

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

November 7, 2018

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 Juvenile Department Director Susan Gregory.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Court Minutes of October 31, 2018 as written. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

FAIR BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Commissioner Hodge moved to appoint Mike Clark to the Fair Board as an Advisory Member. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

CROSSING PERMIT

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Crossing Permit #44-18 to Cascade Natural Gas for work on Arcadia Blvd #928. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The original permit will be kept on file at the Road Department.

County Counsel Stephanie Williams joined the meeting.

REQUEST TO REINSTATE PAID LEAVE

The Court discussed a request from Juvenile Department Director Susan Gregory to reinstate paid leave hours for staff that attended PERS/OPSRP Educational Seminars on October 2, 2018. The seminars were presented by PERS and VALIC; not Malheur County (Malheur County distributed the email about the educational opportunity to County employees). Three Juvenile Department staff members attended the educational seminars and they did not record paid leave on their timesheets. During the course of processing the October timesheets, the Administrative Office staff noted that the employees had attended the seminars but had not taken paid leave time on their timesheets; the employees were contacted and it was explained that the seminars were not mandatory trainings and they would need to take vacation time for their attendance at the seminars (3.5 hours). Ms. Gregory explained that staff was not aware that paid time off was to be used for this educational seminar and that there is no written policy concerning attendance at trainings/seminars etc. The Court discussed the matter. Ms. Williams noted there is a statute that refers to voluntary seminars/trainings that are not related to one's job the employer is not obligated to pay the employee to attend the event. Commissioner Hodge noted that he felt attendance at a PERS meeting was important for employees who have PERS. The Court members all agreed that a written policy was needed. After discussion, Commissioner Wilson moved to reinstate the paid leave hours for all employees who had attended the seminar on October 2, 2018; and moved that a written policy be drafted that non-mandatory meetings/trainings are voluntary and paid time leave is to be taken to attend those types of meetings. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Gregory left the meeting.

FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE

Fairgrounds Manager Lynelle Christiani met with the Court and provided a monthly update. In October there were 229 walk-ins to the facility; and an average of 18 phone calls to the office and 6 calls to Ms. Christiani's cell phone per day. 2000 people were on the Fairgrounds facility for various events in the month of October. Ongoing projects of the Fair Board include improving the outside lighting at the facility; and having a PA system that covers the entire facility. The tires on the water truck were recently slashed; the Board would like to construct a "compound" type structure for storage of facility vehicles as vandalism is a reoccurring problem. The Fairgrounds facility continues to be busy and utilized by many.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.