

Morrow County Court Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2016

Irrigon, Oregon

Irrigon Branch of the Oregon Trail Library District - Community Room

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Commissioner Don Russell
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer
Kate Knop, Finance Director

Richard Tovey, County Counsel
Melissa Lindsay, Judge-Elect
Jim Doherty, Commissioner-Elect

Audience

David Sykes, Heppner Gazette-Times
Aaron Palmquist, Irrigon City Manager

Call to Order: 9:03 a.m., followed by pledge of allegiance

City and Citizen Comments: No comments

Open Agenda: Concessionaire Contract Extension - The Landing Lodge (OHV Park)

Business Items

Budget Transfer Resolution No. R-2016-22

Kate Knop, Finance Director

As background, Ms. Knop explained a budget transfer was approved in August for the Heppner Administration Building Fund to cover landscaping projects costs around the Bartholomew Building (retaining wall, irrigation system, sod and fence). She said the County has not yet captured the internal costs of the project, such as the Road Department's labor and equipment use. The request is to reimburse the Road Department its costs in the amount of \$13,953.32.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve In the Matter of Transferring Appropriations within the Morrow County Heppner Admin. Building Fund, Pursuant to ORS 294.463(1), Resolution No. R-2016-22. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Ione School Based Health Center (SBHC) Addendum to Services Agreement

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer

Mr. Sorte said the addendum is being proposed by Public Health Department Director, Sheree Smith, but she was unavailable today. County Counsel, Richard Tovey, reported he had no issues with the addendum.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the School Based Health Center Addendum to Services Agreement which outlines how materials, equipment and supplies will be disbursed should the Morrow County Health Department or the Morrow County Public Health Department cease to provide services or if the SBHC were to cease to exist, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Award Rock Crushing Contract to 4R Equipment LLC

Mr. Sorte

Commissioner Rea inquired why a dollar amount was not specified in the contract. Mr. Sorte explained the rock will be provided on an as-needed basis and the amount will be determined each time it's processed. Mr. Tovey said the original bid reviewed by the Court last week did include the values for the types/sizes of rock from the various pits in the area. Commissioner Rea requested that information be attached to the contract.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the five-year Morrow County Materials and Personal/Professional Services Contract for Rock Crushing with 4R Equipment LLC, and request Exhibit A from the original bid be attached to the contract. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Concessionaire Contract Extension - The Landing Lodge (OHV Park)

Mr. Tovey

This same contract extension was also signed last year, said Mr. Tovey. Things are going well with John and Barbara Harris as the concessionaires and they'd like to continue the relationship, he added.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Morrow County Personal/Professional Services Contract, Extension of Contract Agreement, with John and Barbara Harris as concessionaires in the OHV Landing Lodge Kitchen through November 15, 2017. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

County Counsel Report

Mr. Tovey said contracts continue to be reviewed and the flow of documents in and out of the County Counsel Office is going well. He also said Co-County Counsel Justin Nelson has been preparing for the Oregon Ethics and Public Meeting Laws presentation that will take place this evening in Irrigon.

Administrative Officer Report

- Mr. Sorte said the initial proposal from LKV Architects for facility planning in the north end of the County was too detailed and not what is needed at this point. He said the Court needs a basic cost and size estimate in order to move the decision making process forward, and that is what he will attempt to obtain.
- A lengthy discussion then transpired after Commissioner Rea asked Mr. Sorte if he had an opportunity to correct inaccuracies in an article that appeared in *The Oregonian* on the Lost Valley Ranch Dairy (which said the Court did not support the dairy). He said the reporter has not yet returned his call, but his plan is to provide her with the letters of support the Court sent to Governor Kate Brown and the Oregon Department of Agriculture in August. Commissioner Russell said he spoke to the reporter after the article was published, provided her with those letters, and told her he felt the article was one-sided and inaccurate. He said he extended an invitation to her to come to Morrow County anytime and asked her to actually contact a Morrow County official when reporting on their stance on a particular subject.

Department Reports

Juvenile Department - Postponed

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Ken Matlack

Sheriff Matlack reviewed the written report of activity in his department for the month of October; it included:

- 64 calls to 911 that were accidental or the person hung-up.
- A peacock was shot and killed in Boardman on October 26th – no suspects.
- Two people were arrested for Criminal Trespass I in Irrigon after they had been staying at a vacant property for quite some time. They were Efrocinia Efimoff and Donald Lienol Baldwin, who also had two warrants out of Benton County.
- Assisted for several days in the search for a body in the Columbia River after a boating accident on October 25th.
- A vehicle accident occurred on October 19th in Heppner that resulted in a nine-year-old boy being taken by Life Flight to Oregon Health & Science University. Sheriff Matlack said the boy is recovering well at home.
- Morrow County Sheriff's Office personnel responded to two structure fires in Boardman – a barn fire on October 13th and to a double-wide trailer home on October 16th.

Sheriff Matlack discussed two anticipated Patrol Deputy vacancies and requested permission to recruit and fill them. Mr. Sorte explained that earlier this year, the Court authorized staff to work with Department Heads/Elected Officials to fill existing budgeted positions, so approval from the Court was not necessary at this point.

Sheriff Matlack said he wanted to bring the Court up-to-date on a previously discussed budget concern regarding the half-time mental health clinician for south Morrow County funded by the Sheriff's Office and Community Counseling Solution. He said after consultation with Mr. Nelson and Ms. Knop, a Request for Proposals was sent to three qualified providers in the area, and he hopes to know the results at the end of November. Mr. Sorte suggested he and Ms. Knop work with Sheriff Matlack on determining how to fund the current and future provider.

Planning Update

Carla McLane, Planning Director

Ms. McLane reviewed the following from her written report:

- Staffing: A new GIS Planning Technician started on October 17th; he is Stephen Wrecsics. An offer has been made to a candidate for the Outreach Coordinator position and Ms. McLane said she will report back when things are finalized.
- Code Update Work: Work continues on the Farm and Forest Use Model Code Update. A small update to Article 2 (Establishment of Zones) has been proposed and supported by the Planning Commission. Discussion ensued on Section 2.010 – Identified Zone Designations, particularly the Small Farm-40 Zone and the Historic Buildings and Sites Zone.
- Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP): The Federal Emergency Management Agency completed the pre-adoption review of the Morrow County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. This allows Morrow County and each of its communities to move forward with adoption of the NHMP in December.

- Planning Department Office Space: Ms. McLane detailed some of the minor structural changes that have taken place to make for a better arrangement of work spaces within the office.

Claims

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Indiana Tax, dated November 3rd; November 2016 Retirement Taxes, dated November 3rd; Payroll Payables, Immediates & Electronic (two employee finals), dated October 21st; Payroll Payables, Immediates & Electronic, dated October 26th; and the Accounts Payable, dated November 10th in the amount of \$127,999.57. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes

No minutes to review

Correspondence Reviewed

- Letter from Senator Jeff Merkley to Commissioner Rea thanking her for sharing her concerns over the proposals to designate the Owyhee Canyonlands as a national monument. Commissioner Rea said the following sentence was of concern: “There are also concerns that potential mining or oil and gas projects could lead to irreparable harm of the Owyhee Canyonlands and could negatively impact grazing and recreation.” She said this may indicate the Federal government would like to take over all mineral, gas and mining rights from Malheur County. Commissioner Russell’s concerns centered on this portion of the letter: “In addition and with these concerns in mind, Senator Wyden and I have introduced a mineral withdraw bill that would prevent future mining or oil and gas operations in parts of Malheur County.” He said this would be far too limiting. The Court decided to discuss the Owyhee Canyonlands issue with their fellow Commissioners from Malheur County while at the Association of Oregon Counties Annual Conference next week, and then decide what, if any, action they may take.
- Agenda for the November 9th meeting of the Port of Morrow Commission.
- Invitation to the Heppner and Rural Fire District Fire Hall Open House on November 19th, 1:00 p.m. (Since the meeting, the Open House was rescheduled to Saturday, December 3rd from 1:00-4:00 p.m.).
- Schedule of Morrow County Planning Commission meeting dates for 2017.
- Information packet from the Irrigon Chamber of Commerce for activities in November.

Adjourned: 11:00 a.m.