

Morrow County Court
April 29, 2015
Heppner, Oregon
Pioneer Annex Conference Room

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Commissioner Don Russell
Karen Wolff, Executive Secretary/Personnel Director
Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector
Undersheriff Steve Myren
Roberta Lutcher, Court Executive Assistant

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

Open Agenda

Commissioner Russell said in driving to Heppner this morning, he was behind a semi-truck belonging to Hermiston Sanitary Disposal for about one-half mile on Bombing Range Road and in that short distance, four items were lost from the load. This was not a bin being hauled, but a semi-truck used to transfer from their transfer station in Hermiston, he explained. Undersheriff Myren offered to follow-up on the matter.

Commissioner Russell said at last night's Bank of Eastern Oregon Stockholder's meeting he was asked by an area farmer when a drought will be declared in Morrow County. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Rea said the process to declare a drought is supposed to go through Emergency Management Departments. Undersheriff Myren said he could draft a cover letter to accompany the drought reports he receives from the State of Oregon Water Resources Department to initiate the process.

New Business

County Assessment Function Funding Assistance (CAFFA) Grant Resolution

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector

Mr. Gorman said the CAFFA Grant is State assisted funding for Assessor's Offices but also includes some funding for the Board of Property Tax Appeals function of the Treasurer's and Clerk's Offices.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the grant application for Morrow County to apply to the Department of Revenue in order to participate in the Assessment and Taxation Grant, Resolution Number R-2015-3. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Purchasing Pre-Authorization Requests – Sheriff’s Office

Undersheriff Myren provided a brief update on the status of the remodeling taking place in the dispatch center. The next phase is to install grounded carpet, which is the first Pre-Authorization Request in the amount of \$8,080.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Purchasing Pre-Authorization Request from the Sheriff’s Office in the amount of \$8,080 for the installation of grounded carpet and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

The second request is for \$75,723.08 for dispatch center consoles and furniture.

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Purchasing Pre-Authorization Request from the Sheriff’s Office in the amount of \$75,723.08 to purchase new dispatch center consoles and furniture and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

Second Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Idaho Power Company and the Bureau of Land Management and Cooperating Agencies for Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for the Boardman to Hemingway (B2H) Transmission Line Project

Ms. Wolff said this second amendment extends the time frame of the current MOU.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Second Amendment to the Cooperating Agency MOU, which requests the Department of the Interior allow additional time for Public Hearings on the B2H Project, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the minutes of April 22nd, with corrections. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Executive Session minutes of April 22nd, with correction. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Claims

Commissioner Rea said she had questions about multiple restitution checks listed in the Accounts Payable. Ms. Wolff said they are from the Irrigon Justice Court and involve defendants making restitution. Judge Tallman said the Justice Court had fallen behind in processing these.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Payroll Payables, Immediate & Electronic, dated April 15th; Payroll Payables, HRA Veba, dated April 15th; 2015 1st Quarter SUTA/WBF, dated April 28th; and Accounts Payable, dated April 30th in the amount of \$230,078.33. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Purchasing Pre-Authorization Request – County Court

Ms. Lutchter explained the request is for dual monitors for her work station in the amount of \$445. The monitors are part of the system which will allow her to attach her laptop to a docking station.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Purchasing Pre-Authorization Request in the amount of \$445 for dual monitors for the Court Executive Assistant, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Commissioner Russell seconded. Unanimous approval.

Health Department Request to Advertise for Nurse Case Manager/CARE Team

Ms. Wolff said this position was discussed during Budget Hearings by Public Health Department Director Sheree Smith and Dirk Dirksen, Morrow County School District Superintendent. Ms. Smith's memo explains Mr. Dirksen has indicated he would include the personnel costs in the School District budget but funding from other community partners would be appreciated. Ms. Wolff said if the request is approved, the Court would be authorizing Ms. Smith to fill the position which allows the County to advertise, recruit, fill and hire, but money issues are a separate issue.

Commissioner Russell moved to authorize the Public Health Department Director to advertise for the Nurse Case Manager/CARE Team Wraparound Position. Commissioner Rea seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Reports

Judge Tallman announced the Special Transportation Fund (STF) Coordinator has been hired. Anita Pranger, current Accounting Technician in the Finance Department, has accepted the position. Ms. Wolff explained Ms. Pranger will work part time as Accounting Tech and part time as STF Coordinator until there is a new hire in the Finance Department. Finance Department Director, Rick Worden, is reviewing the Accounting Technician job description prior to his request to fill the position, which should be next week, said Ms. Wolff.

Commissioner Russell said he attended a stakeholder meeting on the B2H Project with irrigated agriculture landowners in order to prepare for a PNWRIT (Pacific Northwest Regional Infrastructure Team) meeting Planning Director Carla McLane will be attending in Boise. The focus of the group is to determine a pathway for the transmission line which is least invasive to growers while at the same time, allowing for future wind development in Morrow County. This takes cooperation amongst the players and hopefully we can get the Navy to give a little, said Commissioner Russell.

Commissioner Rea reported she attended a Columbia Development Authority meeting where interviews were held for the individual who will replace out-going Executive Director Don Chance. A preliminary decision was made, but it has to be approved by the Department of Defense, she said.

Miscellaneous

Ms. Wolff said she received an e-mail from Sandi Putman, Public Works Management Assistant, relaying information on the effectiveness of the Fleetmatics system recently installed in Public

Works vehicles and equipment. Ms. Putman received a complaint from an individual who said a Public Works vehicle caused windshield damage to her vehicle. When Ms. Putman accessed the tracking information for Public Works vehicles, there were no vehicles in the area during the date and time of the alleged incident.

Commissioner Reports, continued

Commissioner Russell mentioned the Columbia River Enterprise Zone II Board continues to meet with a potential client whose identity has not yet been made known. Another meeting will take place next week and more information may be available after that.

New Administration Building

Judge Tallman said the tentative date to remove a utility pole and install the service underground is Monday, June 1st. This will require a Courthouse closure since there will be no power to the building. This will not impact other County offices, he explained.

Adjourned: 9:52 a.m.