



Court Agenda

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Additions to Agenda

1.0 Appointment Schedule

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------|---|
| 1.1 | 9:00 a.m. | | Jacque Schei, MCEDD Quarterly Report |
| 1.2 | 9:30 a.m. | 9:31 a.m. | Marnene Benson-Wood, Bus Barn Proposal |
| 1.3 | 10:00 a.m. | 9:46 a.m. | Bryce Coelsch, Fair Board Quarterly Report |
| 1.4 | 11:00 a.m. | | Planning Department – Mass Gathering Public Hearing |

2.0 Action Items

- 2.1 Appointment of Prevention Committee Member
- 2.2 Sherman Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 24-30, 2022
- 2.3 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation April 2022
- 2.4 Resiliency Grant Proposal
- 2.5 Security Cameras
- 2.6 Sherman County Housing Grant Review Committee Recommendation

3.0 Discussion Items

- 3.1 Extension Position
3.2 Commissioner Reports and updates

4.0 Consent Agenda:

- #### 4.1 Claims – March 2022

5.0 Future Agenda Items



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

MINUTES

APRIL 6, 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.
Pledge of Allegiance

A quorum was present. Times-Journal was present.

1.0 Appointment Schedule

1.1 9:00 a.m. Jacques Schei, MCEDD Quarterly Report

Present: Jacques Schei, Marnene Benson-Wood

Jacques Schei, Sherman County Economic Development Coordinator with MCEDD, gave highlights from her MCEDD quarterly report as follows:

- **MCEDD CEDS:** The MCEDD Board adopted the 2022-2027 Columbia Gorge Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in March. The final document, along with the approved project priority lists for Oregon and Washington, will be posted on MCEDD's website. Staff worked with the County Planning Director to develop a project list for the County and the Court's prioritizations were incorporated into the state rankings for the final CEDS.
- **Housing Assistance:** Two New Housing Construction Grant applications were reviewed by the Grant Review Committee since the beginning of the year. Staff also discussed status of funds with the Committee. With the approval of both applications, the housing grant fund balance will be fully allocated. The Committee recommended applications continue to be reviewed on a first come, first serve basis, indicating they don't want to lose momentum for the program. Staff will disclose to all applicants that if their application is approved by the Court, any grant payments are contingent upon the housing grant fund receiving more funds (expected in January 2023).
- **Water-Wastewater System Technical Assistance:** Staff met with the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) to discuss water and wastewater systems that may benefit from technical assistance. Staff are following up on several items and will work to schedule site visits with RCAC staff. This may be a good resource for any systems in the County with minor issues or questions such as setting SDCs, rate

studies, or planning. This support can often be provided at no cost to a community due to grant funding RCAC receives.

- **Support for Cities:**

- **Wasco:** Staff met with the City and Business Oregon to discuss issues with their water and wastewater systems and possible funding options. Staff also discussed the possibility of doing system assessments and planning for future upgrades with the City. If the City decides to move forward, staff will support them in applying for technical assistance grants.
 - **Moro:** Staff reached out to the City to offer support in looking for funding for their water system project and put them in touch with Business Oregon.
 - **Rufus:** Staff met with the City to review progress on current priorities and projects. Follow up efforts are underway on several topics.
 - Staff met with the City and RCAC to discuss where RCAC may be able to offer technical assistance, including support for GIS mapping of the water and wastewater systems, outlining a detailed scope for investigating issues with well #3, drafting a water curtailment plan, conducting system assessments and rate studies.
 - The City is awaiting completion of a feasibility study on well #1 to determine what the next steps are to fix current issues.
 - Follow-up on brownfield project – a contractor has been selected and is planning the survey. Staff will support the City with next steps when the survey has been completed and will support coordination with Business Oregon to update their grant agreement to include abatement work if the City wants to move forward.
 - **Grass Valley:** Staff attended the City of Grass Valley's March City Council meeting in which the engineer presented details of the feasibility study for a wastewater system. The Council agreed they would like to move forward and want to get community buy-in before looking for funding. A community meeting is scheduled for April 19 at 7:00 pm at the Grass Valley Pavilion. Staff has been working with the City, engineer, Business Oregon and DEQ to prepare. Staff is also coordinating with Business Oregon to start the process to schedule a One Stop meeting to discuss funding options for the project. The project was not far enough along to submit a request for Congressionally Directed Spending, but could be a good candidate for next year, depending on progress.
- Staff had an initial discussion with the Board Chair from the North Sherman County Fire Protection District about constructing a new fire hall on their recently purchased property in Rufus. The current building cannot accommodate the larger vehicles they own. Staff will support next steps which include looking into planning and permitting requirements, solicitation of an engineer for design work, and looking into funding opportunities.
 - **NEW – MCEDD's** Microlending program for small businesses offers terms of one- to five-years and full collateralization is not required. Applicants must supply a minimum of 5% towards the project to receive up to a 95% loan from a MCEDD-managed funding source. Interest rates depend on risk criteria and range generally from 8 to 12% with performance incentives to lower the interest rate during the loan term.

Jacque will send a flyer and information to Tammi Gaskey so that she can forward the information to the County's small business email group.

Jessica Richelderfer Wheeler and Brittany Dark are two Sherman County Ambassadors to the Oregon Frontier Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Bird stated that Sage DeLong, Field Representative from Congressman Cliff Bentz's Office, has requested the top 5 projects for Sherman County with details of each project. Jacque Schei stated that she would send Commissioner Bird the list and descriptions.

County Court thanked Jacque for all that she does for Sherman County.

Present: Marnene Benson-Wood, Bryce Coelsch, Jacque Schei, Audrey Rooney

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to enter into an agreement with Pillar Consulting Group for proposed Phase 1 services for the Bus Barn Project.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

1.3 ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 9:46 a.m. Bryce Coelsch, Fair Board Quarterly Report

Present: Bryce Coelsch, Audrey Rooney

Bryce Coelsch gave the Fair Board quarterly report. Bryce stated that there were questions about the fire suppression pond and water rights. The Fair Board has applied for the correct water rights.

Bryce stated that sometime in May is when they will start moving dirt at the fairgrounds.

Bryce noted that the contingency fund is continuing to grow.

Bryce discussed possible fair changes. He stated that they were looking into dances on both Friday and Saturday nights, adding an antique car and tractor show as well as possibly a farmers market on Saturday.

1.4 11:00 a.m. Planning Department – Mass Gathering Public Hearing

Present: Georgia Macnab, Jean Hulbert, Fred Justensen, Dan Meador, Eric Grendal, Audrey Rooney

Opened Public Meeting at 11:00 a.m.

QUASI-JUDICIAL MEETING PROCEDURE

I call this Public Hearing of April 6th to order. My name is Joe Dabulskis, and I am the Judge of the Sherman County Court. The County Courts' job is to conduct public hearings for the purpose of making mass gathering decisions and or recommendations according to the ordinances and law of Sherman County and the State of Oregon. The County Court may not vary from the adopted laws and ordinances. If a law or ordinance is considered to be unfair or unworkable, there is a process to amend the ordinances. All county mass gathering ordinances must meet minimum standards of the enabling state statutes and administrative rules. All applications being heard today are being weighed against the law and ordinances in effect at the time the application was filed.

A copy of the rules of procedure for the hearing, the agenda and copies of the staff report are available.

All those in attendance are asked to sign the attendance sheet and please include your mailing address.

Briefly we will begin with a staff report and any additional comments from staff since the staff report was written. The appellant will speak first, followed by proponents or those in favor of the proposal. Next we will hear any opponents, followed by neutral parties or those who are either for or against but have questions they

need clarified. Any agencies comments will be heard last. The applicant will be given the right of rebuttal, then at which time the hearing will be closed and no more public testimony will be taken. The County Court will then deliberate and render a decision. Testimony from all concerned shall be specific to the law that is understandable.

Failure to provide testimony at this hearing will preclude a person from participating on an appeal to the County Court.

All persons testifying must be recognized by the Judge. State your name and address and if you are representing someone else please state who you are representing.

We will now qualify our decision makers.

-Do any of the commissioners have a conflict of interest? NO

-Has any member of the commission had any Exparte contact with the applicant or any member of the public? NO

-does anyone in the audience wish to challenge any of the county commissioners? NO

We will now hear the staff report.

Dan Meador explained that in 2016 the State of Oregon proposed and adopted a Mass Gathering

Closed Public Testimony at 11:30 a.m.

Closed Public Hearing at 11:36 a.m.

Recessed at 11:37 a.m.

Reconvened at 11:41 a.m.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Appointment of Prevention Committee Member

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to appoint Kristen Slatt to the Prevention Committee for a term of four years ending June 30, 2026.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.2 Proclamation – April 24-30 Sherman County Crime Victims' Rights Week

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to proclaim April 24-30, 2022 as Sherman County Crime Victims' Rights Week and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.3 Proclamation – April Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.4 Resiliency Grant Proposal

Tabled until April 20th County Court

2.5 Security Cameras

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to expand security cameras contract with ASET to include the Road Department, Weed Department, Planning Department and Senior Center in the total amount not to exceed \$31,733 to provide and install security cameras contingent on department approval of budget.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

2.6 Housing Grants

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to authorize Judge Dabulskis to approve the New Housing Construction Grant application for \$10,000 submitted by Kristi and Nick Weis, conditional upon meeting all program requirements and fund availability and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 Extension Position

Commissioner Bird talked about information that Nicole Strong, OSU Regional Director, had put together about the benefits of the Extension Secretary position becoming an OSU position versus staying a County position.

The OSU position starts out about \$30 more, has 10 steps and will top out about the same amount. The insurance for family is a lot cheaper. OSU is contracted so the COLA will go up as negotiated in the contract.

The County position has 7 steps so you get to the top quicker than at OSU. COLA is decided each year by County Court. The insurance is expensive for the employee to cover family since this is a .8 FTE position. There would be about a \$12,000 savings to the County if this became an OSU position because of the cost of benefits. A negative for making the position an OSU position is that county dollars are paying for this position.

3.2 Commissioner Reports and updates

Judge Dabulskis – Attended a NORCOR budget meeting and a Regional 911 Budget Committee meeting.

- Judge Dabulskis met with BLM and JC to discuss land in Grass Valley.
- Starvation boat ramp update – Road department would like to start work in 10-12 days.
- Cottonwood Tower update – Currently working on IGA.
- Judge Dabulskis is working on getting Dan Mahr approved to go up in a wind turbine.

Commissioner Bird – Attended a Special Session of County Court; a Library meeting; an Oregon Wheat Growers meeting; meeting with Kenny LaPoint; Mid-Columbia Center for Living employee meeting; a Mid-Columbia Housing Authority meeting; Sue's Retirement party.

- Salary Survey update – Salary Survey should be completed in 2023 and take effect in 2024.
- Mid-Columbia Center for Living Budget Committee member is needed. Commissioner Bird will reach out to a couple of people to see if they are interested.
- Commissioner Bird asked if Blue Mountain Networks has merged with GorgeNet.

Commissioner Miller – Attended a County Court Special Session; a Housing Rehab meeting; a BLM Acquisition Plan meeting; and a Wheat Growers Association meeting.

Commissioner Miller has had several phone conversations with BLM.

4.0 Consent Agenda:

4.1 Claims – March 2022

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

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Future Agenda Items:

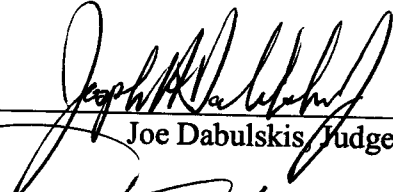
**Extension Employee
Update Ordinance**

**Security Cameras
Rock Tour**

Library

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

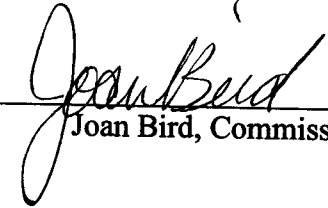
Sherman County Court



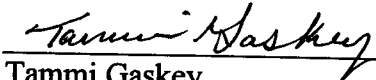
Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 

Tammi Gaskey
Administrative Assistant