



Court Agenda

September 6, 2017

1.0 Appointment Schedule:

- 1.1 9:00 a.m. Katie Paul, Director, Victims' Assistance – Approval of Grants (CFA, VOCA)
- 1.2 9:30 a.m. Kimberly Lindsay, Executive Director, Community Counseling Solutions – Utilization of County-owned Property
- 1.3 10:00 a.m. Paul Sather, Resident – Economic Development
- 1.4 10:15 a.m. Christa Rude, Four Rivers Early Learning Hub – OPEC Grant

Additions to Agenda:

- 2.3 Tri-county Community Corrections 2017 - 2019 Plan
- 2.4 IGA #5474 – Between State of Oregon DOC and Sherman County

2.0 Action Items:

- 2.1 LPSCC Membership List Updates
- 2.2 Budget Transfers/Payments
- 2.3 Tri-county Community Corrections 2017 - 2019 Plan
- 2.4 IGA #5474 – Between State of Oregon DOC and Sherman County

3.0 Discussion Items:

- 3.1 Thank-you Letter, Emily Hill
- 3.2 Commissioner Reports

4.0 Consent Agenda:

- 4.1 Minutes of August 16, 2017
- 4.2 Claims – August 2017

5.0 Future Agenda Items:



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

September 6, 2017

Court opened: 9:04 a.m.

Present: Judge Gary Thompson, Commissioner Joe Dabulskis, Temporary Administrative Assistant Carmen Frost

Absent: Commissioner Tom McCoy

A quorum was present. No news media was present.

Additions to the Agenda:

- 2.3 Tri-county Community Corrections 2017 - 2019 Plan
- 2.4 IGA #5474 – Between State of Oregon DOC and Sherman County
- 2.5 Weed District Advisory Board Appointment

1.0 Appointment Schedule:

1.1 9:00 a.m. Katie Paul, Director, Victims' Assistance – Approval of Grants (CFA, VOCA)

Present: Katie Paul

Katie Paul, Victims' Services, reported the Criminal Fine Account (CFA) and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants are applied for every two years. This biennium, the Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) Fund requires a certain amount be given to a child abuse intervention center. Sherman County utilizes KIDS Center. This will cause a reduction in Katie's work hours. Katie has strongly advocated for somehow filling in those hours, which resulted in increased funding for VOCA. With the increase, Katie is backfilling her hours of what was taken away with CAMI and adding an additional five hours due to her caseload increasing in the District Attorney's office.

Commissioner Dabulskis asked what CFA means. Katie explained a portion of criminal fines go to victims' assistance programs.

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to approve the VOCA/CFA non-competitive grant application for the grant period of October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2019, and authorize Judge Thompson to sign.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

1.2 9:30 a.m. Kimberly Lindsay, Director, Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) – Utilization of County-owned Property

Present: Kimberly Lindsay (CCS); Mike Smith; Kristie Bingaman (CCS); Dr. Peter Davidson (GOHBI); Jessy Rose, AOC; Tom Martin, Citizen; Paul Sather, Resident; Georgia Macnab, Planning Department; Cotton McCullough; Amber DeGrange, Juvenile Director; Jeanne Dabulskis, Resident; Jeremy Shull, Sheriff's Office; Julie McAllister, Sheriff's Office.

Kimberly Lindsay, Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) Director, explained CCS is the equivalent of Mid-Columbia Center for Living (MCCFL), the community mental health program in Sherman County. CCS provides the same services as MCCFL in Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam and Grant counties. CCS offers other services and programs in multiple rural areas of Eastern and Central Oregon. CCS has been operating as a non-profit since 2007, employs approximately 150 people, and has a Board of Directors comprised of individuals from Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam, and Grant counties.

Kimberly reported CCS is interested in property south of Rufus for a children's diversion facility. CCS would like a community meeting in Rufus to gauge the receptivity of the community.

Few mental health resources are available for children on the east side of the state other than out-patient care. Oregon has reached a crisis state for children's services. There are approximately 150 beds for the entire state, which exist on the west and south sides of the state, while the bed need is estimated to be between 350 and 400. Children on the east side of the state are being shipped to the west side. The preference is for children to be integrated with the family, which cannot happen when the child is on the west side and the family on the east side of the state. Often, family therapy is required, and the family has to be involved in treatment. Additionally, families do not always have the financial resources to visit their child while being treated on the west side, which puts the family at a disadvantage, making it difficult to reconnect with the child. Kimberly feels it is necessary to do something now, rather than wait for the state to fix the problem.

Kimberly introduced Dr. Peter Davidson, a psychiatrist with Greater Oregon Behavioral Health, Inc., who would be the Medical Director of the facility. CCS's focus is not on children who are an imminent danger to themselves or others. CCS provides diversion and stabilization. With the lack of facilities to address non-acute needs, children often are treated in acute-care facilities, significantly increasing the cost for the tax payer and insurance companies. A diversion facility could address this need and provide care to a wider population. The goal is to provide a high-quality service in 14 days or less.

The cost would be approximately \$800/day and would be paid by insurance companies, private plans, and the state. The contracted rate with insurance companies would be less. The facility would be staffed 24/7 with approximately 18 employees, and most would be full-time. Positions over 20 hours per week would receive full benefits. The average rate of pay for a residential associate would start at \$15-\$16 per hour, which would be the minimum living wage for a family of four. Three professional-level positions would require experience or a bachelor's degree, and one full-time clinical position would require a master's degree. Additionally, there would be recreational and

occupational therapists, clerical support, a full-time site manager, full-time social workers, a part-time nurse, kitchen staff, and the medical director.

The annual cost of personnel would be approximately \$1.1 million dollars, which would go back into the community, with most of the staff living in the area. Additionally, CCS purchases locally as much as possible. Materials and services are projected at \$300,000; total annual expenditures are approximately \$1.6 million.

Commissioner Dabulskis asked why CCS to choose Sherman County over Wasco County. Kimberly responded that it's both the driving distance for her and Dr. Davidson, and she prefers working in a smaller, rural town. Dr. Davidson added that it's easier to maintain a child's focus in a smaller, rural town, and there is less of a cookie-cutter approach to care.

Mike Smith, resident, added the Sheriff, the Juvenile Department, the District Attorney, and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) all agree Sherman County has been shipping children out of the area, and this type of service is very much needed and would be an asset to the community.

Commissioner Dabulskis asked why the facility would remain viable when others like it have closed. Kimberly replied most are closing due to bad management. Commissioner Dabulskis asked why CCS would succeed over other companies with regard to management. Kimberly clarified her definition of bad management is being more interested in money than community involvement and being a good community partner. It is also bad management to take in inappropriate children when ill-equipped to handle them, resulting in a bad reputation and parents not wanting to utilize services. CCS's track record is one of successful care and not closing facilities.

Commissioner Dabulskis asked why this property south of Rufus is the perfect site. Discussion was held regarding the property south of Rufus being a good site for the facility because it is close to (but not in) town, there are no neighbors, the property is good to build on, and there is room for the children to roam without enabling them to run away.

Julie McAllister, Sheriff's Department, attended on behalf of Sheriff Lohrey. She reported Sheriff Lohrey is in support of the facility and does not feel it would have negative impact on the Sheriff's department. Amber DeGrange, Juvenile Director, stated that while there may be some impact, the pros outweigh the cons, and any impact could be managed.

Jeanne Dabulskis, resident, asked why someone from Ontario would choose a Sherman County facility over one in Portland. Kimberly explained Sherman County is approximately two hours closer than Portland. The facility will not meet the needs of all, but it will lessen the burden.

Jeanne Dabulskis inquired about the children being dangerous to the community. In addition to stringent screening, Kimberly explained the children being referred are not a danger to themselves or others. Additionally, she wants to keep the other children and the staff safe. She cannot guarantee that a patient won't become acute while there, but CCS won't take in any that are imminently acute. Should something happen while they are there, CCS would take the necessary steps to get them into the appropriate level of care immediately. Amber added these are children with mental health issues, not violent, criminal or delinquent behavior. Dr. Davidson noted that keeping the children safe and keeping predatory behavior out of the facility is the most important criteria.

Tom Martin, citizen, voiced his concern about CCS having a long-term plan that makes sense for everyone, not just CCS management, and whether or not they can be counted on to get the job done. Tom explained he is not against

the concept but is against the location. Tom pointed out that the land was zoned for this type of facility only on a technicality. Tom sees more negative than positive aspects, like Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) having the right-of-way, the high-speed highway nearby, and areas in which ice never melts due to lack of sunlight in winter. Tom stated he is not in favor.

Mike asked if the McCulloughs are against the facility. Cotton McCullough, resident, replied he need to hear more about it. He shares the concern regarding BPA having the right-of-way and is concerned that spraying above the facility could result in complaints about the spray drifting down into the area.

Judge Thompson asked Georgia Macnab, Planning Department, about the land-use laws. Georgia explained that it would have to go through a public hearing process. Regarding how it had been zoned, she would have to look at the file to determine what her predecessor did but stated that they do allow for a residential facility in the existing dwelling.

Amber agreed the roads could be an issue in bad weather and asked if there is other county-owned property to be considered. Judge Thompson replied the county owns very little property - just this piece and a small area on the Deschutes River.

Mike stated this a “not in my backyard” issue and pointed out the need still exists within Sherman County, regardless. Additionally, there would be 18 good-paying jobs connected to this. Amber added that Sherman and Gilliam counties have one of the highest child-abuse rates in the state, and there are wait lists for the facilities on the west side of the state. Mike mentioned that if anyone knows of another location, he and Kimberly would welcome hearing about it.

Paul Sather, resident, expressed concern that CCS employees will not live in the county due to the lack of housing and questioned if their wages would be enough to allow them to buy property and build. Tom pointed out that even school teachers in Sherman County live in The Dalles. Kimberly explained nine residential associates already live here and she is confident that half, if not more, will live inside the county.

Kimberly asked if a community meeting in Rufus would be a good next step to discuss this property or if CCSS should look at other property. Judge Thompson agreed both should be pursued. Paul voiced concern over the safety of the facility in severe storm conditions. Commissioner Dabulskis agreed that looking for other sites is a good idea. Judge Thompson mentioned other areas in Rufus closer to the highway, but Amber and Kimberly noted that being too close to the highway is counterproductive.

Kimberly stated she appreciated the comments from the community and summarized that the majority of those present are supportive of the facility in general but want CCS to look for the best possible location. Judge Thompson agreed and commented the county may be able to do some land trading.

Kimberly stated she will organize a meeting date and noted CCS would like to move forward sooner rather than later, as the need is now. Judge Thompson suggested not ruling out the Rufus site but seeing if there is a better site in the county. He suggested all of the county should be invited to attend the meeting, not just the community. Kimberly agreed.

1.3 10:00 a.m. Paul Sather, Resident – Economic Development

Present: Paul Sather, Tom Martin, Georgia Macnab

Paul Sather, resident, stated local housing has to be available to increase local employment. Paul asked about Sherman County's incentive to build. Judge Thompson explained the incentive amount is \$5,000 per household. Paul asked how many residents have applied for the incentive. Judge Thompson stated there have been none. Paul suggested doubling the amount. He stated there is no place in the county available to build and the county needs to be forward-thinking about bringing in jobs.

Tom Martin, resident, feels Sherman County needs attractive property to draw in higher-educated people rather than property and homes that are unappealing to look at. Commissioner Dabulskis reported he and Judge Thompson met with the Governor, Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate, and several others to discuss allowing a temporary change to the land-use laws for the eight counties in Oregon that have zero (or negative) population growth.

Brief discussion was held about housing and land-use laws. Georgia Macnab, Planner, asked if the \$5,000 incentive was available for rentals. Judge Thompson replied yes, if it is a newly-built structure. Additionally, there is \$2,000,000 available through Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) to fund low-interest loans for building new rentals and homes in Sherman County. Paul reiterated that the housing issue needs to be addressed.

Paul stated there is a need for a regional United States Department of Agriculture slaughter facility in Sherman County. He has researched the pay for a journeyman butcher and found it to be \$24 per hour. Additionally, due to shortages in meat-cutting schools, he feels Sherman County should consider building a facility to train meat cutters.

Paul asked if any construction workers working on the courthouse addition were local. Judge Thompson replied he believed most were from The Dalles. Paul suggested there be a stipulation that the workers have to be local. Judge Thompson explained such a stipulation would not be legal, but Paul disagreed. Paul emphasized something has to be done to revitalize Moro and Grass Valley or these towns will cease to exist.

Lastly, Paul suggested Sherman County pursue working with the Army Corp of Engineers to develop Giles French Park. Judge Thompson explained there are multiple Native American tribes that have first right of refusal.

1.4 10:15 a.m. Christa Rude, Four Rivers Early Learning Hub – OPEC Grant

Present: Christa Rude, Amber DeGrange

Christa Rude, Four Rivers Early Learning Hub, explained Sherman County has already received funds from the Oregon Parenting Education Consortium (OPEC) Grant, and having the Court approve the grant is simply a formality. In October, there will be an Intergovernmental Agreement to manage this grant.

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to approve and accept the Oregon Parenting Education Consortium Grant as recommended on June 29, 2017, by the Four Rivers Early Learning Hub Governance Board.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.0 Action Items:

2.1 LPSCC Membership List Updates

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to add Tara Koch, or designee, as the Non-profit Victim Service Representative to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) membership list as recommended by the Sherman County LPSCC.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to add Angie Curtis as Circuit Court Representative to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) membership list, and to remove Sherry Smith, as recommended by the Sherman County LPSCC.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to add Tina Potter as the Adult Parole and Probation Representative to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) membership list, and to remove John Folliard, as recommended by the Sherman County LPSCC.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to remove Taylor Olsen from the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) membership list as recommended by the Sherman County LPSCC.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.2 Budget Transfers/Payments

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to authorize the transfer of \$169,121 from the County General Fund, and \$40,000 from the SIP Additional Fees Fund; authorize payments to be made September 15, 2017, and authorize Judge Thompson to sign.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.3 Tri-County Community Corrections 2017 - 2019 Plan

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to approve the 2017-2019 Tri-County Community Corrections Plan as recommended by the Sherman County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC), and authorize Judge Thompson to sign.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.4 IGA #5474 – Between State of Oregon DOC and Sherman County

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to approve Intergovernmental Agreement #5474 between the State of Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) and Sherman County, effective July 1, 2017, until June 30, 2019, and authorize Judge Thompson to sign.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.5 Weed District Advisory Board Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to accept the recommendation from the Weed District Advisory Board to appoint Scott Susi to serve on the Sherman County Weed District Advisory Board, fulfilling the term of Kyle Blagg ending in December 2018.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items:

3.1 Thank-you Letter - Emily Hill

The Court reviewed the letter.

3.2 Commissioner Reports

Judge Thompson – No report.

Commissioner Dabulskis – Attended a Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility board meeting in Commissioner McCoy's absence; interviewed fair queen contestant as a County Court liaison; attended Weed Advisory Board as the County Court liaison.

4.0 Consent Agenda:

4.1 Minutes of August 16, 2017

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to approve the minutes of August 16, 2017, as presented.

Vote: 2-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Claims – August 2017

Motion by Commissioner Dabulskis, second by Judge Thompson, to approve the Claims for the month of August 2017, as presented.

Vote: 2-0

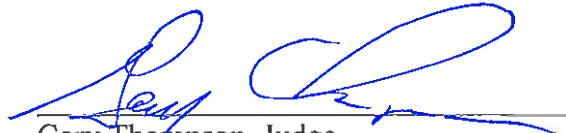
Yes: Dabulskis, Thompson

No: 0

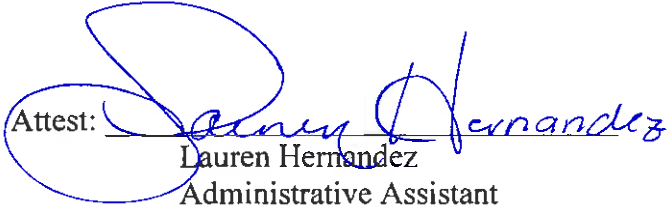
Abstain: 0

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Sherman County Court



Gary Thompson, Judge

Attest: 

Lauren Hernandez
Administrative Assistant



Tom McCoy, Commissioner



Joe Dabulskis, Commissioner