

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES
January 29, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Jacobs and Commissioner 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 Director Taylor Rembowski, Building Official Adele Schaffeld, and Road Supervisor Dave Tiffany. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board, 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 # 2025-0234

TREASURE VALLEY PARAMEDICS (TVP) - QUARTERLY REPORT

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. Ms. Land explained that TVP now has more full-time paramedics and at times some are now on-call and in Nyssa so that the Medic 3 ambulance has a paramedic (TVP still needs one additional paramedic but two persons are starting school in February and one is finishing an internship.) The chase car is still available when needed. Mr. Patterson commented that he thinks the whole system is working better than it ever has; the staff works well together and it's the best esprit de corps they've ever had. TVP acquired a van ambulance for transfers which cuts down on some of the wear and tear of the frontline ambulances; and a used ambulance was acquired from Jordan Valley that replaced an older TVP ambulance. The load systems were installed in the ambulances which helps take some of the strain off of staff when loading patients.

Maintenance Supervisor Don Dalton joined the meeting.

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve the following Crossing Permits: Permit #4-25 to Idaho Power for work on Alameda Drive #863; Permit #05-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Adams Road #540; Permit #06-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Beet Dump Road #957; Permit #07-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Borge Lane #650; Permit #08-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Heritage Drive #555; Permit #09-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on High Street #3085; Permit #10-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Mendiola Road #962; Permit #11-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Oregon Street #3088; Permit #12-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Overstreet Road #839; and Permit #13-25 to Michels Pacific Energy for work on Overstreet Road #13-25. 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 January 22, 2025 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PERS RETIREE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS - KESEY, REYNA, PERKINS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve David Kesey - employment of PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) retiree Employment Agreement; Rachel Reyna - employment of PERS retiree Employment Agreement; and Danny Perkins - employment of PERS retiree Employment Agreement. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # 2025-0232, 2025-0231, 2025-0230

BUDGET COMMITTEE

There are two (2) vacancies on the County budget committee; Janice Belnap and Lee Newman are no longer able to serve on the committee.

COMPENSATION BOARD

The County Compensation Board membership is Kim Wagstaff, LeRoy Cammack and Ms. DuBois. The Board meets once a year; the board members were unable to make contact with LeRoy Cammack for last year's meeting. Janice Belnap is willing to serve on the Compensation Board. Commissioner Jacobs moved to appoint Janice Belnap to serve on the Board in the position previously held by Mr. Cammack. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. DuBois encouraged the Court members to appoint a person to serve in her position on the Board also.

AMENDMENT - IGA #180022

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Fourteenth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2023-2025 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Financing of Public Health Services, Agreement #180022. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Financial Assistance Award is amended. A copy will be returned for recording.

LETTER - WAYS & MEANS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to sign a letter to members of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Public Safety Committee in support of the Chief Justice funding request for \$250,000 to plan for and design a new facility for the 9th Judicial District (Circuit Court). (OJD Budget Bill 5012, Policy Option Package 118). The letter addresses current challenges of the 9th Judicial District; those challenges include Judicial Capacity, Staff Capacity, Jury Capacity, Dependency Needs, Cultural Needs, Border Issues, and Holding Facilities. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Jacobs expressed appreciation to Judge Lung Hung for drafting the letter. See instrument # 2025-0250

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR VACANCY

The Court inquired how many applications had been received for the Environmental Health Director vacancy. The Court needs to review the applications; determine a date for interviews; compile an interview panel and interview questions.

AOC DUES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve payment of Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) 2025 membership dues in the amount of \$22,326.15. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

IRONHEAD AND GOODFELLOW PROPERTIES

Maintenance Supervisor Don Dalton reviewed the plans and the bids for remodeling of the office space at the Ironhead building. Sheriff Travis Johnson was also present for the discussion. Two bids for the project were received; a third was sought but not received. The project cost is higher than budgeted at budget meetings in April 2024; the courthouse reader board project was less than budgeted and that savings will be used towards the Ironhead remodel project; additionally, the Ironhead floor epoxy will not take place with this project and those funds will be used on the Ironhead remodel project. The Court and Mr. Dalton discussed ways to disseminate project information to contractors in order to give interested contractors an opportunity to bid on projects. Ms. Schaffeld noted she has an email list of local contractors that she can share with Mr. Dalton. The heating project (natural gas) for the shop portion of the Ironhead building has been permitted and should start this week. After discussion, Commissioner Jacobs moved to award the remodel project to Holcomb Construction (low bidder). Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Mendiola stated he was staying neutral and did not vote.

The gate project at the Goodfellow building was discussed; the entrance gate is currently manual and difficult to operate. The gate is currently chained open. Additionally, the gate in the back is off its track and propped up. Ms. Schaffeld suggested that locked covers be placed on the electrical outlets on the outside of the building. Mr. Dalton will obtain quotes for an electric gate and the locked boxes for the electrical outlets.

PUBLIC HEARING - SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Judge Joyce opened the public hearing for consideration of Resolution R25-02. The public hearing and supplemental budget were necessary in order to allocate Criminal Justice Commission grant funds that were not anticipated when the budget was adopted - these funds are to be used for the Jail-based Medications for Opioid Use Disorder programs; and to allocate Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) grant funds that were not anticipated when the budget was adopted - these funds are to be used for the 2024 CITCOE (Crises Intervention Team Center of Excellence) Summit. There were no public comments. Judge Joyce closed the hearing. Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution R25-02: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS (Oregon Revised Statutes) 294.471. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument #2025-0233

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Judge Joyce adjourned the meeting.