



Court Agenda

February 3, 2016

1.0 Appointment Schedule:

- 1.1** 9:00 a.m. Ron McDermid – Justice of the Peace – Quarterly Report
- 1.2** 9:15 a.m. Public Hearing: Goal 3 Exception – Georgia Macnab – Planning Department
- 1.3** 9:45 a.m. Georgia Macnab – Planning Director – Quarterly Report
- 1.4** 10:00 a.m. Shandie Johnson – Prevention Coordinator – Quarterly Report
- 1.5** 10:15 a.m. Sharon Thornberry – Rural Communities Liaison – Regional Food Bank Update
- 1.6** 11:00 a.m. Jacque Shei – Mid-Columbia Economic Development District – Quarterly Report
- 1.7** 11:15 a.m. Jennifer Zimmerlee – Sherman County RV Park Update
- 1.8** 11:45 a.m. Shawn Payne – Emergency Services Director – Quarterly Report
- 1.9** 1:30 p.m. Marnene Benson-Wood – Transit Coordinator/Treasurer – Quarterly Report
- 1.10** 1:45 p.m. Katie Paul – Victim’s Assistant Program Director – Justice Reinvestment Grant Additional Contract

Additions to Agenda:

Fiber Connection

2.0 Action Items:

- 2.1 Appointment – Sherman County Area Watershed Council
- 2.2 Appointment – Sherman County Ambulance Board
- 2.3 Resolution – Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Sherman County Representative
- 2.4 Highly Rural Transportation Grant
- 2.5 Intergovernmental Agreement Between Sherman County and the Early Learning Division
- 2.6 Fiber Connection

3.0 Discussion Items:

- 3.1 Kent Water District
- 3.2 Fair Board Term Length
- 3.3 Technology Audit Quote
- 3.4 Wasco Annex
- 3.5 Preschool Transportation
- 3.6 County Road Funding Redistribution Proposals Support
- 3.7 Commissioner Reports

4.0 Consent Agenda:

- 4.1 Special Session Minutes of January 15, 2016
- 4.2 Minutes of January 20, 2016
- 4.3 Claims – January 2016

5.0 Future Agenda Items:



**SHERMAN COUNTY COURT
REGULAR SESSION
SHERMAN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURTROOM**

MINUTES

February 3, 2016

Opened Court:

Present: Judge Gary Thompson, Commissioner Mike Smith, Commissioner Tom McCoy, Administrative Assistant Lauren Hernandez

A quorum was present. No news media was present.

Additions to Agenda

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to provide \$200 to bid for the refrigerator from Sherman County School District.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to amend the Sherman County Comprehensive Plan by taking an exception to the Statewide Planning Goal 3 for the Wy'East Solar Development with the Findings of Fact as prepared by the applicant and declaring an emergency.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve a cash match from County General Funds in the amount of \$15,000 for the 2016 Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) summer youth work crew.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the re-appointment of Gary Irzyk as Soil and Water Conservation District Representative and to appoint as new

Directors to the Council Thad Eakin (South Sherman Watershed), Colton McCullough (North Sherman Watershed), Keegan Kock (Grass Valley Canyon Watershed), and Clint Moore (North Sherman Watershed) for terms of four years to expire December 31, 2019.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the re-appointment of Kathleen Ahearn as Chair, Bob Stone as Training Officer, and Joe Belshe as Assistant Training Officer on the Sherman County Ambulance Board for two year terms to expire December 31, 2017.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Resolution In the Matter of the Appointment of Randy Hilderbrand to the Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Board.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the Highly Rural Areas Grant Agreement between Sherman County and the State of Oregon in the amount of \$45,000 and authorizing Judge Thompson to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to contract with Windwave in the amount of \$15, 291.00 to run fiber underground from existing fiber in Wasco to the Wasco Annex.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to award the contract for up to \$4,500 to Day Wireless for a technology audit of the county's internet system.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to authorize the expenditure of up to 3,000 to provide rides for preschool children to the public/school library through Mid-Columbia Bus at the rate of 116/trip.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Special Session Minutes of January 15, 2016, and Minutes of January 20, 2016, as presented.

Vote: 3-0
Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson
No: 0
Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the claims for the month of January.

Vote: 3-0
Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson
No: 0
Abstain: 0

1.0 Appointment Schedule:

1.1 9:00 a.m. Ron McDermid – Justice of the Peace – Quarterly Report

Present: Ron McDermid, Linda Cornie, Elizabeth Wallace, Georgia Macnab, Randy Hilderbrand

Linda Cornie, Potlatch, reported Potlatch received the freezer they bid on from the school district. They would like to bid on the refrigerator up for bid. Potlatch currently has three refrigerators, but two are not in good shape. Obtaining the refrigerator from the school district could replace all three of the current refrigerators. A lock will need to be added to the doors if one is not already installed to secure food inventory.

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to provide \$200 to bid for the refrigerator from Sherman County School District.

Vote: 3-0
Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson
No: 0
Abstain: 0

Ron McDermid, Justice of the Peace, presented a quarterly report. The early part of the first quarter of the fiscal year showed strong revenue. Currently, revenue is well ahead of the projected number for the year. Citations are stable. End of second quarter totals show 567 citations written, which is within the expected range.

House Bill 3402 has made changes to the speed limit, which became operative on March 1st. Ron presented a map showing areas of Oregon impacted by the bill.

1.2 9:15 a.m. Public Hearing: Goal 3 Exception – Georgia Macnab – Planning Department

Present: Georgia Macnab, Randy Hilderbrand

Judge Thompson opened a public hearing at 9:15 a.m. Georgia Macnab, Planning Director, explained the hearing was for a Goal 3 Exception for the solar power generation facility proposed by

Iberdrola/Pacific Solar Investment. The site is located in exclusive farm zone. Goal 3 is required when more than twenty acres of farmable land located in an exclusive farm zone is taken for other use. The Planning Commission looked over the plans on January 25, 2016, and recommended approval to County Court. The Conditional Use Permit becomes automatically approved if the Goal 3 Exception is approved. Georgia has communicated with various agencies and entities about this project, and no opposition has been voiced.

The land was chosen for the project based on its proximity to the Klondike Substation. The ground is flat, has already been disturbed, and there is a low environmental impact on this location. There is a caveat in the agreement stating at the end of the useful life of the project, the land will be converted back to farm land.

As part of the conditions of the Conditional Use Permit, Pacific Solar Investments is to submit a plan to Georgia detailing how it is financially feasible for them to remove their equipment from the land. Pacific Solar Investments could possibly scrap the material and use the money to help pay for decommission. Randy Hilderbrand, resident of Wasco, stated it was cost prohibitive for Pacific Solar Investments to put a bond out for the project, as the bond would likely end the project.

At the end of the project, the Conditional Use Permit ends. To continue the project, Pacific Solar Investments will have to redo the process.

No further public comment was heard.

The public hearing was closed at 9:25 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to amend the Sherman County Comprehensive Plan by taking an exception to the Statewide Planning Goal 3 for the Wy'East Solar Development with the Findings of Fact as prepared by the applicant and declaring an emergency.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

The Court discussed items on the county's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) list. The list is comprised of projects listed under two categories: Technical Assistance and Public Works. The Court went through the list and identified projects to remove, change, or add. The following projects were moved to the Public Works category: Courthouse Facilities project, Kent Well Study, Downtown Improvement Plan, and considering the Wasco Campus for senior housing. The Wasco Annex was moved to the Technical Assistance category. Giles French Park was removed from the list. The following projects were kept on the list and adjusted for correct information: Pumped Storage, Biggs Water Project, Work Force Housing, 911 Call Center, Middle Mile Fiber. Brief discussion was held about updating the Strategic Plan. A long-range plan taking into account SIP funding is needed. The Strategic Plan was removed from the CEDS list and a work session will be scheduled to create a plan. The CEDS list will be readdressed during the next Court session.

1.3 9:45 a.m. Georgia Macnab – Planning Director – Quarterly Report

Present: Georgia Macnab, Randy Hilderbrand, Sharon Thornberry, Shandie Johnson

Georgia Macnab, Planning Director, presented a quarterly report. Her projects this quarter included the Goal 3 Exception and Conditional Use Permit for Pacific Solar Investments, the Transportation System Plan, complaints received about Starvation Lane, Golden Hills, beginning work reviewing the Model code, and working with Sherman School District about fire hydrant placement. Georgia is currently Association of Oregon County Planning Directors President. She has helped organize schedules, schedule monthly agendas and speakers, run monthly meetings, and will continue to act as president until the end of 2016.

1.4 10:00 a.m. Shandie Johnson – Prevention Coordinator – Quarterly Report

Present: Shandie Johnson, Randy Hilderbrand, Sharon Thornberry

Shandie Johnson, Prevention Coordinator, presented a quarterly report. Shandie attended a Prevention and Treatment Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting where she was able to meet and collaborate with other prevention coordinators. Once a month, Shandie plans to attend Gorge Prevention Group with Washington prevention coordinators, the Hood River prevention coordinator, and the Wasco County prevention coordinator for the purpose of updating and collaborating with coordinators from the area.

Youth activities have started at the library on Wednesday afternoons. The goal is to have as many youth involved as possible. Those who attended last week brainstormed activities to help bring other youth in. One suggestion is to reward those who consistently attend and complete projects, possibly through fieldtrip-type excursions.

Shandie is working on her prevention specialist certification and should complete certification in two years.

The Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) grant still needs to be submitted. The total cost of the program this year is \$26,471. The grant provides \$12,000 if the full amount is received. OYCC is requesting \$14,471.82 from the county.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve a cash match from County General Funds in the amount of \$15,000 for the 2016 Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) summer youth work crew.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Brief discussion was held about a possible minimum wage increase. If minimum wage is increased, OYCC will need to readjust hours next year to accommodate for the increased cost.

1.5 10:15 a.m. Sharon Thornberry – Rural Communities Liaison – Regional Food Bank Update

Present: Sharon Thornberry, Perry Thurston, Randy Hilderbrand

Oregon Food Bank (OFB) Rural Communities Liaison Sharon Thornberry presented an update about the food bank to the Court. OFB is a state-wide food bank. Approximately 17,000 people in Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman counties qualify for food assistance, and Mid-Columbia Community Action Council no longer had the capacity to meet this need. A new food bank is being developed for the three-county area. Sharon explained a new food bank will build new relationships and help make it easier to collect surplus bounty from local resources. The new vision will honor existing relationships but will

also seek partnerships to create new programs. The new food bank will collaborate with health care organizations and providers to identify food insecurity and develop nutritional interventions. It will work with people facing hunger and other community partners to offer educational resources like cooking and gardening classes, and will work to amplify the voices of people affected by hunger so their experiences can help improve social services and public policy. It will also collaborate with organizations and advocates working to strengthen the local food chain throughout Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman counties, as well as collaborate with the OFB Network to implement food banking best practices and adapt services to build in strengths and meet the needs of the region.

Over the next year, OFB Rural Communities Liaisons will engage local community members to better understand local resources, refine the vision for a new food bank, and identify an organization to manage the new entity. Priorities include stabilizing existing services, on-site evaluations, holding quarterly meetings, planning for inclement weather, assessing unmet needs, and developing new partner agencies or programs targeting those needs.

Discussion was held about the need for a new food bank facility. The current building is not suitable for an expanded food bank to serve the three counties and was not built as a food warehouse nor meets modern food safety standards. Sharon showed pictures of other food bank warehouses from other parts of the state. An ideal food bank warehouse should have agency loading space, cooler and freezer space for pallets and produce, semi dock space, isolated space for repacking food, space allocated for education-type activities, and space for culling and processing regional donations. Suggestions were given about existing facilities that could possibly be adapted to fit these needs. OFB funding comes mostly from private entities. Building new facilities requires public and private dollars, and typically counties contribute a small amount of funding for local facilities.

In early April, community meetings will be held to discuss local food needs. Rural grocery surveys will be included in the needs assessment. The hope is to move forward with a new regional food bank by 2017.

1.6 11:00 a.m. Jacque Schei – Mid-Columbia Economic Development District – Quarterly Report

Present: Jessica Metta, Jacque Schei, Andy Anderson

Jacque Schei, interim Sherman County Economic Development Coordinator, presented a quarterly report. The Travel Oregon Grant was received. The contract has not yet arrived. The grant will help fund the development of materials for kiosks throughout the region.

Downtown improvement plans were finalized at the end of September. A meeting with four cities was held to discuss the plans. The main themes were implementation and funding. Jacque has talked with Kate Sinner, Regional Solutions, and Brad Dehart, Oregon Department of Transportation, about funding opportunities. The cities are interested in discussing funding with the county and would like to explore collaboration between cities that might also support funding. The cities would like the Court to consider supporting cities in starting an improvement fund if the cities propose a well-structured plan.

Andy Anderson, mayor of Moro, explained a committee is being established in Moro to help facilitate the downtown plans. The committee will likely be comprised of city council members, business owners, and residents, and meetings will be open to the public for input. The group will start developing the guidelines and application process, building a framework so if funding becomes available for projects, there is a way to manage the funds through the city. Currently, the challenge is allocating public funds to private entities for private improvements. The committee is attempting to make the framework adaptable for use by other cities. The City of Moro has dedicated \$10,000 towards downtown improvement plans

but currently has no method to distribute the funds. Andy asked the Court if there was a dedicated amount from the county set aside to support the downtown improvement plans, as knowing the funding amount will help cities prioritize projects and guidelines. Currently, there are no funds set aside to fund downtown improvement projects. The Court asked for the cities to create scenarios for the Court to consider and feels the projects should be spearheaded by and mostly funded by the cities. It was suggested the cities schedule appearances with the budget committee during early April when more solid scenarios and proposals are completed.

The Court updated Jessica Metta, Sherman County Economic Development Coordinator, about a possible housing partnership between the county, Mid-Columbia Producers, and Sherman County School District. Housing partnership opportunities were discussed.

1.7 11:15 a.m. Jennifer Zimmerlee – Sherman County RV Park Update

Present: Jennifer Zimmerlee, Georgia Macnab, Randy Hilderbrand

Jennifer Zimmerlee, Sherman County RV Park Host, presented a quarterly report. Jennifer submitted a letter of resignation effective after March 31st. She is completing her Master's degree and will be actively searching for jobs upon graduation.

The RV park has had a successful year. A total of 503 guests visited the park. Feedback has been very positive, though Jennifer noted she limited her hours to the agreed upon amount in the job description, meaning she was unable to put in as many hours as years past have required.

DeGrange Construction will install French drain this spring, fixing tripping hazards. Jennifer expressed concern about cracks in the wall of the building and would like to make sure they are taken care of in the long-term. Internet speeds are a problem, but the fiber project should help with this.

Projects that need to be done include: graveling the park, replacing the rest of the old picnic tables, trimming the trees and removing a few dead ones, and fixing the hole in the laundry room roof. Quotes for the roof were received two years ago but were not followed up on. The laundry room needs to be sealed to take care of mold issues caused by leaking blocks. Jennifer expressed better communication is needed between the Court and the RV Park regarding follow-through on repair projects.

Consensus: The Court agreed that if a repair project fits within the RV Park repair budget and it is a priority, the RV Park should proceed with the repair. If the repair does not fit within the budget, the park should approach the Court with a proposal for discussion.

Other suggested projects include: upgrading some spots to 50amp capacity, frost free faucets, basic landscaping, installing wind breaks and fire rings for dry campers to use, horse shoe pits, and painting the shed. Discussion was held about Oregon Youth Conservation Corps working at the park and the possibility of installing meters at each RV site.

1.8 11:45 a.m. Shawn Payne – Emergency Services Director – Quarterly Report

Present: Shawn Payne, Will Carey, Randy Hilderbrand

Shawn Payne, Emergency Services Director, presented a quarterly report. Funding for the Everbridge mass notification system was taken from the Emergency Services budget. Emergency Services may need to ask for supplemental funds. The system cost \$958 for this year, including set up. After this year, the

cost will be \$416 to manage it. Shawn attended her first training for the system on Monday and is learning how to set up and promote it within Sherman County.

The Safety Committee discussed reunification in the case of a school evacuation. A new reunification location was suggested. A Memorandum of Use between Sherman County and Sherman County School District is needed. Will Carey, County Counsel, will prepare the document.

Consensus: The Court agreed to allow Sherman County School District to use the suggested location as a reunification site in the case of emergency.

Shawn reported the new ambulance should be delivered in the middle of February. She explained Sherman County Ambulance Service has never been tax supported. The ambulance service is having staffing issues and is looking around at solutions for this. Occasionally, there are not enough staff members to cover calls. Shawn is looking into the possibility of eventually increasing staff numbers, but no funding is available for this. She will continue to research solutions to this matter.

1.9 1:30 p.m. Marnene Benson-Wood – Transit Coordinator/Treasurer – Quarterly Report

Present: Marnene Benson-Wood, Will Carey

Marnene Benson-Wood, Transit Coordinator/Treasurer, presented a quarterly report. The Transit Department had operating profit because the Honda was sold. Payment for the Ford van is expected soon. The Transit Department is not planning on getting rid of any more vehicles but is looking into purchasing another ADA MV-1 vehicle to provide a more comfortable ride for long distance medical transports.

Currently, only six vehicles fit in the Bus Barn. Three sit outside. The Bus Barn cannot be extended to accommodate more vehicles. Discussion was held about building a new Bus Barn and moving the Weed Department into the existing Bus Barn building. Being able to lock vehicles up is important and makes a difference in their overall condition.

Marnene presented a budget detail. There was one minor traffic accident this quarter.

The Highly Rural Transportation Grant funding was extended. Marnene stated the grant's funds have made a big difference to the transit program and have relieved the budget.

1.10 1:45 p.m. Katie Paul – Victim's Assistance Program Director – Justice Reinvestment Grant Additional Contract

Present: Katie Paul, Will Carey

Katie Paul, Victim's Assistance Program Director, explained she spoke with Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) about giving them the victim's portion of the Justice Reinvestment Grant. They need a contract stating they are the fiscal agent for the purpose of providing victim's services with the \$5,000 they will receive this year. Next year, they will receive another \$5,000. Will Carey, County Counsel, will work with Katie to prepare an Intergovernmental Agreement for this purpose. Each year of the grant, in addition to the \$5,000 going to CCS, \$12,142 will be allocated to Tri-County Community Corrections to fund work crews and treatment for those on probation. Katie will fill out claims forms stating where the funds will be transferred. If the fund allocation falls within the budget outlined in the

grant, Ron McDermid, Justice of the Peace and Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Chair, will sign the paperwork. If the fund allocation falls outside the budget outlined in the grant, County Court should be approached.

Katie is continuing to create a master list of all county agencies and resources for victim's services. She is waiting to finalize a list of events before the master list is complete.

2.0 Action Items:

2.1 Appointment – Sherman County Area Watershed Council

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the re-appointment of Gary Irzyk as Soil and Water Conservation District Representative and to appoint as new Directors to the Council Thad Eakin (South Sherman Watershed), Colton McCullough (North Sherman Watershed), Keegan Kock (Grass Valley Canyon Watershed), and Clint Moore (North Sherman Watershed) for terms of four years to expire December 31, 2019.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.2 Appointment – Sherman County Ambulance Board

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the re-appointment of Kathleen Ahearn as Chair, Bob Stone as Training Officer, and Joe Belshe as Assistant Training Officer on the Sherman County Ambulance Board for two year terms to expire December 31, 2017.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.3 Resolution – Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Sherman County Representative

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Resolution In the Matter of the Appointment of Randy Hilderbrand to the Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Board.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.4 Highly Rural Transportation Grant

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the Highly Rural Areas Grant Agreement between Sherman County and the State of Oregon in the amount of \$45,000 and authorizing Judge Thompson to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.5 Intergovernmental Agreement Between Sherman County and the Early Learning Division

The Court signed the Intergovernmental Agreement between Sherman County and the Early Learning Division.

2.6 Fiber Connection

Fiber is already in Wasco. A quote was given from Windwave to get fiber connected to different entities in Wasco. The connection can happen in about a week if the county is willing to pay for it. The original estimate for connecting the Wasco Annex was \$5,700. The quote estimate to connect the annex immediately within the week is \$15,291. The fiber will communicate to the wireless internet system and help alleviate current bandwidth capacity issues. This could be a temporary fix until fiber reaches Erskine.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to contract with Windwave in the amount of \$15, 291.00 to run fiber underground from existing fiber in Wasco to the Wasco Annex.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items:

3.1 Kent Water District

Kent Water District Board of Directors has expressed interest in requesting funds of \$50,000 after they work with Tenneson Engineering to have an analysis done of the current water system.

3.2 Fair Board Term Length

Concern has been expressed over Fair Board term lengths, as four members' terms will expire at the same time. The Court has been assigning four-year terms to each member, but ORS 565.210 outlines three-year terms. The Court would like the Fair Board to review members' terms and to make suggestions to the Court about which terms to amend. Following this, Fair Board term length will be adjusted to three years.

Discussion was held about Fair Board training and if Fair Board members are required to fill out and submit ethics paperwork to the Oregon Government Ethics Commission. Lauren Hernandez, Administrative Assistant, will research ethics requirements.

3.3 Technology Audit Quote

Day Wireless provided a quote of up to \$4,500 to audit the Sherman County Wireless Network. The audit would allow Sherman County to see the current network setup. It will include a complete inventory of all equipment, an archive of all equipment figurations, identification of shortcomings in the system regarding industry standards and best practices, and recommendations for resolving any faults found. Commissioner Smith would like Day Wireless to take over the maintenance of the system and be an independent provider. They need to do mapping and inventory of the system. Day Wireless is the provider used with Frontier TeleNet, and has already established trust with the county.

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to award the contract for up to \$4,500 to Day Wireless for a technology audit of the county's internet system.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.4 Wasco Annex

The Court agreed plans for the Wasco Annex should be addressed during a planning session where future county projects are discussed. A planning session will be scheduled for March 1st so the Court can discuss, plan for, and prioritize projects.

Judge Thompson explained he received an email from David Van't Hof about inaccurate information relayed from the Public Utility Commission of Oregon regarding the amount of potential areas for wind development in the Columbia River Gorge. It was stated there are no more sites available in the Gorge. The Portland Tribune took this information and included it in an article. David suggested sending a letter to the Tribune correcting this information.

Consensus: The Court agreed to send a letter responding to the incorrect information regarding the amount of potential areas for wind development in the Columbia River Gorge and authorized Judge Thompson to sign.

3.5 Preschool Transportation

In 2014, County Court authorized the expense of transporting the children from the preschools and daycares to the library during the school year. The Court did not authorize extending the program for another year, but the program continued into this school year. Bills have been received from the bus company for the current school year, but the funds being used to pay for the expense of the program have been depleted. The program costs about \$500 a month – each ride is \$116. Through the end of the current school year, \$2,500-\$3,000 is needed to cover the cost of the program. The Court discussed funding the program for the rest of the school year and then allowing the budget committee to decide if the county will continue with this program next school year depending on the location of the preschools.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to authorize the expenditure of up to \$3,000 to provide rides for preschool children to the public/school library through Mid-Columbia Bus at the rate of \$116/trip.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

The Court briefly discussed the fiber project, current internet system struggles and funding options for the items approved during the current Court session.

3.6 County Road Funding Redistribution Proposals Support

The Court reviewed county road funding redistribution proposals. The proposed state gas tax would provide an increase to funds supporting infrastructure. A draft resolution will be created regarding the gas-tax formula supporting local infrastructure. More information is needed about the cost and benefit of supporting this. This will be taken under advisement.

3.7 Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Smith- Received a call from the United States Department of Agriculture to speak in Bend on panel about broadband issues for rural areas; presented about Sherman County and was well received; Washington County requested Commissioner Smith come work with them; talked to Gary Farnsworth about Oregon Department of Transportation bridges; attended Wolf Committee meeting; Mid-Columbia Center for Living community meeting - they will occur once a month to discuss mental health issues in Sherman County; talked with Sandy Macnab about exterior of Extension Services building; wrote press release for fiber issues; attended Mid-Columbia Council of Governments meeting; completed the State Interoperability Executive Council grant re-do and will send it in after final approval.

Judge Thompson- Attended Wolf Committee meeting; received an application for a County Block Grant program and plans to apply for it; attended a Mid-Columbia Housing Authority (MCHA) meeting; met with Kate Sinner, Regional Solutions to discuss the housing loan fund and solutions to make it more accessible; talked about the possibility of senior housing in Wasco funded by MCHA; attended Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) meetings in Salem; testified on House Bill 4036 regarding the 50 percent Renewable Portfolio Standards; submitted AOC Court Facilities Task Force Questionnaire response letter to apply for possible funding for the courthouse project; looked into placing the Weed Department storage shed on the fairgrounds; there are no restrictions on the deed; need to approach the Fair Board about this as well as explore other options before decisions are made.

Commissioner McCoy- Attended Weed Board meeting; Northern Oregon Regional Corrections (NORCOR) Diversion and Re-Entry Task Force meeting to discuss upgrading mental health services at NORCOR; discussed mental health needs at the facility; discussed funding for mental health services in NORCOR.

4.0 Consent Agenda:

4.1 Special Session Minutes of January 15, 2016

Motion by Commissioner McCoy, second by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Special Session Minutes of January 15, 2016, and Minutes of January 20, 2016, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Minutes of January 20, 2016

4.3 Claims – January 2016

Motion by Commissioner Smith, second by Commissioner McCoy, to approve the claims for the month of January.

Vote: 3-0

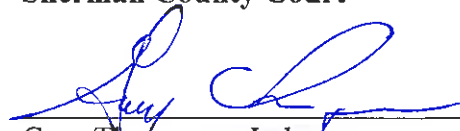
Yes: Smith, McCoy, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

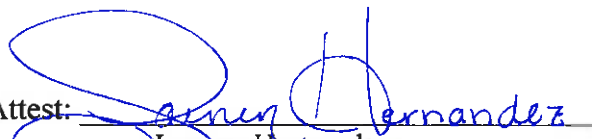
Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Sherman County Court

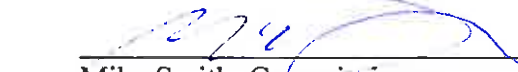


Gary Thompson, Judge

Attest:



Lauren Hernandez
Administrative Assistant



Mike Smith, Commissioner



Tom McCoy, Commissioner