

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

August 28, 2019

County Court met with Judge Dan Joyce presiding with Commissioner Don Hodge present. Staff present was Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, posted on the Courthouse public bulletin board, and emailed to the Argus Observer, Malheur Enterprise, and those persons who have requested notice.

PUBLIC HEARING - SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Judge Joyce opened the public hearing for consideration of supplemental budget resolution R19-21. Notice of the hearing was published in the Argus Observer. A public hearing was required as the supplemental budget will adjust the current budget fund by 10% or more of the expenditures of that fund. No public comments were received. Judge Joyce closed the hearing. Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Resolution No. R19-21: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. The supplemental budget allocates 5310 ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) funds that were received but not anticipated when the adopted budget was prepared. These funds are to be used to provide public transportation for seniors and individuals with disabilities and the general public in Malheur County; this increases the Special Transportation Fund appropriations by \$104,389. See instrument #[2019-3213](#)

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planner Eric Evans met with the Court and provided his twelfth monthly report as the Court has required. Mr. Evans noted that the AOC PD (Association of Oregon County Planning Directors) conference is the end of September in Bandon and inquired if the Court was agreeable to both him and Management Assistant Tatiana Burgess attending (the Planning Department will be closed during this time); the Court agreed that both should attend and the office could be closed.

Ms. DuBois left the meeting.

BOPTA

Clerk Gayle Trotter met with the Court regarding names of persons to serve on the Board of Property Tax Appeals (BOPTA) board. Commissioner Hodge said he contacted Gary Fugate and Eddie Heid and both are willing to serve again. Judge Joyce gave Ms. Trotter the name of an individual possibly interested in serving. Ms. Trotter will meet with the Court again September 11th.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of August 21, 2019 as written. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed.

SEORMPA - COMMENTS

The Court signed a letter of public comments regarding the Draft Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan Amendment (SEORMP)/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Judge

Joyce will deliver the comments to the Vale BLM district office today. See instrument #[2019-3214](#)

ROAD VACATION HEARING

Present for the public hearing for consideration of the vacation of a portion of 2nd Street and an Alley in Juntura was Surveyor/Engineer Tom Edwards and Petitioner Verdean Clark. Notice of the hearing was published in the Argus Observer on August 8 and 18, 2019; served on the abutting landowners and Rural Road Assessment District Number 4 by certified mail sent on July 25, 2019; and posted in three places including on the property subject to the proposed vacation. Judge Joyce opened the hearing and asked for a staff report. Mr. Edwards reviewed his Engineers Report on the proposed vacation. The Road Vacation Petition was signed by all adjoining landowners requesting the vacation of 2nd Street between Blocks 1 and 2 and the Alley in Block 1 of Juntura. The proposed vacated portion of 2nd Street and Alley are undeveloped; buildings have been built into the right-of-way and livestock activities are taking place in the location. Mr. Edwards recommended that 2nd Street between Block 1 and Block 2 and the Alley in Block 1 be vacated. No written comments were received. No public testimony was received. Judge Joyce closed the hearing. Commissioner Hodge moved to grant the vacation. Judge Joyce seconded and the motion passed. An Order will be prepared for the Court's approval.

Ms. DuBois rejoined the meeting.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building Official Adele Schaffeld met with the Court. Ms. Schaffeld explained that Baker would like to contract with Malheur County for Plan Review services; Ms. Schaffeld is willing to provide the service. Ms. Schaffeld noted that the revenue would be used to purchase equipment needed for electronic plan reviews. Consensus of the Court was to enter into an agreement with Baker. An agreement will be drafted for Judge Joyce's signature.

PROCLAMATION - RECOVERY MONTH

Present for the signing of the proclamation declaring September 2019 as Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder, and Problem Gambling Recovery Month were: Paula Olvera, Laurie Smith, and Judy Trask from Lifeways; Jane Padgett from DHS; Susan Gregory and Jennifer Schaffer from the Juvenile Department; and Undersheriff Travis Johnson.

Undersheriff Johnson read the proclamation:

Malheur County Proclamation

Mental and substance use disorders affect all communities nationwide, but with commitment and support, people with these disorders can achieve healthy lifestyles and lead rewarding lives in recovery. By seeking help, people who experience mental and/or substance use disorders can embark on a new path toward improved health and overall wellness. The focus of *National Recovery Month (or Recovery Month)* this September is to celebrate their journey with the theme “*Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Are Stronger.*” It emphasizes the need to share resources and build networks that support recovery in all forms, as we are all part of the solution.

Recovery Month and Hands Around the Park spreads the message that behavioral health is essential to one's overall health and wellness, and that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people recover.

The impact of mental and substance use disorders is apparent in our local community, with 8.5 million adults having had a co-occurring mental illness and substance use disorder the past year. Oregon ranks 1st among adults and 3rd for teens with substance use disorders in the past year in the US. An estimated 81,800 (or 1 in 37) adult Oregonians have problems with gambling. These conditions in one way or another affects us all. Through *Recovery Month*, people become more aware and able to recognize the signs of mental and substance use disorders, and problem gambling, which can lead more people into needed treatment. Managing the effects of these conditions can help people achieve healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally.

The *Recovery Month* observance continues to work to improve the lives of those affected by mental and/or substance use disorders by raising awareness of these diseases and educating communities about the prevention, treatment, and recovery resources that are available. For the above reasons, we are asking the citizens of Malheur County to join us in celebrating this September as *Recovery Month*.

We, as Malheur County Court, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2019 as

***MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER, AND PROBLEM GAMBLING
RECOVERY MONTH***

In Malheur County and call upon our community to observe this month with compelling programs and events that support this year's observance.

The Court signed the proclamation.

The annual Hands Around the Park celebration will be September 12, 2019 at Lions Park in Ontario.

PRESENTATION - EASTERN OREGON BORDER BOARD

Eastern Oregon Border Board Chair Shawna Peterson met with Court and gave a presentation on two proposed programs - the Competitive Housing Incentive Program and the Property Improvement Rebate Program. Also present were Planner Eric Evans, Assessor Dave Ingram, Treasurer/Tax Collector Jennifer Forsyth, and County Counsel Stephanie Williams. Members of the Eastern Oregon Border Board are currently meeting with local taxing districts within the Border Board's region regarding the two proposed programs. Interested taxing districts will be asked to enter into an IGA with Oregon Business Development Department (on behalf of Eastern Oregon Boarder Board). The Border Board will administer the programs with assistance from the County.

Competitive Housing Incentive Program: A new construction homeowner in the Border Region would receive \$6,000 at closing from the fund (paid back to the fund in part from new tax receipts at \$300 per year over 10 years); and, after payment of property taxes each year, the

homeowner would receive reimbursement up to \$1,500 per year for 10 years. Eligible projects include stick built, single family homes and townhouse/multiplexes that are owner occupied (manufactured homes are not eligible). The minimum tax assessed value of the home must be at least \$125,000. The Boarder Board will bill the County annually for up to \$1,800 (\$1,500 tax rebate and \$300 towards the initial \$6,000); the repayment amounts will be withheld from the participating taxing districts.

Property Improvement Rebate Program: A 15% cash rebate, based on the increase in the property's assessed value, not to exceed \$30,000 on substantial improvements to residential, commercial or industrial properties within the Border Region. The minimum tax assessed value increase must be \$10,000 to qualify. Repayment will be made over ten years from the participating taxing districts through annual billings to the County.

Proposed Oregon Administrative Rule's (OAR's) have been written in order to implement the Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region programs; public comment is being taken on the rules until September 23, 2019. It is hoped to possibly launch the two proposed programs in November 2019.

Ms. Peterson answered questions from the Court members and those present and requested support and participation from the County for both programs. See instrument #[2019-3264](#) for the complete presentation.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Judge Joyce adjourned the meeting.