



January 20, 2021

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Additions to Agenda

1.0 Appointment Schedule

1.1 9:00 a.m. Cindy Brown and Jacob Powell – OSU Extension Quarterly Report

1.2 9:30 a.m. Georgia Macnab – Planning Department Quarterly Report

1.3 ~~9:45 a.m.~~ 9:52 a.m. Nate Stice – Regional Solutions Quarterly Report

1.4 ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 10:05 a.m. Wes Owens, Superintendent – Sherman County School District Quarterly Report

~~**1.5** 10:15 a.m. Sol Jacobsen, Sheriff's Office Deputy Report~~

1.6 ~~10:20 a.m.~~ 10:15 a.m. Wasco County Parole and Probation

1.7 ~~10:50 a.m.~~ 11:01 a.m. Kristi Brown (Weis) – Clerk's Office Quarterly Report

1.8 ~~11:00 a.m.~~ 11:07 a.m. Dr. June Gower and Al Barton – Center For Living Quarterly Report

1.9 11:30 a.m. Nicole Bailey – North Central Public Health District

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Sherman County Ambulance Service By-laws

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 Kari Silcox – Senior Center Quarterly Report

- 3.2 Amy Asher – Prevention and Community Outreach Quarterly Report
- 3.3 Marnene Benson-Wood – Transportation Quarterly Report
- 3.4 Paul Conway – Veterans’ Services Program Quarterly Report
- 3.5 Thank you notes from Sherman County Historical Society
- 3.6 Ron McDermid, Justice of the Peace – Justice Court Quarterly Report
- 3.7 Thank you note from Equine Mania
- 3.8 Commissioner Reports and updates

4.0 Consent Agenda

- 4.1 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – December 2020

5.0 Future Agenda Item

***If necessary, an Executive Session may be held in accordance with: ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations ORS 192.660 (2) (h) Legal Rights
ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Property ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel*



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

MINUTES

JANUARY 20, 2021

Opened Court:

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

A quorum was present. No news media was present.

Additions to Agenda

None

1.0 Appointment Schedule

1.1 9:00 a.m. Cindy Brown and Jacob Powell – OSU Extension Quarterly Report

Present: Cindy Brown, Jacob Powell, Ross Turney, Georgia Macnab

Jacob Powell, OSU Extension Agriculture Faculty, gave an overview of some of the projects that he has been working on. Since May of 2020 Jacob has put on several webinars: Wildfire webinars, virtual crop tour of canola in Wasco and Klickitat counties, grazing management, and tutorials on using web soil survey and Google Earth Pro for landowners and producers. All recordings posted to the OSU Extension YouTube channel for North Central Oregon.

Jacob has collaborated with the OR Wheat Growers League for three virtual shop talks - last Wednesdays of the month at noon on January 27, February 24, and March 31. The first talk will be me covering Oregon OSHA wildfire requirements that many producers are not fully aware of. February 24th will feature russian thistle management with Judit Barroso and Grassy weed control with Ryan Graebner. March 31st will cover stripe rust outlook and management with Chris Mundt.

On February 10th from noon to 1:30, Oregon OSHA wildfire refresher webinar - Jacob will be presenting, along with the Lone Pine RFPA (based near Burns, OR) on their fire prevention plan with NRCS, BLM, and a local rancher. In addition, the webinar will conclude with a roundtable discussion with local fire managers on how producers can best engage with them and work together effectively during fire suppression. There will also be an online wildfire refresher course for producers with employees to take and receive documentation.

Jacob stated that despite a pandemic the amount of hazardous ag chemicals collected throughout the three-county service (Hood River, Wasco, Sherman) area nearly doubled in 2020 (9,830 pounds) versus 2019 (5,440 pounds), more details coming soon.

Cindy Brown, OSU Extension 4-H Youth Development & SNAP Educator, gave her quarterly report. Cindy stated that the Sherman County 4-H Association announces that 4-H enrollments started in mid-January and will close Friday, February 12, 2021. In 2021, there may be fewer volunteer leaders, fewer clubs and/or fewer 4-H members, due to health-related restrictions and modified in-person programming.

OSU Sherman Extension continues to offer limited, in-person programming on Tuesday afternoons for all families with kids 5 and up. Starting last fall, these Extension Family Activities have introduced youth to a wide variety of learning experiences including camp crafts, painting canvas back packs, making chocolate and gummies from kits, science and Mars, stitchery, hand sewing, building gingerbread houses, plastic lacing, and leather craft. Kids 10 and under may attend accompanied by an adult, kids 11+ may be dropped off.

Cindy also mentioned that she has been focusing more on home food preservation using the pressure cooker. Cindy hopes to continue focusing on gardening and home food preservation and possibly expand into emergency preparedness this year.

OSU Extension does have a carryover of a little over \$26,000 from last year and hope to hold that back instead of giving that money back to the county. Budget cuts seem likely and OSU Extension would like to be able to use the carryover, if needed, during difficult financial times if they should arise.

1.2 9:30 a.m. Georgia Macnab – Planning Department Quarterly Report

Present: Georgia Macnab, Ross Turney

Georgia Macnab, Planning Department, gave an overview of her quarterly report. Georgia reported that she is working on an amendment for King Quarry, Golden Hills amendment #6, building permits, pending applications and inquiries, etc.

There was a brief discussion on the enterprise zone and how it is expiring in June. Georgia asked if the County Court would like her to start the process for renewal. The enterprise zone may be sun setting soon but this time frame may get extended so the consensus from the County Court was to start the process to renew the enterprise zone.

1.3 9:45 a.m. 9:52 Nate Stice – Regional Solutions Quarterly Report

Present: Nate Stice, Wes Owens, Ross Turney

Nate Stice, Regional Solutions representative, briefly spoke about a few topics that he thought might be of interest to Sherman County and the Court. Nate talked about there being possible interest in a housing development in Rufus for single family dwellings and duplexes. There is a wide need for affordable housing in Sherman County as well as the neighboring counties. Nate mentioned that the rent in Wasco County for a studio apartment is approximately \$700, a 2 bedroom for \$1,250 and a 3 bedroom for over \$1,300.

Nate spoke about COVID-19 and how Sherman County is in the “Low Risk” category. Nate also mentioned that there is additional funding becoming available to help with commercial rents. Nate stated that there could also be additional funding for broadband and other projects soon.

1.4 10:00 a.m. 10:05 a.m. Wes Owens, Superintendent – Sherman County School District Quarterly Report

Present: Wes Owens

Wes Owens, Sherman County School Superintendent, started his quarterly report off by saying Thank you to Judge Dabulskis for presenting at the January 11th Sherman County School Board meeting. He also thanked County Court for obtaining the funding and for spear heading the solar trailer project. The solar trailer project has helped students and staff that live in rural areas of our county access internet.

Wes stated that 70% on school employees have already had the first COVID vaccine. The North Playing Field project will be completed soon.

Wes announced that the school district has a new website. Wes encourages everyone to go to the website and take a look.

Wes also mentioned that negotiations were recently completed with the Classified staff for a 3 year contract 2020-23 and the Certified staff for a 1 year contract 2020-21. Negotiations are starting again for the Certified staff.

1.5 ~~10:15 a.m.~~ Sol Jacobsen, Sheriff's Office Deputy Report

Present: Sol Jacobsen,

He will give his report on February 3rd.

1.6 10:20 a.m. 10:15 a.m. Wasco County Parole and Probation

Present: Brad Lohrey, Fritz Bachman, Chris Carey, Amber DeGrange, Wade McLeod, Ross Turney, Amy Asher

Fritz Bachman and Chris Carey gave a presentation on Wasco County Parole and Probation. Fritz discussed the Wasco County Parole and Probation program at great length. One benefit on the Wasco program is that they are considered rural but are not too small, so they still have many programming options available right there in Wasco County. Fritz discussed the different programs that Wasco County has available and talked about the advantages to Sherman County if they were to join Wasco County Parole and Probation. One advantage is that even if the Sherman County Parole and Probation Officer is on vacation or not available, there are several other Parole and Probation Officers on call and can assist at any given time. Sherman County would have 24/7 Parole and Probation services.

Judge Dabulskis encouraged members of the audience to ask questions about the Wasco County Parole and Probation program.

1.7 10:50 a.m. 11:01 a.m. Kristi Weis– Clerk's Office Quarterly Report

Present: Kristi Weis, Ross Turney, Wes Owens, Al Barton

Kristi Weis, Clerk, gave her quarterly report. Kristi stated that Sherman County had an 85% voter turnout in the November election.

The BOPTA (Board of Property Tax Appeals) committee will review 2 appeals on February 23rd. Kristi held interviews on January 5th for the Deputy Clerk position. The person will start on Monday, January 25th.

Kristi completed the NACo (National Association of Counties) Leadership course.

1.8 11:07 a.m. Dr. June Gower and Al Barton – Center for Living Quarterly Report

Present: Dr. June Gower, Al Barton, Wes Owens, Ross Turney, Nicole Bailey

Al Barton and Dr. June Gower, Mid Columbia Center for Living, gave their quarterly report. The report gave a breakdown of MCCFL staff providing behavioral health services: Qualified Mental Health Professional – Jenn Harwood; Qualified Mental Health Associate – Megan Stone; Licensed Medical Providers – Dan Ferber and Rachel Morenz; Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor – James Tuning; Community support services and a Crisis – 24/7 mobile support.

The report showed that the number of Sherman County contacts increased in 2020 and there was a chart indicating the type of service.

Wes Owens asked a couple of questions which turned into a great discussion between Wes, Al and Dr. Gower. Judge Dabulskis asked that the discussion between Wes, Al and Dr. Gower continue outside of County Court.

1.9 11:30 a.m. Nicole Bailey – North Central Public Health District

Present: Nicole Bailey, Ross Turney, Dr. Gower

Nicole Bailey, North Central Public Health District Health Inspector, spoke to County Court regarding restaurants, mobile units, motels, etc. and their Public Health business licensing fees. Nicole stated that the past year has been very hard on businesses due to COVID and the strict guidelines that they have had to follow. Some businesses have had to shut down completely or drastically cut the number of guests that they could accommodate at one time. These changes have negatively impacted the bottom line for these businesses.

Nicole is asking County Court to entertain the idea of paying for the Public Health business licensing fees for the 21 Sherman County businesses that pay this fee. This would total \$6,097.50.

County Court discussed this idea thoroughly. Many of the Sherman County businesses that pay for the Public Health business licensing fees have received one or both of the Sherman County business grants. Another point made was that other local businesses have other licensing fees and it might not feel “fair” for County Court to pay for some business fees while other businesses have to pay other types of fees. County Court thanked Nicole for her report and for looking out for local businesses. County Court decided not to act on this report at this time.

Recessed at 12:03 p.m.

Reconvened at 12:10 p.m.

2.0 **Action Items**

2.1 **Sherman County Ambulance Service By-laws**

There was a brief discussion on the Sherman County Ambulance Service By-laws. It was decided to have CIS (insurance) and then Jeff Wallace (County Council) to review and then bring back to County Court.

3.0 **Discussion Items**

3.1 Written Quarterly Report – Senior Center

Great report

3.2 Written Quarterly Report – Prevention and Community Outreach

Commissioner Bird commented that this report mentions phone issues. For phone issues, the department needs to call Century Link.

3.3 Written Quarterly Report – Transportation

Commissioner Bird asked about the three grants expiring June 2021. Are these grants renewable? Have plans been drawn up for the bus barn? How much is set aside for the bus barn project? Commissioner Bird will ask Marnene these questions.

3.4 Written Quarterly Report – Veterans’ Services Program

Great report

3.5 Sherman County Historical Society – Thank You Letter

County Court is glad that the business grants were helpful.

3.6 Written Quarterly Report – Justice Court

The Justice Court deficit was less than expected.

3.7 Equine Mania – Thank You note

County Court is glad that the business grants were helpful.

3.8 Commissioner Reports and updates

Judge Dabulskis – Attended CREA; Sherman County School District Board meeting; OHA weekly update meeting; AOC Legislative meeting; AOC Board meeting; LPSCC meeting; BOPTA trainings (3) so far; COVID recovery meeting; Frontier Regional 911 meeting; met with Jeff Wallace – County Council; Tri-County Corrections meeting; Equity and Equality meeting.

Drove around Sherman County with Ryan LeBlanc to look at rural areas of the county.

Commissioner Miller – Attended County College; Fair Board meeting.

Commissioner Bird – Attended Prevention meeting; meeting with Kenny LaPoint; Community Action training; SWCD meeting; Center for Living; Public Health meeting; Library meeting.

4.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – December 2020

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Revenue/Expenditure Summary for the month of December 2020, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

5.0 **Future Agenda Items**

Add Parole and Probation to Feb 17th agenda.

Get written report from Sherman County Gym.

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

***If necessary, an Executive Session may be held in accordance with: ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations ORS 192.660 (2) (h) Legal Rights
ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Property ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel*



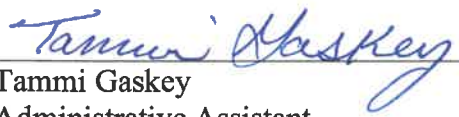
Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 

Tammi Gaskey
Administrative Assistant