



**Court Agenda  
April 17, 2024**

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**Additions to Agenda**

**1.0 Appointment Schedule**

- |     |                       |            |   |
|-----|-----------------------|------------|---|
| 1.1 | 9:00 a.m.             |            | Kelsi Phillips, Transportation Quarterly Report             |
| 1.2 | <del>9:15 a.m.</del>  | 9:10 a.m.  | Julia Fall, Sherman County School District Quarterly Report |
| 1.3 | <del>9:30 a.m.</del>  | 9:20 a.m.  | Rod Asher, Weed District Quarterly Report                   |
| 1.4 | <del>9:45 a.m.</del>  | 9:52 a.m.  | Debbie Hayden, Supplemental Budget Hearing                  |
| 1.5 | <del>10:00 a.m.</del> | 10:02 a.m. | Fritz Bachman, Community Corrections Quarterly Report       |
| 1.6 | <del>10:30 a.m.</del> | 10:38 a.m. | Taylor Crow, Sherman County Public Library Quarterly Report |
| 1.7 | <del>10:45 a.m.</del> | 10:58 a.m. | Al Barton, Center for Living Quarterly Report               |
| 1.8 | <del>11:30 a.m.</del> | 11:31 a.m. | Eric Aikin, Veteran Services                                |

**2.0 Action Items**

- 2.1 Amendment No 002 to Grant No. 21-103U HECC
- 2.2 CAFFA Resolution and Racial Impact Statement
- 2.3 Annual Price Adjustment for Sherman County/Waste Management Disposal Services

**3.0 Discussion Items**

- 3.1 Vacation Days
- 3.2 Mobile Eye Health and Vision Services
- 3.3 Commissioner Reports and updates

**4.0 Consent Agenda:**

- 4.1 Minutes of March 20, 2024
- 4.2 Minutes of April 3, 2024
- 4.3 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – March 2024
- 4.4 Treasurer's Report – March 2024

**5.0 Future Agenda Items:**

If necessary, an Executive Session may be held in accordance with: ORS 192.660(2)(a) – Employment of Public Officers, Employees & Agents, ORS 192.660(2)(b) – Discipline of Public Officers & Employees, ORS 192.660(2)(e) – Real Property Transactions, ORS 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection, ORS 192.660(2)(h) - Conferring with Legal Counsel regarding litigation, ORS 192.660(2)(i) – Personnel



**SHERMAN COUNTY COURT  
REGULAR SESSION  
SHERMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM**

**MINUTES**

**April 17, 2024**

**Court Opened: 9:00am**

Present: Judge Joe Dabulskis, Commissioner Justin Miller, Commissioner Joan Bird, Administrative Assistant Tammi Gaskey

A quorum was present. No media was present.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Agenda Items Added**

**1.0 Appointment Schedule**

**1.1 9:00 a.m. Kelsi Phillips, Transportation Quarterly Report**

Present: Kelsi Phillips, Julia Fall, Rod Asher, Drew Messenger, Becky Hilderbrand

Kelsi Phillips, Transportation Coordinator, came to County Court to present her quarterly report. Kelsi gave the following highlights:

- Summarized financial statements
- Gave Bus Barn Update
  - Bus Barn project should be completed by the end of 2024
- Kelsi met with Michelle Colby from MCEDD and got her up to speed on the Bus Barn project
- Ridership Update
  - Very busy.
  - Current drivers are awesome

County Court thanked Kelsi and her team for the great job that they do every day. Judge Dabulskis reminded everyone of the constraints that transit and some other departments are by being fully or mostly funded by grants and therefore raises are not always as easy to recommend even when they would like to. Judge Dabulskis reminded everyone that Kelsi forewent a raise last year to give her drivers a raise and this year she forewent a raise again because the budget just couldn't afford it, but all employees get the COLA when the county decides on what the COLA will be and that was going to be a big enough hurdle to jump.

Judge Dabulskis was moved by Kelsi’s dedication to her job, department and the County and he wanted her to know how GREAT he thought she was.....so he presented her with a certificate of Greatness.

Way to go Kelsi!!! You are great and much appreciated!

**1.2 9:15 a.m. 9:10 a.m. Julia Fall, Sherman County School District Quarterly Report**

Present: Julia Fall, Rod Asher, Drew Messenger, Becky Hilderbrand

Julia Fall, Sherman County School District Superintendent, came to County Court to give her quarterly report. Below are a few highlights:

- This year district leadership has begun to discuss the strategic planning process. Our first step is to do foundational identity work, with all stakeholders. This will shape the direction we head as a school and will serve as a foundation and provide guardrails for the decision-making going forward in the coming years.

This work began with our staff this past Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The next step is for us to get all students’ input Please ask your student about the “survey” they have taken/will take as they will have a link for you to complete as well. Our family/community engagement night is scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>, 5:45 -6:45, with dinner provided. (The Pinewood Derby is scheduled for the same evening immediately following, at 6:45).

- Early Literacy Plan – the completed plan was shared with the board for final approval. With the 25% match from the school, we are set to receive and allocate over \$100,000 over the next two years to early literacy improvement. We are looking forward to making next step plans to improve out after-school program offerings in regards to literacy as well as teachers getting new classroom libraries, and investing in significant professional development opportunities for our staff.
- Hiring for Dean of Students and Vice Principal
- Cafeteria repairs completed. Heating should no longer be an issue.

**1.3 9:30 a.m. 9:20 a.m. Rod Asher, Weed District Quarterly Report**

Present: Rod Asher, Drew Messenger

9:21 a.m. Entered into Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel  
9:28 a.m. Exited Executive Session

During Executive Session Personnel issues were discussed.

Rod Asher, Weed District Supervisor, came to County Court and presented his quarterly report. Here are some of the highlights:

**Facilities**

The Weed District shop is crowded primarily because we have two road-side spray trucks that need to be kept inside year-round, due to the difficulty of draining, and the computer boards that are located on the outside of the trucks. The spray systems are worth more than the trucks they are attached to.

In 2021 when we took over the County road spray program, part of the discussion was to expand the current shop to house the additional road-side sprayer and the additional herbicides needed for the job. Everyone seemed to be in agreement at that time.

Rod will be requesting \$125,000 to expand the weed shop with one additional bay in the 2024-25 fiscal year. This is a rough number that he received from Jeff Schott which includes planning, design, permitting and construction.

### **Equipment**

New trailers were purchased in 2023 and older trailers were sold at auction, and the department received more money than expected. The new Grounds trailer has met the department's needs and is used for multiple purposes; including hauling equipment, brush, gravel and chemical containers for recycling.

Rod has requested \$67,200 for fiscal year 2024-25 to purchase a skid-steer machine. During the winter of 23-24, we borrowed the Road Department's to remove piles of snow at the Court House, Community Center, Extension Office, RV Park and Weed Shop. This was very efficient. This machine could also be used for Grounds year round, moving bark dust, logs or other items, and moving 270 gallon shuttles around the shop. The Road Department skid-steer machine is not always available to borrow.

### **Weed Board**

Thad Eakin was approved by the Weed Board as the new member to replace Rory Wilson, who resigned in 2023. Paper work and a formal request will be submitted soon.

The Board reviewed the County Noxious Weed List in February and made suggestions for changes. This will be re-visited in May, and recommendations will be made to the Court.

The May meeting will be a weed tour, visiting different sites and weeds through-out the County and neighboring areas. County Court members are encouraged to attend, if interested.

### **Project / Contracts**

Many projects continue year after year, such as ODOT, County roads, BPA, all Cities, the wind farms and many others, but we continue to offer our services to help with weed control where needed. New work is in the planning stages with the Army Corps of Engineers, BLM and the Union Pacific Railroad. We are also working with State Parks, and finishing the State grant on the Deschutes. Weather is always an issue that affects our work, but we make it work.

### **Grounds**

Mowing has started and the sprinklers will be turned on soon. Snow and ice removal was conducted this winter with all crew members. We switched our schedule to 4-10's, with two people working Monday through Thursday, and two working Tuesday through Friday. This helped with snow removal during afternoon storms.

A gazebo has been purchased for DeMoss Park and will be placed on the concrete slab where the pavilion used to be. We had trees trimmed this winter to make them healthier and will continue this going forward. Our arborist that we hired has recommended an increase to \$10,000 for the next few years. There are a lot of trees that need help at DeMoss Park.

## **1.4    ~~9:45 a.m.~~    9:52 a.m.    Debbie Hayden, Supplemental Budget Hearing**

Present: Debbie Hayden, Drew Messenger

Supplemental Budget Hearing opened at 9:52 a.m.

Supplemental Budget Hearing closed at 9:55 a.m.

During the Supplemental Budget Hearing the floor was opened to see if anyone had any questions or concerns about the recommendations that Finance Director Debbie Hayden had presented.

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to authorize the supplemental budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 as presented by Debbie Hayden, Sherman County Finance Director, effective April 17, 2024 and authorize County Court to sign.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**1.5    ~~10:00 a.m.~~    10:02 a.m.    Fritz Bachman, Community Corrections Quarterly Report**

Present: Fritz Bachman, Taylor Crow, Arla Melzer, Drew Messenger

Fritz Bachman, Community Corrections, came to County Court to give his quarterly report. Fritz stated that the Sherman County Community Corrections Biennial Plan was approved by the state. Fritz also stated that Community Corrections statewide lobbied legislators for an additional \$16,000,000 for the next biennium and it was awarded.

Fritz mentioned that his office has been short staffed 2 full time staff for the last year and he is finally interviewing to fill at least one of those positions now and hopes to have both positions filled by the end of the year. This will put the Community Corrections department back to 4 full-time parole and probation officers with Fritz still handling some cases.

Fritz talked about the collaboration that has been happening between his office and Center for Living over the last 18 months or so. With Steven Seeley leaving Center for Living, this collaboration started slowing down some but it is picking back up and it makes a world of difference for the clients. This collaboration includes having peer mentors and counselors in the office holding Level 1 treatment and support groups, plus office hours to answer questions, help fill out paperwork and be there when clients need them. The hope is to have someone from Center for Living at the Community Corrections Department Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. This` might not happen for a while, but it is a great goal to work towards.

**1.6    ~~10:30 a.m.~~    10:38 a.m.    Taylor Crow, Sherman County Public Library Quarterly Report**

Present: Taylor Crow, Arla Melzer, Drew Messenger

Arla Melzer introduced Taylor Crow, the new Sherman County Public Library Director. Taylor gave the Public Library quarterly report with the following highlights of event happenings at the Library:

- Social Sunday events monthly
- Book Club monthly
- Story time the first and third Saturday of every month
- Art & Photography workshop May 17<sup>th</sup>
- Summer Reading program ready to go
- Library is now open more hours

County Court welcomed Taylor.

**1.7 10:45 a.m. 10:58 a.m. Al Barton, Center for Living Quarterly Report**

Present: Al Barton, Drew Messenger

Al Barton, Center for Living Executive Director, came to County Court to give his quarterly report. Al showed a PowerPoint presentation and shared some encouraging news about Center for Living in Sherman County:

- Added Sherman County drop in center
- Space planning at Moro Medical
- Hired 2 full-time staff
- School based – 1 day/week and school based supervision

Al shared some next steps for Center for Living in Sherman County:

- Increase oversight and presence in Sherman County
- Develop internal controls for encounter data
- Utilize school-based therapist encounters to help meet 75% required for encounters (this will also increase community referrals as MCCFL will have a presence in the school system and contact with potential consumers to include youth and families)

**1.8 11:30 a.m. 11:31 a.m. Eric Akin, Veteran Services**

Present: Eric Akin, Drew Messenger

Eric Akin, Veteran Services Officer, came to County Court to ask for an increase in the counties contribution to the Tri-County Veteran Services budget. Eric stated that the last increase to the Tri-County Veteran Services budget by the counties was done for the 2010-2011 budget year which was set at \$4,200. At that time it was a great amount that met the needs of the three counties. But after 14 years with inflation that is no longer the case.

Eric stated that if each of the three counties were to increase from \$4,200 to \$10,000 annually, it would help keep the same capacity as it currently is at for the next two to four years.

Eric stated that if each of the three counties were to increase from \$4,200 to \$25,000 annually, it would give him the ability to expand the current services that are currently available and would cover his salary and benefits for the next few years.

Eric stated that according to the US Census Bureau there was 600 (174 Wheeler, 220 Gilliam, and 204 Sherman) veterans in 2018 with 261,322 in the State.

**2.0 Action Items**

**2.1 Amendment No 002 to Grant No. 21-103U HECC**

**Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve HECC Grant Amendment No 002 to Grant No. 21-103U effective through September 30, 2025 in the amount up to \$105,000 and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**2.2 CAFFA Resolution and Racial Impact Statement**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the 2024-25 Sherman County Assessment Function Funding Assistance (CAFFA) Program Grant Application, Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement, and Resolution in the amount of \$591,252 and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.**

**Vote: 3-0  
Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0**

**2.3 Annual Price Adjustment for Sherman County/Waste Management Disposal Services Contract**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the annual CPI price adjustment for the Sherman County/WMDSO Disposal Contract to \$30.50 per ton effective July 1, 2024.**

**Vote: 3-0  
Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0**

**3.0 Discussion Items**

**3.1 Vacation Day**

**Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Bird, to authorize defining a holiday day as equal to the number of regular hours one would normally work on that said day; a day equals a day.**

**Vote: 3-0  
Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0**

**Motion made on March 27, 2024**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to authorize two extra vacation days at 10 years of employment effective starting in 2024.**

**Vote: 3-0  
Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller  
No: 0  
Abstain: 0**

**Amended motion from March 27, 2024 on April 17, 2024**

**Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Bird, to authorize amending motion from March 27, 2024 County Court Session to authorize an additional 16 hours of vacation time at 10 years of employment effective starting in 2024.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

### 3.2 Mobile Eye Health and Vision Services

Judge Dabulskis received an email from Dr. Rebecca Chown with All Envision Eye Care for All asking for a letter of support and or funding to help make their project a reality.

All Envision Eye Care for All is a 501C3 non-profit mobile vision clinic, founded to address the inequities that exist in accessing primary eye health and vision services in underserved populations throughout rural Oregon (specifically Hood River, Wasco and Sherman Counties).

County Court is ok with writing a letter of support now but would like more questions answered before talking about financial support. County Court has questions such as: how often would the mobile eye health and vision services come to Sherman County, how would they select clientele, how would they make an appointment, etc.

### 3.3 Commissioner Reports and updates

**Commissioner Bird** – Attended a Prevention meeting; a SWCD meeting; a Center for Living meeting; a Public Health meeting; an Ethos Training; and an Extension Advisory Committee meeting.

Commissioner Bird met with Ted Swindells and Mayor Kuettel regarding the hemp facility property and possibilities for what the property could be used for in the future.

Commissioner Bird stated that she has heard from residents regarding recent changes in the US Postal Services in Sherman County and there was an article recently that also highlighted the changes and addressed some of the resident concerns. This does not seem to be just a Sherman County problem but more of a problem system wide with the US Postal Services. Routes have changed which means that the time of mail delivery to the county has changed and sometimes does not arrive. The inter-county courier services for the county have also been eliminated due to schedule and route changes.

Commissioner Bird stated that the City of Grass Valley is looking into additional funding streams for their waste water project.

**Commissioner Miller**- Attended a Fair Board meeting and an Ethos Training.

Commissioner Miller had a very good conversation with the Oregon Wheat Growers League regarding solar and bio solids.

Commissioner Miller has had conversations with residents regarding solar. Some residents are curious about how much decision making power County Court has in regards to solar projects. Commissioner Miller said that he always reminds residents that County Court has no say in agreements between land owners and private companies as long as it meets land use laws. The County works with the private companies about roads and right away and things of that nature.



**Judge Dabulskis** – Attended an AOC Natural Resource Committee meeting; a CREA meeting; a Sherman County School Board meeting; an Ethos Training; Drove around with Mark Coles looking at Sherman County roads; a School Trades Day; a Regional Brownfield Committee meeting; talked to Kathy Fitzpatrick about transit; a Safety meeting; a MCEDD Loan Board meeting; met with Nate Stice and Department of Energy; and a Frontier 911 Budget meeting.

12:47 p.m. Entered Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel  
12:52 p.m. Exited Executive Session

During Executive Session personnel issues were discussed.

#### **4.0 Consent Agenda:**

##### **4.1 Minutes of March 20, 2024**

**Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of March 20, 2024 as corrected.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

##### **4.2 Minutes of April 3, 2024**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of April 3, 2024 as presented.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

##### **4.3 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – March 2024**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Summary for the month of March 2024, as presented.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

##### **4.4 Treasurer's Report – March 2024**

**Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2024, as presented.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**5.0 Future Agenda Items:**  
Library tour in June (June 27<sup>th</sup>)

**Upcoming Dates:**

May 1<sup>st</sup> Sherman County Court  
County Court

May 7<sup>th</sup> Sherman County Budget Committee

May 15<sup>th</sup> BSD Budge Committee/Sherman County Court  
Session

May 27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day Holiday

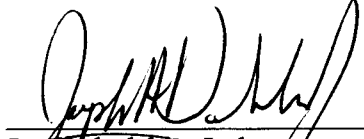
June 5<sup>th</sup> BSD Budget Hearing/Sherman

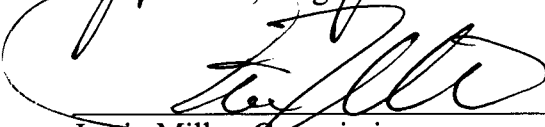
June 19<sup>th</sup> Juneteenth Holiday

June 27<sup>th</sup> Sherman County Court Special


Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

**Sherman County Court**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Dabulskis, Judge

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Justin Miller, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tammi Gaskey, Administrative Assistant