



Court Agenda

June 8, 2022

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Additions to Agenda

1.0 Appointment Schedule

- 1.1 9:00 a.m. Sherman County Preschool – Ashley Macnab and Jessie Fields
- 1.2 ~~9:30 a.m.~~ 9:32 a.m. Budget Hearing
- 1.3 10:00 a.m. Jessica Metta – MCEDD update
- 1.4 10:30 a.m. Jeff Wallace – County Legal Counsel

- ~~11:15 a.m.~~ 11:32 a.m. Recess for Biggs Service District meeting

2.0 Action Items

- 2.1 Building Codes
- 2.2 Employee Handbook
- 2.3 Misc. Contracts and Agreements No. 35348 – Transportation
- 2.4 Local Government Personnel Services Member Dues
- 2.5 Daycare/Preschool Funds
- 2.6 Voiding Returned Resident Incentive Checks

3.0 Discussion Items

- 3.1 Commissioner Reports and updates

4.0 Consent Agenda

- 4.1 Claims – May 2022
- 4.2 Treasurer's Report – April 2022

5.0 Future Agenda Items



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

MINUTES

JUNE 8, 2022

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

1.0 Appointment Schedule

3.2 Retirement from Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Board

2.7 Surplus Property

1.1 9:00 a.m. Sherman County Preschool – Ashley Macnab and Jessie Fields

Present: Ashley Macnab and Jessie Fields, Brennah Miller

Ashley Macnab and Jessie Fields came to County Court to discuss questions that County Court members have been hearing from some residents as well as discuss the idea of opening an afternoon session of preschool. Some residents have questions about the point system and how 3 year olds are getting into preschool before 4 year olds. There were also questions about where the preschool advertised this year – if it was only on Facebook. Ashley and Jessie stated that if both the 4 year old and 3 year old were to get their paperwork completed and turned in on time, the 4 year old would have more points and get in before the 3 year old. This year advertising happened on Facebook and in the post offices as well as at the pre-school. The preschool board has considered widening the advertising for next year to include the Citizen Reporter, the newspaper as well as more flyers on different businesses around the county in addition to the already established advertising locations. Currently, there is a full session of preschool with 20 students and 7 on the waitlist.

Ashley and Jessie stated that they have considered opening an afternoon session of preschool but there are a few hurdles that they would need to work through. These hurdles include: transportation, benefits for teachers, food options, hiring an aide, etc. Some logistical hurdles would be who to put in the morning class and who to put in the afternoon class. Do you put the younger kids in one class and the older kids in the other class, do you just randomly pick, etc. There are many factors to consider when thinking about adding an additional session of preschool. Then you have to figure out if there is enough funding to pay for another session.

Ashley and Jessie did state that they recently had a conversation with Kalie Rolfe who is interested in taking up to 10 kids to make a preschool class in The City of Wasco with the support of North Central ESD. There would be no transportation for this session of preschool. County Court would like to invite Kalie to County Court to get more information about this. Is this wishful thinking or is this a reality? Are all of the basis covered like teacher, aide, food, etc? Is there money to fund this? Is there a location?

This new session in Wasco could impact the Sherman County Preschool because of the head start spots and the funding that goes along with it.

1.2 ~~9:30 a.m.~~ 9:32 a.m. Budget Hearing

Present: Debbie Hayden

Opened Budget Hearing at 9:32 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to adopt the budget approved by the budget committee for the 2022-2023 fiscal year in the total sum of \$78,481,898. and imposing the taxes provided for in the adopted budget at the rate of \$8.7141 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operations, and that these taxes are hereby imposed and categorized for tax year 2022-2023 upon the assessed value of all taxable property within the County of Sherman as of 1:00 a.m., July 1, 2022. Additionally, to approve appropriations as recommended by the Finance Director and authorize County Court to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to authorize the Sherman County approved salaries for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 as presented and authorize County Court to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Closed Budget Hearing at 9:35 a.m.

1.3 10:00 a.m. Jessica Metta – MCEDD Update

Present: Jessica Metta

Jessica Metta, Executive Director of MCEDD, came to County Court to give a MCEDD update. Jessica went over the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDDS). The CEDDS regional overview includes five counties in two states covering 7,289 square miles with a population of 87,288 and a labor force population of 43,871.

The themes explored:

- Resilience

➤ Equitable Outcomes

2022 Top Priorities include (Oregon)

- 1) Hood River-White Salmon Interstate Bridge Replacement and Bridge of the Gods Strengthening and safety Improvements
- 2) Housing (Hood River, Sherman, and Wasco Counties, City of Hood River)
- 3) City of The Dalles' Dog River Pipeline
- 4) Broadband in Sherman and Wasco Counties
- 5) Wasco County's Cascades East Interconnection and Colocation Facility
- 6) Port of Hood River's Lot 1
- 7) City of Hood River's Elevated Sewer Line
- 8) City of Rufus' Backup Power/Emergency Generator Purchase
- 9) Columbia Gorge Childcare Center (CGCC)
- 10) Expansion of Rural Health Clinics (Sherman and White River Health Districts)

2022 Top Priorities include (Washington)

- 1) Goldendale Pumped Storage Hydro
- 2) Port of Skamania's Cascades Business Park – Commercial/Light Industrial Buildings
- 3) Port of Klickitat's Business Park Development
- 4) Carson's Drinking Water Treatment Plant
- 5) City of White Salmon's Buck Creek Water Distribution Line Replacement
- 6) City of Goldendale's Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements
- 7) Columbia Gorge Regional Airport's Aviation Maintenance Training Facility
- 8) Skamania PUD's Underwood Water Tank
- 9) City of North Bonneville's Lift Station Replacement
- 10) Port of Skamania's Stevenson Landing Upgrade and Improvements

1.4 10:30 a.m. Jeff Wallace – County Legal Counsel, Melinda Thomas – School Legal Counsel

Present: Jeff Wallace, Melinda Thomas, Jeanney McArthur, Janet Pinkerton, Arla Melzer, Ken Melzer, Debbie Hayden

Jeff Wallace, County Counsel, gave an overview of the background of the Library. Since the enactment of the Joint Public/School Library, the school district has new statutes that have been put in place and new obligations that they have to comply with such as the equal pay act as well as others, the collective bargaining agreements which presents problems for the district in terms of going forward. These are just a few of the items that were not outlined in the original agreement that the district and Joint Public/School Library entered into. These are a few of the things that have brought this current discussion to the forefront. In December, Jeff wrote a resolution that County Court could consider delegating fiscal and administration functions of the library to the school district so that the school district would be the personnel director; the school district has concerns about this.

Melinda Thomas, Jeff Wallace, Arla Melzer and Commissioner Bird met over the phone on Wednesday, May 27 and had a brainstorming session to see if they could come up with a solution that would meet the needs of both parties. One suggestion that Jeff wanted to run by County Court was to let the school district hire a library person to take care of the school needs during school hours and the County can hire a library person(s) to take care of the public needs during the public hours. The feeling was that this would solve a lot of the immediate issues concerning the collective bargaining and employment issues.

Liability would be a separate issue and may be able to be addressed through a detailed IGA. The financial piece would also need to be negotiated. There would also need to be changes to the Library by-laws and other foundational documents to reflect this new agreement if this is what you want to do going forward.

Commissioner Bird sent Jeff Wallace her comments regarding the meeting and Jeff Wallace forwarded those comments to Melinda Thomas.

Melinda stated that although the school district is the fiscal and personnel agent for the library, they have not been assuming the employer functions such as supervising, hiring, evaluating, and all of those types of things. There are a lot of laws and different regulations that are constantly evolving that they have to comply with as an employer. This is not a solution that we are trying to push on the county but was the outcome of a brainstorming session.

There is two ways that this could go:

- The school district could hire a library person to take care of the school needs during school hours and the County can hire a library person to take care of the public needs during the public hours.
- We could continue as is but we would need some changes to the control that the school district has.

Commissioner Bird said that before we go further we really need a break down of what this would look like. What are the costs, the duties, etc? We need a breakdown before we can really make a decision.

Changes that would need to be made: School district would need to assume all duties of an employer from posting job positions, hiring, supervising, evaluating, pay scale, maintain employee records, impose discipline if necessary, and follow school district policies. Liability concerns as well – public on school grounds as visitors. Most liability concerns could probably be addressed in an IGA. These changes are outlined in a letter that Melinda wrote on March 14, 2022.

Arla Melzer is going to send Media Director job description to Melinda. Melinda sent a draft IGA to Wes for his approval. County Court would like to get a copy of this draft IGA. Melinda said that she would need to get approval from Wes first and then she could send to Jeff and he can send to County Court.

County Court would like to see both proposals before moving forward. The IGA that Melinda is drafting that is addressing status quo and then the new idea of each entity having their own employee.

There is a difference between premises liability and employer liability. Currently the library has premises liability.

Contract out: Is not a good idea for the school district. Does not meet the goal of what is being discussed.

Media Director employee has submitted resignation. Since nothing has changed can we go forward and hire? Melinda would like to look at the job description and make sure it is updated with both school and library functions. The library is also short staffed because they are missing the Children's Director employee.

Arla stated that she would like to get everyone on the same page with the history of and how the library runs and she feels that this would help answer a lot of questions that people have.

Next meeting should include: Wes, Kim, Melinda, Arla, Joan and Jeff. The most important thing to work on immediately is the liability for summer programming – per Melinda.

Jeff suggested that we can move forward with hiring the Media Director employee and start working on the immediate issue of the liability shifting for summer programming while continuing to work on the larger issues.

Melinda asked what the resistance was to the idea of each entity having their own employee. Commissioner Bird stated that she doesn't believe that there is resistance, there are just questions. What does that look like?

Jeff and Melinda will work on a more formal proposal for the new idea. Melinda will work on the draft IGA for 'status quo'.

~~11:15 a.m.~~ 11:32 a.m. Recess for Biggs Service District meeting
Reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Building Codes

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the 5 year Building Codes Cooperative Agreement between the State of Oregon and Sherman County CA# 717967-00 and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

**Vote: 3-0
Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird
No: 0
Abstain: 0**

2.2 Employee Handbook

Tabled until next County Court.

2.3 Misc. Contracts and Agreements No. 35348 - Transportation

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve Misc. Contracts and Agreements No. 35348 between the State of Oregon and Sherman County effective February 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$20,000 and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

**Vote: 3-0
Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird
No: 0
Abstain: 0**

This is a new grant through ODOT.

2.4 Local Government Personnel Services Member Dues

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to authorize payment of \$622 for FY2023 Local Government Personnel Services Member Dues.

**Vote: 3-0
Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

No: 0
Abstain: 0

2.5 Daycares/Preschool Funding

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve continuation of funding for each of the two daycares at \$36,667 and the preschool funding at \$26,667 for a total of \$100,000 for the 2022-2023 fiscal year as approved by the budget committee.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.6 Voiding Returned Resident Incentive Checks

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to authorize the returned resident incentive checks issued December 8, 2021 itemized in 'Exhibit A' be voided and the funds returned to the Resident Incentive Fund for future distribution.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.7 Surplus Property

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to authorize the Sherman County Weed District to surplus an old John Deere mower with a blown engine and a 5 x 8 foot trailer.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 Commissioner Reports and updates

Judge Dabulskis – Attended a Frontier TeleNet Budget meeting; the Tillamook's Working Lands Tour.

There was a tree about to come down behind Senior Center and fall on to private land – Emergency removal \$4,000.

Filled out survey from AOC to see who had not received ARPA money. Sherman County has not received the 2nd portion of the ARPA money yet.

Sage Wind Manor inspection happened yesterday (6-7-22). The Senior Center parking lot cracks will be written up in the inspection since Sage Wind Manor guest's park in that parking lot. We will have 30 days to write up a plan of action to get the parking lot cracks fixed. The Sherman County Road Department will fix the parking lot problem.

Judge Dabulskis attend the City of Moro City Council meeting on June 7, 2022 and asked for a letter supporting a resiliency project at the school.

Judge Dabulskis MC'd the Memorial Day Parade.

Commissioner Miller – Fair updates

Commissioner Bird – Attended a Library meeting; Prevention meeting and a call with Al Barton from Center for Living.

3.2 Retirement from Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Board

County Court received a retirement letter from Teri Sanderson stating that she is retiring from being a committee member on the Mid-Columbia Housing Authority Board. This leaves two openings for Sherman County to fill on this board.

4.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Claims – May 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Claims for the month of May 2022, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Treasurer's Report – April 2022

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2022, as presented.

Future Agenda Items:

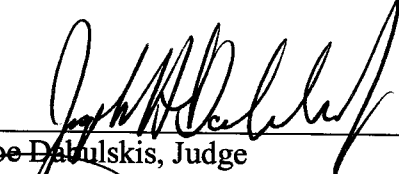
Employee Handbook

Ryan LeBlanc


Kalie Rolfe

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.


Sherman County Court



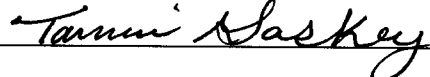
Joe Dalulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 

Tammi Gaskey, Administrative Assistant