

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

April 18, 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, County Counsel Stephanie Williams, Treasurer/Tax Collector Jennifer Forsyth, Environmental Health Specialist Eric Evans, and Road Department Accounting Specialist Shelly Dennis.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - REPRESENTATIVE FINDLEY

Representative Lynn Findley met with the Court and provided an update of the 2018 short legislative session. Representative Findley thanked the Court for their support. Representative Findley served on the House Revenue Committee and the House Energy and Environment Committee. Cap and Invest was the first bill the Energy and Environment Committee worked on; many hours were spent on the Cap and Invest Program. Cap and Invest passed the House on a party line vote; Representative Findley expressed that he believes the bill should have required a three-fifths majority as it raises revenue. Positive bills that passed included the Oregon National Guard Tuition Grants program (HB 4035); and the designation of Eastern Oregon University as Oregon's Rural University (HB 4153). The Governor's state of the state speech included focus on education and the Joint Committee on Student Success was formed; the Committee will tour ten different schools, including Baker School District's CTE (Career Technical Education) program.

Planner Alvin Scott joined the meeting.

Funding was allocated for the McDermitt runway improvement project; as well as funding for a hydrology study of the Silvies River in Harney County. \$300,000 was allocated to DLCD (Department of Land Conservation and Development) for the Economic Opportunity Analysis program to assist specific eastern Oregon counties with the process. \$750,000 was designated for repairs of the Baker City Armory.

The solar tax PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) program bill was killed with the intent of continuing to work on it through the interim. Representative Findley pushed hard in his belief that the Revenue Committee should not be granting property tax exemptions at the State level without County and the taxing districts support.

The first-time homeowners' savings account program passed, but the bill included significant raises to recording fees that most County Clerks did not support (HB 4007).

The Net Neutrality bill and the gun control bill were fluff and photo opportunities more than anything.

SB1528 was possibly the worst bill that was passed in the session. The bill disconnects Oregon from the federal tax code and significantly effects small businesses. Republicans lobbied the Governor to veto the bill but she recently signed it and then called for a special legislative session.

Representative Findley has been involved in discussions regarding Opportunity Zone Designations. An Opportunity Zone is a low-income community census tract designation meant to drive additional economic development and investment in low-income urban and rural communities. There are several tracts designated in Portland (versus one in Malheur County) and Representative Findley stressed that real estate that more than likely will be developed anyway should not be designated as an Opportunity Zone.

Representative Findley has filed for election and will be on the May Primary; he will have a district office in Vale hopefully open by June 1st.

Representative Findley answered questions from the Court members. Judge Joyce commented on the Building Codes program and proposed legislation and recent AG opinion. Commissioner Wilson said he would like to visit more with Representative Findley regarding the Economic Opportunity Analysis Program.

Mr. Evans, Mr. Scott, and Ms. Forsyth left the meeting.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Court Minutes of April 11, 2018 as written. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

FUND TRANSFER RESOLUTION

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Resolution No. R18-7: In the Matter of Fund Transfers Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.463. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The transfers are within the Fair Fund. See instrument #[2018-1305](#)

WOLF GRANT AGREEMENT

Commissioner Hodge moved to approve Oregon Department of Agriculture Wolf Compensation and Financial Assistance 2018 Grant Agreement, ODA-4078-18. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The total grant award is \$2,450. See instrument #[2018-1441](#).

CROSSING PERMIT

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Crossing Permit #28-18 to Idaho Power Company to upgrade reclosers on Clark Blvd #857. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The original permit will be kept on file at the Road Department.

ANNUAL JAIL INSPECTION

The Court conducted the annual jail inspection. See instrument #[2018-1304](#) for the County Court Annual Jail Report.

QUITCLAIM DEEDS - KINCADE

Commissioner Hodge moved to execute Quitclaim Deed to Mike Kincade for Ref. #17749; Quitclaim Deed to Mike Kincade for Ref. #8877; and Quitclaim Deed to Michael Kincade Revocable Trust of 2014 for Ref. #12186. Commissioner Wilson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument #'s [2018-1306](#), [2018-1308](#), and [2018-1307](#)

AMENDMENT - IGA #153131

Commissioner Wilson moved to approve Fifth Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2017-2019 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Financing of Mental Health, Substance Use Disorders, and Problem Gambling Services Agreement #153131. Commissioner Hodge seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The financial and service information in the Financial Assistance Award is amended. See instrument #[2018-1343](#).

ROAD SUPERVISOR VACANCY

The employment offer made for the Road Supervisor position to the number one candidate was declined; the Court authorized Ms. DuBois to offer the position to the next highest candidate (based on the scoring process) and proceed with negotiations.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.