

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES
September 30, 2026

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. Judge Joyce led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members of the media, public and staff were able to attend the meeting in person or electronically. Present in the meeting room was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, the Courthouse bulletin board, and emailed to the Argus Observer and all persons who requested notice. The agenda is recorded as instrument # 2026-3226

ONTARIO SANITARY SERVICE/WASTE CONNECTIONS - PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

Ontario Sanitary Service District Manager Travis Williams met with the Court and discussed a proposed rate increase of 3%. Payette County is increasing the disposal rates at Clay Peak Landfill October 1, 2026. The current rate at Clay Peak is \$25/ton; effective October 1, 2026 the rate will be \$32.50/ton. (Clay Peak Landfill is where Ontario Sanitary Service disposes of waste it collects in Malheur County.) The Court requested a hearing to take public comment on the proposed rate increase be scheduled.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Court Minutes of September 23, 2026 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

AMENDMENT – IGA #185822

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Tenth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2025-2027 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Financing of Public Health Services, Agreement # 185822. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Financial Assistance Award is amended. A copy will be returned for recording. See instrument # 2026-3276

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

5611 WILLIS STREET

An offer was received to purchase 5611 Willis Street, Brogan (Ref # 5746). The property is currently listed with Chad Currey/Malheur Realty for \$73,000. The offer to purchase is for \$50,000. The offer is contingent upon the sale of the buyer's home in Nampa with a closing date of October 23, 2026. The buyer is working with a realtor, understands that the property is sold "as is", and is willing to put down \$500 earnest money at AmeriTitle. The offer expired on September 25, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Jacobs moved to accept the offer of \$50,000 and to counteroffer closing at the Courthouse as a title company is not necessary and that closing must occur no later than October 28, 2026. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Judge Joyce will sign the counteroffer.

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

IGA WITH OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Department of Agriculture, Agreement No. ODA-4742-IG for the Palmer Amaranth Response project. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Palmer Amaranth was first detected in Malheur County in 2023. In 2025 efforts were made to eliminate the spread of the plant. The County Weed Department will continue the project work. Funding is not to exceed \$25,000; the IGA terminates December 31, 2028. A copy will be returned for recording.

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

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN; EVACUATION PLAN

Emergency Services Coordinator Lieutenant Rich Harriman met with the Court and reviewed a proposed Evacuation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to establish procedures for the safe and efficient evacuation of residents and visitors in Malheur County during emergencies that threaten life, property, or the environment. The Evacuation Plan will be included in the County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve the Evacuation Plan and incorporate the Plan into the County Emergency Operations Plan. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # 2026-3227

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

Lieutenant Harriman also presented the updated Malheur County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Lt. Harriman read the resolution adopting the updated EOP. The last update to the EOP was in 2022. Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution R26-31: In the Matter of: Resolution Adopting the Updated Emergency Operations Plan. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # 2026-3228

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Jacobs noted that the Skilled Trades Fair held in Ontario last week was very well attended by middle and high school students. Commissioner Jacobs expressed appreciation to those instrumental in hosting the event.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

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

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