

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

December 17, 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 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 # 2025-4045

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Court Minutes of December 10, 2025 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

TAYLOR GRAZING ADVISORY BOARD

Commissioner Jacobs moved to appoint Barry Wilkinson to the Taylor Grazing Advisory Board. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (Barry Wilkinson replaces Ralph Fillmore on the board.)

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution R25-34: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS (Oregon Revised Statutes) 294.471. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The purpose of the supplemental budget is to allocate holdover funds from the Specialty Court grant in the District Attorney's budget – these funds are to be used to cover a portion of two staff at Community Corrections; to allocate grant funds in the Jail budget from the Criminal Justice Commission for Jail-based Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (JMOUD) grant – these funds are to be used as stated in the grant agreement; and to allocate holdover funds from the Specialty Court grant in the Community Corrections budget – these funds are to be used to cover a portion of two staff at Community Corrections. See instrument # 2025-4046

County Counsel Stephanie Williams joined the meeting.

IGA FOR FLOODPLAIN SERVICES – CITY OF ONTARIO

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Flood Hazard Management for Malheur County, Including the Cities of Jordan Valley and Adrian with the City of Ontario. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The City will act as the Floodplain Administrator for the County, including the Cities of Adrian and Jordan Valley who are under contract with the County, while the County does not have a Planning Director. The Court may need to revisit its agreement to provide floodplain management services with the Cities of Jordan Valley and Adrian.

UPDATED COUNTY POLICY 119

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve updated County Policy 119 – Preference to State Servicemembers, Former State Servicemembers and Veterans. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Effective January 1, 2026, state Preference law includes Oregon National Guard. See instrument # 2025-4047

VARIOUS DOCUMENTS – TREASURE VALLEY RELOAD CENTER (MCDC; JAGUAR TRANSPORT HOLDINGS(JTH))

Mr. Rembowski explained that Malheur County Development Corporation (MCDC) held a board meeting yesterday and approved execution of a Lease and Operating Agreement with Wyoming Colorado Railroad, Inc. (Jaguar). Ms. Williams reviewed various associated documents with the Court.

Commissioner Mendiola moved to authorize Judge Joyce to sign the Lease and Operating Agreement between Wyoming Colorado Railroad, Inc., and Malheur County Development Corporation and Malheur County. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously. It is expected that the final document may be ready on Friday. See instrument #2025-4176

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Transition Agreement with Malheur County Development Corporation. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The segregated account will be at Columbia Bank or the Local Government Investment Pool.

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Memorandum of Lease with Wyoming Colorado Railroad Inc. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Memorandum of Lease will be recorded in the real property records. MCDC will also execute and record a memorandum of lease.

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve First Amendment to Declaration of Restrictive Covenants Recorded with the Malheur County Clerk as Instrument Number 2021-4833. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Article 7 entitled “Performance Time” of the Restrictive Covenants is removed. See instrument #2025-4067

Commissioner Mendiola moved to authorize Judge Joyce to sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) when it is finalized. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (If the PSA is not finalized before the end of 2025 the agreement will be brought to the Court.)

Commissioner Jacobs moved to express appreciation to County staff and the MCDC board and executive director for their efforts with this project. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

AUDIT

Ms. DuBois noted the audit is complete and will be presented to the Court January 14, 2026.

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.

** Intergovernmental Agreement #6944 with Department of Corrections for Measure 57 (M57) funding recorded as instrument # 2025-4086. Expires June 30, 2027