



SHERMAN

COUNTY

Court Agenda February 19, 2025 Commissioner's Meeting Room 500 Court Street Moro, OR. 97039 9:00 a.m.

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Additions to Agenda

- 2.3 NCPH Budget Member
- 3.8 Congressional Spending Funding Request

1.0 Appointment Schedule

- 1.1 ~~9:00 a.m.~~ 9:01 a.m. Kristi Weiss, Clerk's Quarterly Report
- 1.2 ~~9:15 a.m.~~ 9:09 a.m. Al Barton, Mid-Columbia Center for Living
- 1.3 9:45 a.m. Georgia Macnab, CEDS List
- 1.4 ~~10:15 a.m.~~ 10:16 a.m. Bob Thomas, Wildlife Services Quarterly Report
- 1.5 ~~10:45 a.m.~~ 10:41 a.m. Eric Akin, Tri-County Veteran Services Quarterly Report
- 1.6 ~~11:15 a.m.~~ 11:02 a.m. Mark Coles, Road Master – Scott Canyon Paving Project

2.0 Action Items

- 2.1 Sherman County Sheriff's Office Pictures
- 2.2 Authorization to Pay Regular Monthly County Bills

3.0 Discussion Items

- 3.1 City-wide Yard Sale – June 28th
- 3.2 Written Justice Court Quarterly Report
- 3.3 Wildfire Map
- 3.4 Oregon Youth Corps
- 3.5 Written Museum Quarterly Report
- 3.6 Written Senior Center Quarterly Report
- 3.7 Commissioner Reports and Updates

4.0 Consent Agenda

- 4.1 Minutes of January 8, 2025
- 4.2 Minutes of February 5, 2025
- 4.3 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – January 2025
- 4.4 Treasurer's Report – January 2025

5.0 Future Agenda Items

Tour an apartment at Sagewind Manor after County Court.

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

February 19, 2025

Court Opened: 9:00 am

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

Additions to Agenda

- 2.3 NCPH Budget Member
- 3.8 Congressional Spending Funding Request

1.0 Appointment Schedule

- 1.1 ~~9:00 a.m.~~ 9:01 a.m. Kristi Weis – Clerk Quarterly Report
Present: Kristi Weis, Debbie Hayden, Ben Altman, Ian Melzer, Brooke Henrickson, Victor Veloz, Imma Royal, Al Barton, Sherry Viers, Cara Mendoza, Brenda Coleman, Brittany Wood

Kristi Weis gave her quarterly report to County Court. Here are some of the highlights:

- 79% turn out for the Presidential election.
- Preparing for Special District Election to take place in May, 2025.
- Attended Mid-Winter County Clerk’s Conference.
- Property Value Appeals Board (PVAB) has 3 non office holding members.
- Met with Judge Dabulskis and Dana Pursley-Haner to discuss the Continuity of Operations Plan. We will be updating the plan.
- Discussed with Meredith Smith, County Counsel, the idea of changing insurance agents.
- Oregon Government Ethics Commission – Oregon law mandates that all members of governing bodies within public bodies with total expenditures of \$1 million or more in a fiscal year attend or view an Oregon Government Ethics Commission – approved training on the state’s public meetings law. This training must be completed at least once during each term of office.

1.2 ~~9:15 a.m.~~ 9:09 a.m. Al Barton, Mid-Columbia Center for Living
Present: Al Barton, Debbie Hayden, Ben Altman, Ian Melzer, Brooke Henrickson, Victor Veloz, Imma Royal, Sherry Viers, Cara Mendoza, Brenda Coleman, Brittany Wood

Al Barton, Mid-Columbia Center for Living Director, brought some of his employees to help give an update on what Center for Living staff are doing in Sherman County and how they are making a positive impact in the county.

Victor Veloz – Employment Specialist

Some of the barriers that Victor’s clients deal with in Sherman County is:

- Transportation to work; some have no license and others have no car.
- Victor has been building relationships with Azure and businesses in Biggs to help some of his clients find work.
- Victor also helps find ways to pay bills so that clients can stay in housing as needed.
- Another need for clients is food boxes.

Victor said that there are about 8 houseless clients that he works with on a regular basis. This number can fluctuate depending on the time of year.

Imma Royal – Mental Health/Adults

Some of the barriers that Imma’s clients face is Sherman County is a very small community and everyone knows everyone, so you are very visible when you have an appointment with Imma at the Wasco Events Center. Some people just don’t feel comfortable with people seeing them go to their appointments.

Trust is a barrier and it takes about 3 months to build trust with these clients.

Mid-Columbia Center for Living is renovating space in Moro and then will relocate from the Wasco Event Center. Employees are hoping that this space will be a little more removed and private for their clients.

Sherry Viers – Case Manager

Sherry works with the houseless individuals in and around Biggs. Sherry said that some of the barriers that her clients have are:

- Not enough shelters
- Some are not allowed in the stores in Biggs, which means that they need to find transportation to The Dalles to do their shopping.
- Need help getting medications, getting to appointments
 - Sherry provides transportation as needed as she has gained their trust over time.
- Trust is a big issue for these clients.

Cara Mendoza – Mental Health

Cara works with clients who have been referred to her by parole and probation, Victor Veloz and Sherry Viers. Cara can help clients with rent assistance to get folks back on track.

Cara stated that she is part of the “Dream Team”. They all work well together and coordinate as needed to help their clients.

Judge Dabulskis told Al Barton that this was the best quarterly report that he ever gave and County Court looks forward to more reports like this.

Judge Dabulskis asked Al how a federal funding freeze would impact Mid-Columbia Center for Living. Al stated that at this time, there are no changes to Medicaid, so the federal funding freeze will not have a big impact on Mid-Columbia Center for Living.

Judge Dabulskis asked Al if there were any house or senate bill that he is tracking. Al stated that there are a couple of bill that could use County Court’s support and that he would send a 1 page list to Tammi Gaskey to send out.

- 1.3** 9:45 a.m. Georgia Macnab, CEDS List
Present: Georgia Macnab, Christian Ayles, Ian Melzer, Ben Altman, Brittany Wood, Brooke Henrickson, Brenda Coleman, Rita Wilson, Debbie Hayden

Georgia presented Sherman County Projects 2025 and then County Court, with input from Georgia and all four cities, prioritized the list. Here is the Sherman County 2025 CEDS List:

1. City of Wasco, Sewer Line Replacement on Clark Street
2. City of Grass Valley, Water Main Replacement for the City
3. City of Moro, Water System Improvements
4. City of Rufus, New Water Treatment Plant
5. City of Rufus, New Well and Infrastructure
6. City of Moro, Sewer Upgrade/Pipe Bursting Project
7. City of Grass Valley, Park Upgrades
8. City of Wasco, Water Meter System
9. Sherman Health District, Clinic Expansion Backup Power/Emergency Generator
10. Sherman County, Work Force Housing/Senior Living Facility

County Court thanked all the cities for coming to the meeting today (2-19-25) and for participating in the CEDS list discussion and hopes to see all the cities come to this meeting for an insightful discussion every year.

Judge Dabulskis stated that he would be meeting with Senator Nash soon and would like to be able to tell him what the most immediate needs are for each city. The following were the responses from the cities: Grass Valley – Water, Moro – Well, Rufus – Sewer, and Wasco – Sewer Main Line.

Judge Dabulskis asked the cities if there were any house or senate bills that they were closely monitoring that would have a big impact on them. None of the cities were watching any of the bills very closely and said they were watching for updates on bills through League of Oregon Cities.

- 1.4** ~~10:15 a.m.~~ 10:16 a.m. Bob Thomas, Wildlife Services Quarterly Report
Present: Bob Thomas, Debbie Hayden, Brittany Wood

Bob Thomas came to County Court to give his Wildlife Services quarterly report. Bob reported during his last report that he had one of the best spring seasons and now he is reporting that he had one of the worst summer, fall and winter seasons.

Bob stated that he removed almost 40 raccoons from the City of Wasco. Bob also stated that he removed around 25 coyotes from the City of Wasco.

There are no changes in wolf activity.

Judge Dabulskis asked Bob if there were any house or senate bills that he is keeping an eye on. Bob stated that Senate Bill 769 is one that he is watching closely. SB 769 The measure allows a county to be exempt from current statute banning the use of dogs to hunt cougars if the county voters approve a measure through an initiative petition or one referred by the county's governing body.

Entered into Executive Session in Accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel at 10:27 a.m.

Exited Executive Session at 10:31 a.m.

During Executive Session personnel matters were discussed.

1.5 ~~10:45 a.m.~~ 10:41 a.m. Eric Akin, Tri-County Veteran Services Quarterly Report
Present: Eric Akin, Debbie Hayden, Brittany Wood

Eric Akin, Tri-County Veterans Services, came to County Court to present his quarterly report. Here are some of the highlights:

- 102 in person interviews
- 12 out-of-office interviews
- Veteran's Day Weekend Meals
- Wasco County Veteran Coffee
- Helped find transportation for veteran
- Helped find a mechanic for a veteran
- Assisted 4 with bills

Eric noted that claims are being processed faster and it is only taking about 125 days instead of 194 days.

Judge Dabulskis asked Eric if there were any house or senate bills that he is keeping an eye on. Eric stated that there were several bills he was watching but the top three were HB 2395, SB 225, and HB 2147 from 2023 possibly being revamped.

HB 2395 Required the Department of Veterans' Affairs to distribute moneys for county veterans' service officers to counties that have a population of less than 30,000 and are or will be unable to maintain operations of county veterans' service officers due to budget decreases.

SB 225 Exempts from state income tax up to \$17,500 in retirement pay or pension received for service in the Armed Forces of the United States for a taxpayer who is receiving retirement pay or pension for service in the Armed Forces of the United States and who has not attained 63 years of age before the close of the taxable year for which a return is filed.

HB 2147 Directs governing body of each county to designate person to ensure interment of unclaimed human cremated remains of veteran or survivor of veteran. Limits civil liability for interment of eligible decedent except for gross negligence.

Eric asked County Court what their thoughts on the Greater Idaho movement were. County Court stated that they reach out to Salem to encourage legislators to move this forward because that is what the voters directed them to do.

County Court wanted to give a ‘Shout Out’ to Rita for making the suggestion to have Eric get a gas card to purchase gas in Moro which will be a cost savings for Veterans Services.

- 1.6 ~~11:15 a.m.~~ 11:02 a.m. Mark Coles, Road Master – Scott Canyon Paving Project
Present: Mark Coles, Debbie Hayden, Brittany Wood

Mark Coles, Road Master, came to County Court to discuss a Scott Canyon paving project.

Mark talked to County Court about the 4.4 miles from Medler Lane to Herin (Scott Canyon) that needs an overlay. Mark stated that the overlay would be expensive and he wanted to get the support of County Court on which overlay to put down before he makes this huge investment on this stretch of road. A 2.5 inch overlay will be about 1,500,000 and a 3 inch overlay will be about 1,700,000.

Mark stated that he feels that he could do the 3 inch overlay on Medler Lane to Herin, complete the Hart and Bruckert projects and still have money left in the Road Improvement Fund.

Consensus from County Court is to move forward with the 3 inch overlay project on Medler Lane to Herin.

Mark presented some information on truck weights and the volume of trucks using certain Sherman County roads and how that is impacting the condition of those specific roads. During construction of windmills, the Road Department issues Conditional Use Permits and the companies agree to put the road back to the condition it was in when they started using it. The problem the County is seeing now, is that large trucks are excessively using County roads with heavy loads, tearing up the roads quickly and they don’t have to sign a Conditional Use Permit. This means they do not have to help pay for the road that they are tearing up. Mark asked County Court to look over the information and let him know their thoughts.

Recess at 11:39 a.m.
Reconvene at 11:44 a.m.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Sherman County Sheriff’s Office Pictures

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve moving the Sherman County Sheriff photos to the blank wall in the Sheriff’s Office Lobby, as requested by Sheriff James Burgett.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Justice Court was asked their thoughts on moving Sherman County Sheriff photos to the blank wall in the Sheriff's Office Lobby and Shandie Johnson thought it was a great idea to share history with all who entered the courthouse.

2.2 Authorization to Pay Regular Monthly County Bills

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to authorize the Finance Office to pay the regular monthly county bills for FY 25/26 from the appropriate funds as outlined by the Sherman County Finance Officer, Debbie Hayden.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.3 NCPH Budget Committee Member

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to appoint Jenny Anglin to the North Central Public Health Budget Committee as the Sherman County representative for the 25/26 fiscal year.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 City-wide Yard Sale – June 28th

Sheriff James Burgett submitted a letter asking if the County would be interested in holding a County Yard Sale on June 28th which would be during the Moro City-Wide Yard Sale. County Court was in support of this. James and his wife will help run the yard sale for the County and Steve Biagi will help get items ready for it.

County Court asked Tammi Gaskey to send out an email to all County employees so that they can go through closets, cupboards and storage areas and decide if there are things that they would like to put in the yard sale. County Court does want all items priced to sell. Each department will be responsible for putting away or disposing of their department items that are not sold.

3.2 Written Justice Court Quarterly Report

Good report.

3.3 Wildfire Map

Judge Dabulskis stated that individual Counties are appealing the wildfire map. Judge Dabulskis also stated that there is a bill seeking to repeal the entire wildfire map. Judge Dabulskis stated that County Court can't give legal advice, but that the Court should encourage people to appeal.

3.4 Oregon Youth Corps

Received grant.

3.5 Written Museum Quarterly Report

Very nice report. The museum seems to be very busy.

3.6 Written Senior Center Quarterly Report

Many repairs have been completed and everything seems to be working good now.

3.7 Commissioner Reports and Updates

Commissioner Bird – Attended a Prevention meeting; met with the Martha McInnes, Director of NCPH, met with Interim Director of MCCAC and an HR firm; met with Kenny LaPoint to pick up items belonging to MCCAC; SCVD meeting; Center for Living meeting; NCPH meeting; Mid-Columbia Community Action Council meeting; phone call with Tyler Stone; phone call with Martha McInnes

Commissioner Bird has been having conversations with residents regarding solar.

Judge Dabulskis – Attended a pre-bid meeting for the bus barn; a weekly Eastern Oregon conference call; NORCOR interviews; CREA Executive Board meeting; AOC Executive Board meeting; AOC Legislative Committee meeting; AOC Directors meeting; AOC Open House; Safety Committee meeting; MCEDD Executive Board meeting; Frontier TeleNet meeting; and a NACo Environment and Land Use meeting.

Judge Dabulskis stated that he received an email from Christian Ayles with OSU Extension asking if it was ok to install security cameras. Consensus of County Court is yes, it is ok for OSU to install security cameras at the Burnet Building/OSU Extension Office.

Commissioner Miller – Attended an LCHP meeting.

Commissioner Miller has been receiving updates from Bryce Coelsch regarding a moisture issue with the new fair grounds building.

Commissioner Miller has been having conversations with residents regarding solar and the wildfire map.

3.8 Congressional Spending Funding Request

Commissioner Bird asked if County Court was ok with her putting together a Congressional Spending Funding request for the maximum of 2,000,000 for the Resolution Center and for the

Building of NCPH. Consensus of County Court is for Commissioner Bird to move forward with submitting a Congressional Spending Funding request.

Commissioner Bird stated that she will reach out to Tyler Stone of Wasco County and Michelle Colby of MCEDD. Michelle will help Commissioner Bird with the paperwork which is due this Sunday, February 23, 2025.

4.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Minutes of January 8, 2025

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Minutes of January 8, 2025, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Minutes of February 5, 2025

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2025, as corrected.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.3 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – January 2025

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Summary of January 2025, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.4 Treasurer's Report – January 2025

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Treasurer's Report – January 2025, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

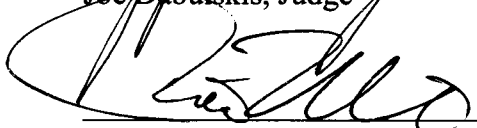
5.0 Future Agenda Items

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Sherman County Court



Joe Dabulskis, Judge

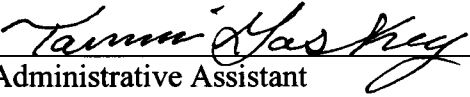


Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest:



Administrative Assistant
Tammi Gaskey