



**Court Agenda
SPECIAL SESSION
March 30, 2022**

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Additions to Agenda

1.0 Appointment Schedule

1.1 1:00 p.m. BLM

2.0 Discussion Items

2.1 Library

2.2 Starvation Boat Ramp

2.3 Updates



**SHERMAN COUNTY COURT
SPECIAL SESSION**

MINUTES

MARCH 30, 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

1.1 1:00 p.m. BLM

Present: Sage DeLong, Dennis Teitzel

Dennis Teitzel, a representative of BLM, stated that some people in Sherman County received a letter from BLM as part of the BLM process to purchase property in Sherman County. Dennis explained that BLM is not trying to approach individual landowners. He stated that BLM does not want to acquire more agricultural land than they have to. Reducing crop growth is not in BLM's interest. Preserving artifacts on The Oregon Trail is their main focus.

Judge Dabulskis asked if Oregon Natural Desert Association was involved. Dennis said that Oregon Natural Desert Association was NOT involved. Another question asked was about grazing. Dennis stated that lands suitable for grazing need to stay grazing if possible. The follow-up question was who decides if land is suitable? Dennis stated that BLM does. Dennis also stated that BLM would encourage anyone to comment on any of their concerns including grazing, housing, etc. BLM reviews comments and responds accordingly.

Dennis stated that at this point, BLM has only given a letter of intent to purchase and that the letter is not binding.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess the environment effects of their proposed actions prior to making decisions. The range of actions covered by NEPA is broad and includes:

- Making decisions on permit applications,
- Adopting federal land management actions, and
- Constructing highways and other publicly-owned facilities.

Using the NEPA process, agencies evaluate the environmental and related social and economic effects of their proposed actions. Agencies also provide opportunities for public review and comment on those evaluations.

Dennis said that NEPA has to be done first. They are currently working on the scoping piece with is internal and external. The next phase will be the development phase where issues will be analyzed. Then there will be a public comment time. It takes a minimum of 6 months to get through the NEPA document. Judge Dabulskis stated that he will talk to Nate Stice with Regional Solutions about the housing issue.

Commissioner Miller brought up an issue of a family currently living in a house on the land that BLM wants to purchase. BLM has sent the tenant a letter stating that they need to be out of the house by a certain date. Dennis stated that BLM has no issues keeping the house on property at this time. BLM has given no indication to demolition house at this time. Commissioner Miller stated that he would forward the letter to Commissioner Bird, Judge Dabulskis and Dennis.

Dennis stated that BLM has Fire Resource Funding that has been allocated to purchase this land. BLM will be redirecting funding for staffing after land is purchased. No barracks building will be build. Fire rescue staff will camp when on property. Intent is to use the shop as is.

Sage DeLong stated that public comment will be very important.

Consensus of County Court is to write a letter to BLM. Commissioner Miller will write a draft for Commissioner Bird and Judge Dabulskis to review.

2.0 Discussion Items

2.1 Library

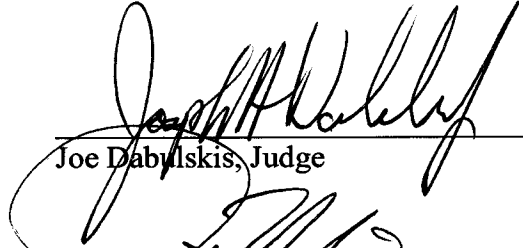
Commissioner Bird met with Jeff Wallace, County Counsel, to discuss Library comments from Sherman County School Board legal counsel. Commissioner Bird is going to discuss Jeff’s conversation with the Library Board.

2.2 Starvation Boat Ramp

Consensus of County Court is to wait until the new boat ramp is built before signing off on rehabbing the old boat ramp to its natural habitat.

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

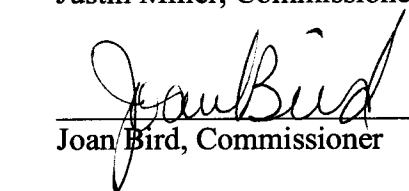
Sherman County Court



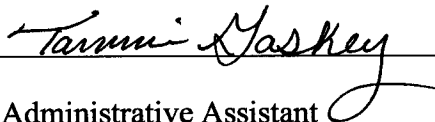
Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 

Administrative Assistant