suggested a demolition company may be able to salvage a lot of the material in the old fire hall property and perhaps the demolition costs would not be too high. Mr. Rembowski suggested that grants could be explored to perhaps assist with the demolition costs.

Commissioner Jacobs moved to authorize an offer to the City of Vale in the amount of \$225,000 for the purchase of both properties. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

FUND TRANSFERS RESOLUTION

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution No. R25-21: In the Matter of Fund Transfers Under Local Budget Law ORS (Oregon Revised Statutes) 294.463. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The resolution accounts for end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year necessary budget transfers. See instrument # 2025-2629

AMENDMENT – VITTO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve First Amendment to Employment Agreement with Maverick Vitto, Malheur County Deputy District Attorney, Recorded with the Malheur County Clerk on July 10, 2024 as Instrument Number 2024-1954. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The agreement is extended to October 31, 2025. See instrument # 2025-2630

FUND TRANSFERS RESOLUTION - EXTENSION SERVICE DISTRICT

Acting as the governing body of the Malheur County Agricultural Educational Extension Service District, Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution No. R25-24: In the Matter of Fund Transfers Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.463. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the

motion passed unanimously. The resolution accounts for end of the 2024-2025 fiscal year necessary budget transfers. See instrument # 2025-2631

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT – STANTON

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Temporary Employment Agreement for Part Time Bully Creek Fee Collector with Janice Stanton. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The agreement terminates November 15, 2025. See instrument # 2025-2632.

IGA – OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY CHOICE MODEL SERVICES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve State of Oregon Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Agreement Number PO-44300-00050116. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The IGA is for Choice Model Services funding from July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 (Service ID Code: MHS 06). A contract will be entered into with Lifeways to provide the services. See instrument # 2025-2634.

EASTERN OREGON COUNTIES ASSOCIATION (EOCA) - DUES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to authorize payment of EOCA membership dues for fiscal year 2025/2026 in the amount of \$12,500. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – GRASSY MOUNTAIN MINE

Mr. Rembowski explained he recently met with a consultant for Paramount Gold and that a public comment period was opening for the Grassy Mountain Mine EIS. Commissioner Jacobs moved to submit a letter of support for the Grassy Mountain Mine project. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # 2025-2633.

CONTRACT – LIFEWAYS/CDDP

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Personal Service Contract (Subcontract) between Lifeways, Inc. and Malheur County for Community Developmental Disabilities Program Services (CDDP). Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Lifeways will assume, perform and be responsible for all duties and obligations to be performed by the County as a CDDP under Intergovernmental Agreement 100000-00047116.

CONTRACT – LIFEWAYS/CHOICE MODEL SERVICES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Personal Service Contract (Subcontract) between Lifeways, Inc. and Malheur County to Implement Intergovernmental Agreement PO-44300-00050116 between County and State of Oregon; Provide Services and Receive Financing for Choice Model Services. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Lifeways will assume, perform and be responsible for all duties and obligations to be performed by the County under Intergovernmental Agreement PO 44300-00050116. See instrument # 2025-2637

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Joyce asked for comments from the public; no public comments were received.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

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