



SHERMAN COUNTY COURT
REGULAR SESSION
Sherman County Circuit Courtroom

MINUTES

August 4, 2010 9:06am

Present: Gary Thompson, County Judge; Steve Burnet and Mike Smith, Commissioners; Melva Thomas, Court Administrative Assistant; Jenine McDermid, County Clerk; Brad Lohrey, Sheriff.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to enter into a contract with PBS Environmental & Engineering for an abatement study in the amount of \$3,000 and a contract with Larry McGinnis in the amount of \$2,635 to continue with the HVAC project. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith second by Commissioner Burnet authorizing Judge Thompson to spend up to \$3,000 for electrical repairs with Hage Electric. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet to amend Sherman County Goal 5 Mineral & Aggregate Inventory to include Justesen Ranches rock quarry and also approve their request for a Conditional Use Permit for a Mining Operation. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet authorizing Judge Thompson to sign Transit Coordinator Marnene Benson-Wood's quarterly report, pending STF approval. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to purchase a new Husquavarna lawn mower for the RV Park in the amount of \$2,294.88. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to sign the Termination of Lease Agreement with Mid-Columbia Council of Governments. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to continue membership with Eastern Oregon Visitors Association in the amount of \$375. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to designate The Times-Journal as the newspaper to publicize the 2010 foreclosure list. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet to make a purchase of land in the amount of \$10,000 from Gerald and Dawn Lohrey and described as: the Northerly 25' of Lot 1, the Northerly 25' of the Easterly 15' of Lot 2, Block 16, Townsite of Moro, County of Sherman, State of Oregon. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet approving participation in the Solar Incentive Program for the Fairgrounds show arena project. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet second by Commissioner Smith accept Hire Electric's quote on the two solar panel projects located at the Road Department building and the Fairgrounds show arena. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet authorizing Judge Thompson to sign an agreement with Invictus Networks to complete a wireless internet study for an amount up to \$3,500. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet second by Commissioner Smith to approve the July 7, 2010 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith second by Commissioner Burnet to approve the July 2010 claims. Motion carried.

1.1 QUARTERLY REPORT – BRAD LOHREY, SHERIFF:

Sheriff Lohrey reported on a busy summer, with a full staff in force and including the marine boat in service. One possibility is that he may be looking for a youth to mentor on the marine boat in 2011. A Chevy Tahoe has been ordered and should arrive by the first of the year. A canine kennel for the department's dogs should be completed later this year. New uniforms for the officers will be ordered soon. Phase I of the buffer zone grant has begun and new equipment is arriving, with the project to be completed prior to winter.

1.2 QUARTERLY REPORT – RON MCDERMID, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE:

Ron McDermid presented a summary for the 2009-10 fiscal year. This report outlined revenues, expenses and the number of filings, including a comparison with the 2008-09 fiscal year. The violation surcharge was helpful to all justice courts. He also reported his department has had a busy summer; Oregon State Police have had more officers working in the county recently and that they work well with Sherman County's officers.

With regard to the proposed HVAC system, the Facilities Committee met and agreed with Larry McGinnis' decision for a heating and cooling system, which means the contractor can begin a cost estimate of the system. Window and electrical studies have been completed and the building diagram has been converted to CAD. Ron advised abatement study is the next step and Larry has recommended PBS Environmental & Engineering for this phase.

The Facilities Committee also discussed the possibility of utilizing the stimulus grant for this project. The Court agreed no other contractual agreements have been entered into for this purpose. The Energy Trust of Oregon grant will also be pursued. A cost opinion and phasing document should be complete and ready to present to the Court by mid-August. Ron suggested continuing to employ Larry McGinnis with this grant application phase. Also, additional information should be received from Jim Doer soon regarding the telecommunications study.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to enter into a contract with PBS Environmental & Engineering for an abatement study in the amount of \$3,000 and the contract with Larry McGinnis in the amount of \$2,635 to continue with the HVAC project. Motion carried.

Larry Pray, a Project Manager with Hage Electric and Ron Athay recommended three new 120 volt amp circuits are required to alleviate circuit breaker problems in the District Attorney's office. There is additional electrical work needed within the courthouse that can be corrected during the same visit, which is estimated at about one day.

Motion by Commissioner Smith second by Commissioner Burnet authorizing Judge Thompson to spend up to \$3,000 for electrical repairs with Hage Electric. Motion carried.

1.3 QUARTERLY REPORT – DEAN DARK, WILDLIFE SERVICES:

Progress has been made trapping wild pigs at Black Rock; coyote trapping is underway; one dog is under quarantine; no beavers have been sighted recently at Biggs. No disease has been found in any of the trapped pigs. Dean is working with the City of Moro regarding dog issues and he is completing a grant application for funding which would alleviate the need for future paperwork.

1.4 PUBLIC HEARING – AMENDMENT TO THE SHERMAN COUNTY GOAL 5 MINERAL & AGGREGATE INVENTORY AND A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A MINING OPERATION:

Judge Thompson opened the hearing at 10:00am. County Planner Georgia Macnab and Fred Justesen were present. Justesen Ranches had applied for an amendment to the Sherman County Goal 5 Mineral & Aggregate Inventory to add a proposed quarry and also requested a conditional use permit for the production of aggregate. Fred Justesen explained this is on about 19 acres of their land along Highway 206 near Fulton Canyon. He also advised they acquired an approach permit through ODOT and will be improving access to the site. The Sherman County Planning Commission had previously approved the request and also the request for a conditional use permit. Georgia Macnab had no feedback or comments from anyone. No other comments were made. The hearing was closed at 10:08am.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet to amend Sherman County Goal 5 Mineral & Aggregate Inventory to include Justesen Ranches rock quarry and also approve their request for a Conditional Use Permit for a Mining Operation. Motion carried.

1.5 QUARTERLY REPORT – GEORGIA MACNAB, COUNTY PLANNER:

Georgia presented a written report outlining the projects she has been involved in. She reported the CDBG housing application was approved and is working with Melva and David Vanderlip on contract, publications and other startup items. PGE is interested in locating 300 employees in the county for the construction of their transmission line, which is approximately two years. Georgia will also be working on a grant application for a new set of restrooms and shower at the RV Park.

1.6 QUARTERLY REPORT – MARNENE BENSON-WOOD, TRANSIT COORDINATOR:

Marnene submitted a summary of revenues and expenses for the fourth fiscal quarter. The Honda Odyssey is working out well for riders. Toby Wilson is the new summer driver. She reported a busy quarter and a bus trip to Lincoln City has been scheduled for mid-August. The ODOT Public Transit Quarterly Report was presented for approval.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet authorizing Judge Thompson to sign Transit Coordinator Marnene Benson-Wood's quarterly report, pending STF approval. Motion carried.

1.7 NEW LAWNMOWER PROPOSAL - KARL RICHTER, RV PARK HOST:

The John Deere lawn mower is worn out and needs to be replaced. Karl was told the replacement part would cost \$750, not including installation. He located a Husquavarna mower at Sears for \$2,294.88, which is less than previous quotes obtained.

Commissioner Burnet suggested looking into the cost of a 2-wheel drive four-wheeler for using around the park area. Karl will provide the court with quotes.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to purchase a new Husquavarna lawn mower for the RV Park in the amount of \$2,294.88. Motion carried.

2.1 TERMINATION OF LEASE AGREEMENT – MID-COLUMBIA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS:

Due to program consolidation, this office was closed July 1, 2010 and was located at Room 119 in the Sherman County Senior and Community Center. The lease termination is effective June 30, 2010.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to sign the Termination of Lease Agreement with Mid-Columbia Council of Governments. Motion carried.

2.2 EASTERN OREGON VISITORS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP:

Jessica Bates had recommended to Melva that the county continue membership on a joint basis as in the past, with each county's share at \$375.00.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to continue membership with Eastern Oregon Visitors Association in the amount of \$375. Motion carried.

2.3 ORDER DESIGNATING NEWSPAPER FOR PUBLICATION OF 2010 FORECLOSURE LIST:

Motion by Commissioner Burnet and second by Commissioner Smith to designate The Times-Journal as the newspaper to publicize the 2010 foreclosure list. Motion carried.

2.4 PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FROM GERALD A. LOHREY & DAWN LOHREY:

Melva reported Will Carey recommended having the area surveyed to establish the actual boundary lines of the property.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet to make a purchase of land in the amount of \$10,000 from Gerald and Dawn Lohrey and described as: the Northerly 25' of Lot 1, the Northerly 25' of the Easterly 15' of Lot 2, Block 16, Townsite of Moro, County of Sherman, State of Oregon. Motion carried.

1.8 QUARTERLY REPORT – DEE LIEUALLEN, COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES:

OYCC and OYE crew members accompanied Dee Lieuallen and Theresa Mobley to the meeting. The group included Amy Richelderfer, Katti Cunningham, Javier Guzman, Isaac McAllister, Krista Perisho, Chelsea Cunningham, Miranda Hughes, Danny Kivett, Daniel Taylor, Zach Smith, Jordan Lane, Ryane Whitley, and Kathleen Wilson. Crew members described their work at the day cares in Wasco and Moro, landscaping, painting fire hydrants, working at the Wasco depot, Senior/Community Center, painting parking lines at the Courthouse, working with Cindy Brown building a compost bin demo site and many other jobs accomplished during the summer months.

Theresa Mobley reported on several other non-crew tasks she and Dee have been involved with including swim bus; partnering with the Sheriff's Department for Hook A Kid on Golf; partnering with Mike Somnis for all-sports camp and providing basketballs and tee shirts; museum mural project. The annual prevention report is complete and the state funding reduction is estimated at 9.2% with other reduction information to be received in September.

2.5 SOLAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM PROJECT – FAIRGROUNDS SHOW ARENA:

The County received notice from the Oregon Solar Incentive Program offering an opportunity to include the Fairgrounds show arena in the program.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet approving participation in the Solar Incentive Program for the Fairgrounds show arena project. Motion carried.

2.6 SOLAR INCENTIVE PROGRAM PROJECT BIDS – FAIRGROUNDS & ROAD DEPARTMENT PROJECTS:

The Court discussed the different price options and equipment involved. Melva said that Will Carey recommended the Court select the project that would give the best overall return. This project can be funded through the Renewable Energy fund. Any revenue earned after the power is paid back would be back into that fund.

Motion by Commissioner Burnet second by Commissioner Smith accept Hire Electric's quote on the two solar panel projects located at the Road Department building and the Fairgrounds show arena. Motion carried.

1.9 BIGGS SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET HEARING; MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2010 BUDGET HEARING; ANNUAL REPORT – RENE' MOORE, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

After the hearing was completed, Rene' Moore said this year's SIP funds will be allocated to the sewer project. The City is considering construction of a new city hall and asked if the Court may be interested in a \$125,000 loan to the city with a three-year loan payback. County legal counsel will be consulted.

1.10 QUARTERLY REPORT – JESSICA METTA, MID-COLUMBIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:

Jessica reported on working with the Condon Chamber of Commerce to secure a \$6,000 USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant for the John Day River Territory. These funds will develop tourism marketing materials to promote tourism businesses in Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler Counties. She also successfully applied for the John Day River Territory to be chosen for the Oregon Rural Tourism Studio, which is a training program by Travel Oregon designed to assist rural communities with sustainable tourism development. Jessica has been involved in meetings with the Army Corps, Judge Thompson and Mayor Jett to discuss the next steps in redeveloping Giles French Park. Other items included attendance at the Windpower Expo and Conference in Dallas; development of a self-guided driving tour brochure of the regional wind farms; a successful application for Sherman County to be designated a Solar Now! Community, with the first meeting of a county Solar Advisory Committee to be held August 6 at the Senior Center to begin working on a county solar program.

3.1 THANK YOU NOTE – BEND HEROES FOUNDATION:

A thank you letter was received from the Bend Heroes Foundation for the \$500 contribution from the county.

3.2 OREGON HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT:

The housing rehab program is moving forward, with a Notice of Intent to be publicized later this month. It is hoped rehab project loans should enter the closing phase after September 17.

3.3 STATE ENERGY PROGRAM (SEP) APPLICATION – HVAC SYSTEM UPGRADE:

Notice was received there is sufficient federal stimulus funding for this program through (ARRA) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The County's application for funding of the HVAC system upgrade remains active.

3.4 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & THE WORKPLACE STUDY – UPDATE:

A report was received from Naima Laharnar advising the initial phase of the “Domestic Violence and the Workplace” study was successfully completed. Additional training will be provided in the next year.

3.5 SENIOR CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT REQUIREMENTS:

The continued use requirements as per CDBG policy are in effect until June 22, 2011.

3.6 THANK YOU NOTE – SHERMAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Sherman County Historical Society board of trustees sent a thank you note for the asphalt paving completed on their Dewey Street parking area.

3.7 FAIR DISPLAY:

Melva is in the process of updating the county display table for the Sherman County Fair.

3.8 COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

Commissioner Burnet – According to Ivan Ritchie the junior/senior high school parking lot will be repaved and five diagonal parking spaces will be added adjacent to the library. They are still exploring a food dock lift. The school district is looking into a library lease. A report is expected from Milt Ketchum in August regarding the extension office building. Other discussion involved expanding housing in the county, funding options and a determination of available residential properties. The Golden Hills wind project is moving forward.

Commissioner Smith – He would like to see the wireless project study move ahead. It suggested an estimate be obtained for body work to the county’s Subaru wagon. He will be preparing a report on his attendance at the NACO meeting in Reno. There was discussion regarding document scanners for digitizing county records.

Motion by Commissioner Smith and second by Commissioner Burnet authorizing Judge Thompson to sign an agreement with Invictus Networks to complete a wireless internet study for an amount up to \$3,500. Motion carried.

Judge Thompson – At the NACO conference he was involved in passage of a resolution supporting community wind farms. He gave a presentation to the Technology Alliance. An EFSC meeting was held regarding the 1,000’ setback from the Oregon Trail. Also discussed was Cascade Crossing planning and the 300 workers seeking housing within the county for a period of two years. He also reported on a topographical map that could be developed for the county.

4.1, 4.2 CONSENT AGENDA – JULY 17, 2010 COURT MINUTES AND JULY CLAIMS:

Motion by Commissioner Burnet second by Commissioner Smith to approve the July 7, 2010 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Smith second by Commissioner Burnet to approve the July 2010 claims. Motion carried.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER MATTERS AT ISSUE, COURT WAS ADJOURNED
AT 3:41PM.




COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: 

COUNTY CLERK



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER