

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES
December 7, 2022

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Commissioner Ron Jacobs at 9:00 a.m. in the County Court Office of the Malheur County Courthouse with Commissioner Don Hodge present. Judge Dan Joyce was absent. Members of the media, public, and staff had the opportunity to join the meeting electronically or in-person. Staff present in the meeting room were Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and IS Director Joshua Kreger.; also present was Commissioner-elect Jim Mendiola. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board, and emailed to the Argus Observer, Malheur Enterprise, and those persons who have requested notice. The meeting was audio recorded. The agenda is recorded as instrument #2022-5629

SHERIFF'S OFFICE - SOFTWARE UPDATE

IS Director Joshua Kreger noted that he has a meeting scheduled next week with Tyler regarding the needed servers for the software upgrade project; the hardware for the upgrade project may be approximately \$145,000. Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve the software upgrade project as presented previously by Undersheriff Johnson and Lieutenant Harriman with New-World Tyler product. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed. The hardware and annual maintenance costs will be discussed and decided on at a later date by the entities using the software program.

STF/STIF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Malheur Council on Aging and Community Services (MCOA&CS) Transportation Manager Brittany White met with the Court. Ms. White explained that Senate Bill 1601 (2020) repeals the Special Transportation Fund (STF) and no later than July 2023 its funding will be consolidated with the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF). As such, the local Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee needs to be dissolved; and the STIF bylaws need to be updated. Additionally, Susan Robinett needs to be appointed to the STIF Advisory Committee (other members of the advisory committee were previously appointed as both the STF and STIF advisory committees have been active). Ms. White answered questions from the Court members.

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Resolution R22-25: Resolution Dissolving Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed. See instrument # 2022-5630

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Malheur County Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Advisory Committee. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed. See instrument # 2022-5632

Commissioner Jacobs moved to appoint Susan Robinett to the Malheur County Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund (STIF) Advisory Committee. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed.

NOVEMBER CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve the Accounts Payable register for November 2022. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed.

PIONEER HEALTH DISTRICT

Pioneer Nursing Home Health District (aka Pioneer Place) Board of Directors Dennis Buttice, Karlene Keller, Kerri Wenger, Kathy Judy, and John Nalivka met with the Court; also present were Pioneer Place staff members Chelsey Ross and Lexi Browning. Mr. Buttice explained that the Health District is requesting additional funds from the County's ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding (\$150,000 was allocated to the Health District in August 2022; previous requests were for \$900,000 in February 2022 and an amended request of \$750,000 in June 2022). Staffing continues to be problematic for the facility; currently two-thirds of the staff is agency staff and the cost is triple to five times the cost of a regular employee. After discussion, the District requested an additional \$300,000 (approximately one month of payroll costs) from the County's ARPA funding. The Court took the request under advisement.

Additionally, the District is requesting \$1,100,000 from the County's LATCF funding (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund). Ms. DuBois explained that \$12 million was appropriated under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 under the LATCF program. The LATCF program is for revenue sharing counties (Malheur County is a PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) county) for use on governmental purposes other than lobbying activity. The purpose of the LATCF program is to serve as a general revenue enhancement program. Commissioner Hodge explained that the County needs to evaluate its needs and associated costs as it pertains to the governmental services the County provides. Currently, the Court has not allocated funds for entities outside of the County umbrella and does not have an application process or criteria for outside entities to apply for funding. There is no deadline for the County to expend the LATCF funds; reporting requirements for the funds are currently unknown. See instrument # 2022-5631 for the written request.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Arnold Tropf gave comments concerning the need for law enforcement and dispatch to keep the community safe.

ONTARIO RECREATION DISTRICT

Ontario Recreation District Executive Director Andrew Maeda met with the Court and requested support of LC-1465 (2023 Regular Session). LC 1465 is a legislative concept authorizing issuance of lottery bonds for distribution to the Ontario Recreation District to facilitate the construction and project management of the Ontario Community Recreation Center. Mr. Maeda prepared a resolution supporting LC-1465 for the Court's consideration. Mr. Maeda provided information on the Ontario Community Recreation Center project. Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Resolution R22-30: A Resolution in Support of LC-1465. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed. See instrument # 2022-5633

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jacobs adjourned the meeting.