

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

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

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Court Minutes of February 8, 2017 as written. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PROPOSED CONCEPT - PROVISIONAL GENERAL CONTRACTORS

The Court again discussed the Oregon Construction Contractors Board (CCB) proposed concept to allow for provisional licenses for licensed contractors from specified bordering states to perform work in Malheur County for the next two years. Commissioner Wilson noted he had visited with several contractors who indicated there was not a need for the provisional license. The Court members will continue to make contacts within the community.

BUDGET BOARD

Budget Board meetings will be held April 24-25, 2017. There is currently one vacant position on the Budget Board.

WIC PROGRAM

The Court briefly discussed a "Community Partner" letter that was disseminated concerning the Malheur County WIC (Women, Infant and Children) program. The Court did not authorize the letter nor do they endorse it. The WIC program is not in jeopardy and the Court has no intentions of doing away with the program. Staffing needs of the program are being evaluated and the Health Department Director will be submitting staffing options to the Court.

EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT RESOLUTION

Environmental Health Director Craig Geddes presented a resolution authorizing emergency procurement of services for trenches at the landfill for the disposal of onions. The National Guard is willing to dig the necessary trenches at a cost of approximately \$500,000. It is believed that a private contractor will be able to perform the work at a lessor cost. The severe weather and snowfall has caused at least 50 onion storage and packing facilities to collapsed and as a result an estimated 35 million pounds of onions need to be buried no later than April 15, 2017 under Oregon Department of Agriculture guidelines. (Normally this date is March 15, 2017 but it is anticipated to be extended one month.) The resolution authorizes County staff to make emergency procurement of goods and construction services for up to three trenches, a road and fence, for disposal of onions at the Lytle Boulevard Landfill property. Solicitation for bids will be done orally or by e-mail and at least three contractors will be solicited. Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Resolution R17-08: A Resolution for Emergency Procurement of Goods, Services and Constructions of Trenches for Onion Disposal. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument #[2017-0478](#)

FUND TRANSFERS RESOLUTION

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Resolution No. R17-06: In the Matter of Fund Transfers Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.463. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2017-0479](#)

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Resolution No. R17-09: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2016/2017 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The supplemental budget resolution allocates funds from the Oregon Judicial Department for the Fire Alarm project which were received but not anticipated when the adopted budget was prepared. See instrument # [2017-0480](#)

ODOT IGA

Road Supervisor Richard Moulton met with the Court and presented an IGA with ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) for their consideration. Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) #31543, Continuous Operations Variance Permit (COVP) Authorization, Malheur County. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The State will issue Oversize/Overweight Continuous Operations Variance Permits for roads under the jurisdiction of the County. A copy will be returned for recording

DEPARTMENT HEADS/ELECTED OFFICIALS

The County Court invited Department Heads/Elected Officials to meet with them. Present were: Veterans' Service Officer Connie Tanaka, Ambulance Service District Director Bob Dickinson, Treasurer/Tax Collector Jennifer Forsyth, Health Department Director Angela Gerrard, Road Supervisor Richard Moulton, Surveyor/Engineer Tom Edwards, Juvenile Department Director Susan Gregory, Clerk Deborah DeLong, IS Director Frank Goble, Environmental Health Director Craig Geddes, District Attorney Dave Goldthorpe, Maintenance Supervisor Don Dalton, Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois, County Counsel Stephanie Williams, and John Braese of the Malheur Enterprise. Various items were discussed during the session.

Ms. DeLong requested an update on inmate Montwheeler; Mr. Goldthorpe explained the State has reassured him that they will cover at least one-half of medical expenses that the County incurs and Montwheeler may qualify for other sources of medical expense coverage. Security responsibility for Montwheeler was shared with some other law enforcement agencies but once he is in the Sheriff's custody the responsibility falls to the Sheriff's Office. Ms. DeLong also asked if the County Court had further savings ideas for the County budget.

Judge Joyce asked Mr. Geddes to give an update on the Landfill. A special permit was obtained for trenches at the landfill for building debris from the winter storm damage and a trench is currently constructed and in use. An additional permit for trenches for onion disposal is being worked on. The Court today passed a resolution authorizing emergency procurement for goods and services to construct new trenches for burial of the destroyed onions. The National Guard offered assistance in constructing the trenches but the cost quoted was approximately \$500,000 and quotes obtained from private contractors are substantially less.

Judge Joyce asked Mr. Dalton for an update on the elevator project. The men's restroom downstairs may be open in 1 1/2 weeks or so. It is anticipated that the main elevator will be delivered by the end of the month and then installation of it will proceed. Mr. Dalton also requested that offices refrain from taping items to the newly painted hallway walls.

Mr. Tanaka asked if the Landfill falls under the Governor's disaster relief assistance; the permitting process was expedited but State funds are not available to help with costs.

Ms. Gerrard asked about the interest of holding ongoing periodic department head/official meetings. And also proposed the possibility of forming a public health advisory committee to help advise the County Court on public health matters such as new compliance requirements, staffing situations, and public health modernization. Ms. Gerrard will draft a written proposal summary for the Court's consideration at a later date.

Mr. Goble asked about the status of the Road Department's budget; Mr. Moulton said that fuel and equipment repairs have been severely impacted and it is unknown what necessary road repairs will be required at this time. The gas tax estimate is that revenue will be approximately \$130,000 less this year. Mr. Goble also reminded those present that polycom systems are available at Justice Court and the Courthouse and can be utilized to cut back on travel expenses.

Mr. Goldthorpe noted that he is not traveling to Salem as often as his predecessor did in the past so there is a savings realized there.

Ms. DeLong requested that the department heads/elected officials be involved in future discussions about further budget cuts; and that they be kept updated on matters as they receive numerous public inquiries.

Ms. Gerrard noted that the Health Department budget may have additional funds available to contribute back to Contingency towards the end of the fiscal year.

The Court thanked those present for their participation and noted that they were willing to hold additional meetings.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Court was adjourned.