

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

APRIL 13, 2016

The Malheur County Court met with Judge Dan Joyce presiding with Commissioner Larry Wilson present. Staff present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Environmental Health Director Craig Geddes met with the Court and gave a presentation on the department's digitized records retention project. The department's septic system files are being scanned and then uploaded into a GIS (Geographical Information System) program utilizing Google Earth. This enables the user to enter a site specific address using Google Earth and access the septic system records for the property. Staff has been working with GIS and IS (Information Services) staff in creating the program. Initially the records will only be available to internal County users but the long-term goal is to have the records available on a public website also. Mr. Geddes demonstrated the program to the Court members.

Larry Meyer of the Argus Observer and Pat Caldwell of the Malheur Enterprise joined the meeting.

IS Coordinator Josh Kreger also joined the meeting.

Mr. Geddes explained that in the 2016/2017 budget he is requesting approximately \$5000 for temporary staff to digitize the old septic systems records (10 hours a week for one year); Mr. Geddes believes that all the files could be scanned and loaded into the system in one year in this proposal. Alternatively, Mr. Geddes projects that it would take current department staff upwards of 3 years to complete the project as they are only able to work on the project as time allows. Mr. Geddes also noted that digitizing the records was a suggestion of the County's insurance carrier (City/County Insurance); once the records are digitized the files can be moved to the basement which would free up space that four filing cabinets currently use (the office is extremely cramped and additional space would be beneficial).

Mr. Geddes will follow-up on the funding request at the County budget committee meetings. John and Bobbie Stoddart joined the meeting.

PROCLAMATION - PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK

Undersheriff Travis Johnson and Lieutenant Rob Hunsucker met with the Court and presented a proclamation declaring the week of April 10-16 to be Malheur County Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. Judge Joyce read the proclamation:

PROCLAMATION PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK APRIL 10-16, 2016 BY THE MALHEUR COUNTY COURT, OREGON

WHEREAS, since 1981 the Congress of the United States, and the President of the United States have established the second week of April as National Telecommunicators Week; and

WHEREAS, Malheur County considers the services of the public safety telecommunicators to be critical to the interest of the community; and

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at any time of the day and night. They can range from a serious medical emergency, to an active fire or need for law enforcement assistance. Often when an individual encounters an emergency they reach for the phone and dial 911. The men and women who answer these calls for help are trained to gather essential information, dispatch the proper resources and provide vital information and instructions to a caller in distress; and

WHEREAS, public safety telecommunicators are more than a calm and reassuring voice at the end of the phone. They are knowledgeable and skilled professionals who work closely with law enforcement, fire and medical personnel; and

WHEREAS, our County enjoys a high standard of public health and safety and we owe a great deal of gratitude to them. During this special observance we extend a profound thank you to each operator who answers our request for help -- Jim, Tom, Robin, Carisa, Kathe, Kathy, Tauni and Brittany.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Malheur County Court proclaims the week of April 10-16, 2016 to be Malheur County Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. We invite all residents to observe this week in honor of our telecommunicators who help to protect our health and safety.

The Court signed the proclamation.

JORDAN VALLEY ITEMS - STODDARTS

John and Bobbie Stoddart met with the Court. Also present was Road Supervisor Richard Moulton and Lieutenant Hunsucker. Mr. and Ms. Stoddart explained that the Jordan Valley Lions Club has an emergency preparedness project that they are seeking assistance with. The club is seeking to install an emergency power (generator) inlet. A quote for the project was obtained from Town & Country Electric of \$2,588. The club has committed to funding half the cost of the project if they can obtain funding for the remaining half from another source. Only installation of the generator inlet is proposed as the agency utilizing/renting the hall would provide their own generator.

Public member Arnold Tropf joined the meeting.

Those present discussed the proposed project. Lieutenant Hunsucker noted that the Sheriff's Office has their own self-contained unit for use during emergencies. The Stoddarts suggested that possibly BLM (Bureau of Land Management) might utilize the hall in the event of rangeland fires; or in the event of a large traffic crash the facility could be used for triage.

Judge Joyce questioned what other entities had been approached for assistance, such as the City of Jordan Valley; none have as of this time.

County Counsel Stephanie Williams joined the meeting.

Mr. Stoddart also visited with the Court about road maintenance in the Jordan Valley area; Mr. Stoddart is a member of the Jordan Valley Road Advisory Board. It was discussed that many roads are in need of gravel. Currently there is not a gravel source in the area. Mr. Moulton explained that there may be a State project later this year and possibly the County can procure some gravel from it. It was also noted that the State may have some rock available that was scraped off of the highway; Mr. Stoddart thought that it would have too many weeds in it but Mr. Moulton said that the County uses it in this area without problems. Mr. Moulton encouraged Mr. Stoddart to contact him with questions/concerns and to keep him informed.

Mr. Trof commented on the condition of some of the roads that access recreational opportunities in the Jordan Valley area.

COURT MINUTES

Judge Joyce moved to approve Court Minutes of April 6, 2016 as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed.

BUDGET BOARD VACANCY

Judge Joyce is working on filling the vacancy on the Budget Board.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Road Supervisor Richard Moulton presented two Crossing Permits for the Court's consideration. Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Crossing Permit #11-16 to Idaho Power for a new fiber line on Foothill Drive #869; and Permit #10-16 for installation of an overhead transformer on Cow Hollow Road #566. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. The original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

Mr. Moulton also told the Court that the gravel project at Bully Creek Park Campsite is complete.

AMENDMENT - IGA 148021

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Fifth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2015-2017 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Financing of Public Health Services. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. The amendment adds \$10,436 to Reproductive Health Program. A copy will be returned for recording.

IDAHO POWER - EASEMENT

County Counsel Stephanie Williams discussed with the Court a proposed easement with Idaho Power. Idaho Power is upgrading a line on 3rd and Arcadia in Nyssa in conjunction with a solar project. The line goes through three properties that the County obtained through tax foreclosures; the three properties are currently being sold to Juan Sepulveda through Contracts to Sell and Mr. Sepulveda is current on his payments with the County. Ms. Williams asked the Court if they had any objections to entering into the easement with Idaho Power with Mr. Sepulveda to receive the payment for the easement (as the Contract allows). The Court had no objections to the proposal and authorized Ms. Williams to continue to work with Idaho Power on the necessary documents. The County will execute the easement with Idaho Power and a consent document from Mr. Sepulveda will be included with the easement. The documents will be prepared for the Court's execution at a later date.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Judge Joyce adjourned Court.