

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

January 13, 2021

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. in the County Court Office of the Malheur County Courthouse with Commissioner Ron Jacobs present. Commissioner Don Hodge was absent. Staff present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois. Various members of the public, media and staff were present electronically. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website and emailed to the Argus Observer, Malheur Enterprise, and those persons who have requested notice. The meeting was audio recorded. The agenda is recorded as instrument # 2021-0171

REPORT BUSINESS OREGON SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF GRANT FUNDS DISTRIBUTED BY GEODC

Susan Christensen, Executive Director of Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC) reported on the Business Oregon Small Business Relief Grant funds disbursed by GEODC. GEODC serves the counties of: Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, and Wheeler. GEODC distributed two rounds of Small Business Relief Grant funds (Federal CARES Act Funds) under a contract with Business Oregon. In the first round \$114,000 was disbursed to businesses within the seven counties. The total award amount in the next round was \$1,392,500; in Malheur County \$154,726 was disbursed to 23 businesses - awardees were in Jordan Valley, Ontario, Vale, and McDermitt. Ms. Christensen explained she received help from various partners including, Small Business Development Center (SBDC), City of Ontario Manager Adam Brown, Business Oregon, and Eastern Oregon Workforce. SBDC was instrumental in the process by working directly with the applicants to complete their application and any needed follow-up.

A GEODC board member has requested that the names of the businesses receiving grant funds be released publicly; Ms. Christensen is still looking into the request.

COURT MINUTES

Judge Joyce moved to approve Court Minutes of January 6, 2021 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed.

AUDIT

Judge Joyce moved to approve the County's 2019-2020 audit prepared by Zwegart, John and Associates. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed. See instrument # 2021-0065

LETTER OF COMMITMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to sign the Letter of Commitment for development and operation of the Treasure Valley Reload Center with Malheur County Development Corporation (MCDC), Treasure Valley Onion Shippers LLC, and Americold Logistics, LLC. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. A fully executed copy will be returned for recording.

EMPLOYMENT OF PERS RETIREE

Ms. DuBois inquired if the Court was agreeable to entering into an employment agreement with Maintenance Supervisor Don Dalton as a PERs retiree beginning April 1, 2021. The Court had no objections to the request; an employment agreement will be drafted.

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Crossing Permit #01-21 to Idaho Power Company to install a pole and transformer for a pivot on 5th Avenue W #1088; and Permit #02-21 to Idaho Power Company to replace a pole and upgrade overhead transformers on Vale View Road #877. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Acting as the governing body of the Ambulance Service District (ASD), Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution R21-04: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. The purpose of the supplemental budget is to allocate additional Sales and Service funds in the ASD budget that were not anticipated when the adopted budget was prepared; the funds are to be held in contingency. See instrument # 2021-0172

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Judge Joyce adjourned the meeting.