

**Morrow County Court
January 21, 2015
Boardman, Oregon**

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Commissioner Don Russell
Karen Wolff, Executive Secretary/Personnel Director

Excused

Ryan Swinburnson, County Counsel
Roberta Lutcher, Court Executive Assistant

Judge Tallman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

City and Citizen Comments – Boardman

No comments

Open Agenda

No items

Department Reports

Road Report

Burke O'Brien, Public Works Director
Bob Nairns, Assistant Public Works Director
Sandi Putman, Public Works Management Assistant
Matt Scrivner, Assistant Road Master

Mr. Scrivner provided the Road Report as follows:

- Culverts were cleaned out and weeds burned along Baseline Lane and Pettys Canyon Lane. This work will continue in the Valby area, Baseline (East), Butter Creek area and south into the higher country.
- On January 5th, we responded to a motor vehicle accident at Butter Creek, milepost 2. The crew controlled traffic for about four hours until the vehicle was removed and the road cleared of rock and mud.
- High water on Hanna-Arbuckle Road required the crew to reroute water back into the ditch line on January 8th and also clean out culverts and cattle guards.
- Sinking pavement in an area on Baseline Lane between Lexington Grange Road and the Martin residence - crews excavated both shoulders to a depth of two to four feet and hauled off material and replaced it with three inch pit run rock. If the area stabilizes, we will look at paver patching later in the year.
- Cutsforth/Dolven Roads intersection – a blade operator located buried cattle guard footings in the road surface. The crew removed the footings and cut the grade of the intersection, changing it from a “Y” to a “T” intersection.

- Road grading has been done on Cutsforth Road, Nichols Road, Kemp Lane, Immigrant Lane, Fourmile Canyon Road and in the Valby area. Graders are currently working in the Ione and Lexington areas.
- Snow and Ice – de-icer applied during the last two weeks for forecasted freezing fog.

Commissioner Russell asked if the County does road grading on non-county roads, such as in West Glen or Blake Ranch. Mr. Nairns said we do the Wagon Wheel Subdivision and West Glen Subdivision in Irrigon, but we don't do Blake Ranch itself, just the main County road which goes through it. Discussion took place about the water and road district created by residents of Blake Ranch.

The Commissioners reviewed the notice of the Road Committee Meeting, Thursday, January 29th, 1:00 p.m. at Columbia Basin Electric Coop.

Request to Return Lost Vacation Time

Mr. O'Brien provided background on the request – Because the conditions were ideal, Mr. Nairns asked Robert Gates to work another week road grading before taking time off. At that time, Mr. Gates informed Mr. Nairns he had reached the maximum on vacation time. By Mr. Gates continuing to work after he'd reached the vacation maximum without taking time off, it resulted in him losing 6.16 hours of vacation time. Mr. O'Brien said Mr. Gates has since taken two weeks of vacation leave. Mr. O'Brien said because this was our fault, I'm requesting an exception be made to allow the 6.16 hours of vacation time be given to Mr. Gates. Discussion.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve making Robert Gates whole on his vacation time by returning the 6.16 hours of lost vacation time. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business

Award OHV Park Concessionaire Request for Proposals

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the contract with John and Barbara Harris to operate the concessions at the OHV Park from April 1, 2015 through November 22, 2015, with Mr. and Mrs. Harris to compensate the County at a rate of 10% (ten percent) of gross sales on a monthly basis. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Miscellaneous Public Works information:

- Public Works will be putting out bids for 13 portable toilets, which is done annually. Bids will also be solicited for gasoline, diesel, lubrication and aviation fuel.
- The Household Hazardous Waste Event in the north end will be on Friday, April 10th; post cards will be sent to County residents. The Department of Environmental Quality would like to see schools clean out their lab rooms and bring the waste to these events. Ms. Putman said she will inform the Morrow County School District and the Ione School District about this opportunity.
- Mr. O'Brien said he is working on a replacement program for road graders. He said it's difficult to stagger replacement when two of the graders were acquired about the same time (15-16 years ago). The best case scenario would be to buy one new grader and one

used grader with very low hours from a government guaranteed source. When he completes his research, he will advise the Court.

- Mr. O'Brien said he will be attending an Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES) meeting this week to discuss gas tax options. Clackamas County wanted a larger piece of the pie and wanted to put caps on what smaller counties could receive, but appears to be backing away from some of these ideas now. He will let the Commissioners know how the meeting turns out.
- Morrow County will receive \$295,000 in Exchange money this year for surface treatments. Project options for this money will be discussed at the Road Committee meeting this week. Ms. Wolff said this if federal money coming to the state through the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Committee Appointments

The Commissioners reviewed the current list but delayed completion to hear Assessor/Tax Collector, Mike Gorman's update.

Assessor/Tax Collector Update

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector

- First trimester statements will be taken to the post office today. There is \$1,426,000 left to collect on current year taxes, which means the County has collected about 94.9% of taxes due.
- There are two appeals scheduled to be heard by the Board of Property Tax Appeals on Tuesday, March 3rd.
- Mr. Gorman discussed a recent Assessor's Conference he attended in Clackamas.
- Mr. Gorman said his office receives some funding from the County Assisted Funding Formula (CAFF), but it will be reduced by 10% this year and possibly 20% next year.
- Mr. Gorman's office received the first Columbia River Enterprise Zone II Board claim form from Columbia Forest Products. These forms are not due until April 1st...this is the earliest I've ever received one. They're on the ball and that's good.

Commissioner Committee Appointments, continued

Discussion continued, including the need to remove some committees from the list as they are no longer active.

Juvenile Department Quarterly Update

Tom Meier, Juvenile Department Director

Mr. Meier said his report covers the second quarter, October 1, 2014-December 31, 2014. The first thing of note is the Detention Statistic – the Second Quarter had six new admissions to detention. Most of those were probation violations or conditional use violations; there were no new law violations. These are kids who are well known to us...we see a lot of them. If you look at the total days in detention, it's high at 53. One or two kids accounted for the majority of those days in the First Quarter and those kids are still playing into the statistic for the Second Quarter...Quarter One melted into Quarter Two. Discussion. We stand at 11 admissions for the

first two quarters and all of last year we only had 15. We'll probably shatter that number. We have a group of kids now who are chronic and taking up a majority of our resources.

Referral Statistics were the same for the First and Second Quarter – 21. What we'll see down the road are some bad bumps, recidivism-wise. Those numbers will probably bump higher in about two years.

Dependency (Department of Human Services-Child Welfare) – We took in eight more kids in the Second Quarter, making it 14 new kids we're supervising. This is on-pace to approach the high of 20 we reached last year. Various discussions ensued.

Commissioner Committee Appointments, continued

After additional review, Ms. Wolff said she would revise the list with the changes thus far and bring it back to the Court for further discussion.

Contracts

Amendment No. 1 to the Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization (EOCCO) Transformation Fund Grants Program Agreement

Ms. Wolff said County Counsel, Ryan Swinburnson, has reviewed the amendment and approves.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve Amendment No. 1 to the EOCCO Transformation Fund Grants Program Agreement between the EOCCO and the Morrow County Local Community Advisory Council, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Correspondence Reviewed:

- Ms. Wolff explained she is part of a statewide mailing list of staff to county commissioners which is used to assist with various inquiries. One recent query concerned the process/procedures used by counties to get meeting documents to commissioners. Clatsop County requires all documents be submitted at least six days in advance to post to their website and allow time for the commissioners to review and ask questions. This means the commissioners arrive at meetings ready to discuss items instead of taking time at the meeting to read through the paperwork. Ms. Wolff discussed instances when documents are submitted too late to be photocopied for the Commissioner's books and are then distributed during the meeting. Ms. Wolff said she is providing this information to see if the Commissioners might want to change anything about our process. The Commissioners agreed it would be better to review documents earlier than is currently done. Ms. Wolff said documents could be scanned to the Commissioners at the same time agendas are released on the Monday prior to the Wednesday meeting. Judge Tallman said new language should be formulated to present to Department Heads. Ms. Wolff said policy would need to be established prior to informing the Department Heads. Commissioner Rea suggested it be addressed at the next Department Head/Elected Officials meeting in March, but she does not want the policy to be so harsh that something that comes up at the last minute for County Court approval is forbidden. Ms. Wolff said she would suggest the County Judge be contacted

for an exception in those cases. Judge Tallman said all of this needs to be worked out before we say this is our policy, but he is in favor of seeing documents more in advance of the meetings.

Minutes

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the minutes of January 14, 2015, as presented. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Claims

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Accounts Payable, dated January 22, 2015, in the amount of \$122,870.96. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Rea said the Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee met last night and the Committee will be purchasing fladry as opposed to noisemakers. The electrified fladry will be stored until it is needed.

Commissioner Russell said he and Ms. Wolff attended the first session of County College where the importance of periodic written reviews of county employees was emphasized. He said Ms. Wolff mentioned the County has fallen off on reviews of non-elected officials. It was stressed at County College that reviews are for the county's benefit, as well as the employee's. This also made me wonder if Ms. Wolff's job description is up to date. Ms. Wolff said that's something we're working on, but I didn't want to bring forward a new job description until the Reclassification requests were finished. So, within the next month you'll see something come through. Commissioner Rea said Commissioner Russell is right, many of the things Ms. Wolff has been asked to do are not in her job description. Judge Tallman said it has changed quite a bit.

Adjourned: 11:58 a.m.