

**MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES**  
**APRIL 12, 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.

Also present was Ontario School District Board Member Mike Blackaby and John Braese of the Malheur Enterprise.

**FAIRGROUNDS**

Fair Manager Lynelle Christiani met with the Court and provided a monthly update of activities. Demolition activities of the winter storm damaged buildings are underway - Steve's Backhoe Service is doing the demolition and debris removal. Yesterday, CK3 started the topographical surveying project. It is anticipated that groundbreaking for the rebuilding will take place next Spring; however, Ms. Christiani is pushing for it to start this Fall. The Nyssa Reserves is now providing the security for events at the Fairgrounds (the previous provider is no longer offering the service). Commissioner Hodge suggested Ms. Christiani inquire with the County Search and Rescue about possibly providing the security service. Serve Day is April 29th and a group will be power washing and priming inside the grandstands. Additionally, an FFA and 4H group will be cleaning the Red Barn. Ms. Christiani is applying for a USDA grant for \$9500 to help replace damaged items in the Small Animal Barn. Roger Findley and Idaho Power are trying to determine why the solar project is not showing a financial savings as predicted. Idaho Power has determined that the billings have been incorrect - the Fair has been paying too little and Idaho Power has been paying too much. Also, there may be some mechanical failings with the solar panels themselves.

**FOUR RIVERS COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Four Rivers Community School Superintendent Chelle Robbins and Principal Raeshelle Meyer met with the Court and gave a presentation on Four Rivers Community School. Also present was Four Rivers Community School Board of Directors Chair Pam Wettstein and parent Kurt Romans. Present from Ontario School District Board of Directors were Chair Mike Blackaby and Director Eric Evans. Ms. Robbins explained that Four Rivers is currently finishing its 14th year as a dual-language program; it is a public charter school operated through a ten year contract with the State Board of Education. The charter school law came into effect around 1999/2000. The Legislative Intent for Oregon Charter Schools includes: creating new, innovative and more flexible ways of educating children within the public school system; and that the provisions of ORS 338.015 should be interpreted liberally to support the goals of this section - Increase student learning and achievement; increase choices of learning opportunities for students; better meet individual student academic needs and interests; build stronger working relationships among educators, parents and other community members; encourage the use of different and innovative learning methods; provide opportunities in small learning environments for flexibility and innovation, which may be applied, if proven effective, to other public schools, create new professional opportunities for teachers; establish additional forms of accountability for schools; and create innovative measurement tools. Four Rivers operates on \$0.90 on the dollar and 5% of its funds (approximately \$118,000) goes to Ontario School District and \$118,000 goes back to the State. Four Rivers is currently a K-9 program and will grow one

grade level per year until reaching K-12 (Fall 2019/2020). Four Rivers is a K-12 Bi-literacy Pathways Grant recipient. Four Rivers provides whole family education - a bi-literacy, bilingual, GED program is offered for parents of its students. Additionally, many opportunities are offered for parents involvement in their child's education (Family Fridays, dance performances, required Pre-K meetings for incoming kindergarteners, committee groups, home visits). Students are admitted to Four Rivers in three different ways: siblings of current students have automatic enrollment preference; children of staff members receive an enrollment seat; and the remaining students are chosen off of a waitlist through a lottery process.

The dual language program is designed through the research of hundreds of thousands of students in small and large districts. 85% of Four Rivers 8th Grade students receive 18-24 TVCC Spanish credits. The 9-12th Grades expansion allows the school to offer AP Spanish courses so students continue to grow. When students graduate from 12th grade they are balanced bilingual - efficient and academically proficient in two languages. In the school there are five levels of Spanish Language Development for grades 4-8. The State Report Card shows that English Language Learners - English Language Arts grew 10% in one year, and exceeded the State and like schools. Latino - English Language Arts also exceeded the State and like schools. Students explore college settings beginning in the 4th grade. 8th graders go to the campuses of University of Oregon, Oregon State University, Portland State, Western University, and sometimes Linfield; additionally they travel to Marine Hatfield on the coast. The Freshman Success Class is part of the Sr. Prep Plan (expansion of grades 9-12) and those students gain college credit through Eastern Oregon University. Four Rivers has multiple collaborations with community partners including, OCDC (Oregon Child Development Coalition), TVCC (Treasure Valley Community College), OSU (Oregon State University), Four Rivers Cultural Center, and the Oregon Food Bank. Students are also engaged with various community civic groups.

Ms. Meyer explained about the 9-12 grade expansion. This Fall 30 students were enrolled in 9th grade for Four Rivers Sr. Prep. These students are in classrooms at Four Rivers Cultural Center in the mornings, eat lunch at TVCC, and then attend class and after-school tutoring at Four Rivers Community School. The cumulative GPA of 61% of the students is currently 3.0 and above. The model of the high school is an early college model. The research behind the model is impressive and takes an underserved population of students and puts them on a college campus; when kids are on a college campus they have a higher rate of attending college. A lot of these students will be first-time high school graduates in their families and a first-time college goer.

Students volunteer their time for various events at the Cultural Center as a way to give back to the community. 6th grade students and above wear "performance uniforms" on Mondays (pressed white shirt, tie); the rest of the week the uniforms have university logo sponsors on the polo shirts. Four Rivers built a Family Education Center (gymnasium) with foundation dollars and community dollars. The center is used throughout the year by various groups for various purposes. Four Rivers is in their second year of middle level sports and a full member application was approved by OSAA for the High Desert League for next school year. Freshman/Sophomores will be able to participate in soccer, cross country, basketball, cheer, and a spring sport. Four Rivers offers various performing arts and sciences activities such as theater and dance, Lego engineering, ballet, robotics, and Girl Scouts. 70% of Four Rivers teachers

have Masters Degrees. As a charter school, there is flexibility that allows the use of experts in the community that have a credential or certificate in a certain area to be able to be a Registered Teacher. Teachers are also used as adjuncts and teach for Eastern Oregon University. Four Rivers and Eastern Oregon University wrote an Oregon Community Foundation Grow Our Own grant for Malheur county schools; the grant was received and is hosted by Four Rivers. The grant provides scholarship dollars and the scholarship recipients give three years back to any Malheur county school.

The Oregon Department of Education 2015-16 Report Card rating for Four Rivers in Academic Achievement was a Level 3; Academic Growth and Student Group Growth both received Level 4 ratings.

Judge Joyce commented that he appreciates the options for education in Malheur County and that it is important for economic development. Ms. Wettstein commented that there is a need for highly qualified bilingual employees and the dual-language program gives our students the opportunity to be bilingual and makes them more marketable. Mr. Romans commented that the dual-language program is what brought his family to the school and the family-school feeling is what keeps them at the school; and it is a great alternative education option.

### **PROCLAMATION**

Undersheriff Travis Johnson met with the Court and explained that April 9-15 is National Telecommunicators Week. Judge Joyce requested Undersheriff Johnson read the proclamation:

#### **PROCLAMATION PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK APRIL 9-15, 2017 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, Yesenia, Kathe, Maureen, Brittany, Kathy and Tauni.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Malheur County Court proclaims the week of April 9<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 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 members signed the proclamation.

### **COURT MINUTES**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of April 5, 2017 as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **AMENDMENT TO ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF CONTRACT WITH TVP**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve First Amendment to Assignment and Assumption of Personal Service Contract Recorded with the Malheur County Clerk on September 14, 2016 as Instrument Number 2016-3136; Consent to Assignment and Assumption of Contract Recorded with the Malheur County Clerk on September 14, 2016 as instrument Number 2016-3136, between Treasure Valley Paramedics (TVP), with a current name change of Treasure Valley Paramedics Foundation, a non-profit Oregon corporation; TVP, Inc., an Oregon for-profit corporation, and Malheur County. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Section 3: Consent, Paragraph 3.3(d) of the Agreement is deleted in its entirety and replaced with new language in the First Amendment. See instrument #[2017-1256](#)

### **ODOT AGREEMENT**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Rail and Public Transit Division, Oregon Department of Transportation, Agreement No. 32013. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Funding is not to exceed \$156,173 and is to be used to provide financial support for special transportation services benefitting seniors and individuals with disabilities. The County will enter into a subagreement with MCOA&CS (Malheur Council on Aging and Community Services) for the services. A copy of the agreement will be returned for recording. See instrument #[2017-1281](#)

### **CROSSING PERMITS**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Crossing Permit #14-17 to Idaho Power to install inline pole and transformer bank for new irrigation service on Clark Blvd. #857; and Permit #15-17 to Idaho Power to install pump bank and service for a customer pump on Foothill Drive #869. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Original permits will be kept on file at the Road Department.

### **GRANT AGREEMENT - BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Oregon Business Development Department, Strategic Reserve Fund Grant Agreement, with State of Oregon, Business Development Department, Project Number 15-17-661. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Funding is for structural assessments of commercial or industrial buildings in Malheur County which were damaged or are suspected to have been damaged by the heavy snowfall in the Winter of 2016/2017. A copy will be returned for recording.

**AMENDMENT - IGA #148021**

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Twelfth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2015-2017 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Financing of Public Health Services, Agreement #148021. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The amendment adds \$4,653 to Program Element 09 PHEP-EBOLA; and \$4226 to Program Element 41 Reproductive Health Program. A copy will be returned electronically for recording.

**COURT ADJOURNMENT**

Judge Joyce adjourned the meeting.