

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES
February 27, 2019

County Court met with Judge Dan Joyce presiding with Commissioner Don Hodge and Commissioner Larry Wilson present. Staff present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and County Counsel Stephanie Williams.

SREDA UPDATE

Snake River Economic Development Alliance (SREDA) Executive Director Kit Kamo met with the Court and provided an update of SREDA activities. SREDA received a marketing grant and with that grant was able to attend a site selector forum in Nashville. At that forum, Ms. Kamo met with 20 different site selectors/consultants; there was some interest in Oregon from some of the site selectors. Ms. Kamo met with a site consultant from the east coast that was interested in data farms. In January, Ms. Kamo attended the Shot Show in Las Vegas. Panic Plastics was at the Shot Show and visited with SREDA; they are a company from California who also has a location in Payette, Idaho. Pacific Powersports is a California company that recently located in Ontario; and Seat Concepts, another California company, recently located in Caldwell, Idaho. Project Muir is looking for a location for a Washington lumber manufacturer; information for property in Ontario was submitted. A number of companies have expressed interest in the reload facility project and those inquiries have been referred to Economic Development. Ms. Kamo has met with the Eastern Oregon Border Board a number of times and there may be several potential projects interested in the Border Boards programs. Interest in a project in the Westfall area has resurfaced; contact has been made with Business Oregon, DEQ and the Governors' office. Project Glass in Ontario will involve a contract with the State and staff approximately 12 persons. SREDA also assisted Woodgrain in their process to purchase Boise Cascade locations in the LaGrande and Pilot Rock areas. Rodriguez Bakery is expanding and will be leasing a new property location. Project Red Rock is still interested in the area. Ms. Kamo started working with a California company, AFC, in 2012; this company will break ground on a facility in the Weiser area in March. Ms. Kamo is also a member of the Oregon Economic Development Association; the Association has been working with the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) regarding lottery funding. Ms. Kamo also works with Team Oregon; and worked with Economic Development staff to update the property listings on the Oregon Prospector website. Testimony for cap and trade is also being prepared.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planner Eric Evans met with the Court. Mr. Evans provided his sixth monthly report to the Court as the Court has required. Mr. Evans also requested authorization to renew his EHS (Environmental Health Specialist) license; consensus of the Court was for Mr. Evans to renew his license and pay the fee from the Planning Department budget (\$150.00).

RILEY HILL - PUBLIC COMMENT

Riley Hill briefly joined the meeting. Judge Joyce asked Mr. Hill for comments regarding the recent hearing opportunity regarding the cap and trade legislation. Mr. Hill commented there was one person in favor of it at the Baker hearing; the legislation will be detrimental to our county. The Governor will be in Ontario on Friday, March 1. Mr. Hill also thanked the Court for recommending his reappointment to the Eastern Oregon Workforce Board; and explained he

may have secured funding to purchase milling machines for the high school program. Additionally, Mr. Hill has been asking questions and requesting information from TEC (Training and Employment Consortium) and he may possibly suggest it be beneficial to split off from the current entity.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of February 13, 2019 as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Crossing Permit #07-19 to Idaho Power Company to install a pole and bank of transformers for a pump on Plum Ln #1068; Permit #08-19 to Idaho Power Company to replace a pole and install a bank of transformers and service across Clark Blvd. #857 for a pump; Permit #09-19 to Idaho Power Company to replace a pole and install a bank of transformers for service across Ivanhoe Drive #1115 for a pump; and Permit #10-19 to Idaho Power Company to install a pole and transformer for service to a pump on Columbia Ave. #860. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

QUITCLAIM DEED - BTAZ

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Quitclaim Deed to BTAZ Nevada, LLC for Ref. #11991. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. BTAZ is an adjoining landowner; purchase price was \$3600.00. See instrument # [2019-0650](#)

ORDER FOR SALE OF PROPERTIES

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Order No. GO-03-19: Order for the Sale of County Properties. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The County Land Sale will be held April 23, 2019. See instrument # [2019-0651](#)

AMENDMENT - IGA #153131

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Seventh Amendment to 2017-2019 Intergovernmental Agreement for the Financing of Community Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders, and Problem Gambling Services Agreement #153131. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The amendment contains various language changes. A copy will be returned for recording.

PETITION FOR RULEMAKING - MALHEUR AND WALLOWA-WHITMAN FORESTS

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve the Petition for USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) Rulemaking to Exempt the Malheur and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests from the Travel Management Rule and Related Actions. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Harney, Wallowa, Malheur, Grant, Baker, Union, and Malheur Counties are submitting the petition to exempt the Malheur National Forest and Wallowa-Whitman National Forest from the 2005 Travel Management Rule and Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use. See instrument # [2019-0659](#)

SOLAR PROJECT AT FAIRGROUNDS

Ms. Williams updated the Court on the solar project at the fairgrounds. There was a loss of revenue in fiscal year 2017/2018 when the panels were damaged; loss is estimated at \$8800. In previous discussions with Roger Findley regarding the loss, it was agreed that Malheur County and Findley Livestock would further discuss how to share the loss of revenue. Mr. Findley has been contacted and has indicated that he would review the data and confer with Findley Land and Livestock. So far this year, the revenue is looking good. Power expenses have increased but not necessarily due to the solar panels; there are two additional meters since the solar project began.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(d) Labor Negotiator Consultations with Judge Joyce presiding and Commissioner Hodge and Commissioner Wilson present. Also present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and County Counsel Stephanie Williams. No decisions were made during or following the session.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.