

Morrow County Court
May 11, 2016
Irrigon, Oregon
Oregon Trail Library District Community Room

Present

Judge Terry Tallman
Commissioner Leann Rea
Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer
Richard Tovey, County Counsel/Deputy District Attorney
Roberta Lutcher, Court Executive Assistant

Excused

Commissioner Don Russell
Karen Wolff, Human Resources Director

Audience

Mike Gorman, Assessor/Tax Collector
Aaron Palmquist, Manager, City of Irrigon

Call to Order: 9:03 a.m.

City and Citizen Comments – Irrigon

Aaron Palmquist, Manager, City of Irrigon

- The City Council obtained an interfund loan to pay for a sewer project plan, which will save the City about \$100,000 by going that route.
- The City plans to utilize community enhancement funds from the Columbia River Enterprise Zone II Board to make improvements/beautifications to local residences and businesses.

Open Agenda: No items

Old Business

U.S. Forest Service – Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Richard Tovey, County Counsel

Mr. Tovey said this MOU was signed in prior years and he recommended doing so again.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA Forest Service (Wallowa-Whitman, Malheur and Umatilla National Forests) FS Agreement No. 16-MU-11061400-011, and authorize Judge Tallman to sign on behalf of the County. Judge Tallman seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Business

Healthcare Planning and Coordination Update and Discussion

Postponed until June 8th

First Reading: Adopting Ordinance – Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Ordinance and Zoning Map Amendment to authorize the Airport Light Industrial Use Zone

First Reading: Adopting Ordinance – Airport Approach, Airport Hazard, and Airport Safety and Compatibility Overlay Zone

Hank Pieper, GIS Technician, Planning Department

Mr. Pieper provided first readings for both of the above. Second readings will take place May 18th.

Funding Request – 11th Annual Youth Fishing Derby at Cutsforth Park

Commissioner Rea moved to approve a \$250 donation from the Court Discretionary Fund to the Morrow County Parks 11th Annual Youth Fishing Derby held at Cutsforth Park on Saturday, June 4th. Judge Tallman seconded. Unanimous approval.

New Positions (two): General Maintenance Associate, Data Analyst

Jerry Sorte, Administrative Officer

Mr. Sorte said both positions were approved during the Budget Committee Hearings and official motions are now necessary from the Court.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the new job description for General Maintenance Associate; and assign it to Pay Range 12 of the General Employee wage scale; and authorize it be filled effective July 1, 2016. Judge Tallman seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the updated job description for Data Analyst; and assign it to Pay Range 16 of the General Employee wage scale; and authorize it be filled effective July 1, 2016. Judge Tallman seconded. Unanimous approval.

McGee Wealth Management Contracts

Postponed to allow additional time for review by County Counsel.

County Counsel Report

Mr. Tovey reported he has been reviewing several contracts, including the McGee Wealth Management agreements. In addition, he's been researching a liability question from the Sheriff's Department. He was asked to determine the responsible party for medical bills when a person has been arrested and is in custody, but becomes ill during transport. Mr. Tovey said it appears to be the individual's liability, not the County's.

Administrative Officer Report

Mr. Sorte said in-depth policy discussions were held during yesterday's Department Head & Elected Officials meeting regarding purchasing, credit card usage/receipts, and travel/meal expenses.

Mr. Sorte asked the Court to consider a date for a field trip to the OHV Park following a County Court meeting in Heppner; June 1st was chosen.

He said he hopes to have some facility improvement projects started in the next month, such as the Courthouse heating and cooling system, landscaping at the Bartholomew Building, and sidewalk improvements between the two buildings.

Department Reports

Veteran's Department Update

Linda Skendzel, Veterans Services Officer

- Presented a draft letter of support regarding an application by Greater Oregon Behavioral Health and Community Counseling Solutions for a rental assistance program to serve veterans and youth. The Court agreed by consensus to sign a final version next week.
- The Tri-County Veterans Round-Up, Walla Walla Veterans Administration Medical Center, Town Hall Meeting, will take place Wednesday, May 25th at the Hermiston Conference Center from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Ms. Skendzel proposed the idea of a veterans golf tournament in September or October in Boardman to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. She said it would be an opportunity to distribute benefit information to veterans. The Court decided to revisit this and other ideas next week.

Claims

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the Accounts Payable dated May 12th, in the amount of \$82,768.21. Judge Tallman seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes

Commissioner Rea moved to approve the minutes of May 4th, with corrections. Judge Tallman seconded. Unanimous approval.

Correspondence Reviewed:

- Invitation to Change of Command Ceremony for the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, July 8th
- Notice to Affected Property Owners from the Planning Department for a public hearing continued to May 24th, 7:00 p.m. at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Rea said last week's Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project Open House was very well attended. She said she attended a Military Airspace Advisory Committee meeting on May 5th where the group discussed changing the name to convey its broader purpose – that it also encompasses economic impact and energy issues. Commissioner Rea said she submitted an article to the *Gazette-Times* summarizing the most recent meeting of the Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee and notifying of the next (Tuesday, May 17th).

Adjourned: 10:10 a.m.