



Court Agenda

October 19, 2022

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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. 9:53 a.m. | Dana Pursley-Haner, Emergency Services Quarterly Report |
| 1.3 | 9:45 a.m. 10:08 a.m. | Wes Owens, Sherman County School District Quarterly Report |
| 1.4 | 10:00 a.m. 10:22 a.m. | Marnene Benson-Wood, Treasurer Quarterly Report |
| 1.5 | 10:30 a.m. 10:34 a.m. | Shandie Johnson, Justice of the Peace Quarterly Report |
| 1.6 | 11:00 a.m. 10:59 a.m. | Sheriff Lohrey, Cat/dog problem |
| 1.7 | 11:15 a.m. | Sheriff Lohrey, Frontier Regional 911 |
| 1.8 | 11:45 a.m. 10:35 a.m. | Debbie Hayden, Paid Leave Oregon |

2.0 Action Items

- 2.1 Housing Applications
- 2.2 LONG proposed Project Agreement

3.0 Discussion Items

- 3.1 Library
- 3.2 Commissioner Reports and Updates

4.0 Consent Agenda

- 4.1 Minutes of June 29, 2022
- 4.2 Minutes of July 6, 2022
- 4.3 Minutes of July 20, 2022
- 4.4 Minutes of September 21, 2022
- 4.5 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – September 2022

5.0 Future Agenda Items

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***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

OCTOBER 19, 2022

Opened Court: 9:00 a.m.

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

A quorum was present. No news media was present.

Additions to Agenda

1.1 9:00 a.m. Jacque Schei – MCEDD Quarterly Report

Present: Jacque Schei

Jacqu Schei, MCEDD representative, gave her quarterly report.

The following activities are the result of the Sherman County contract with Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) for Economic Development Project Management services.

- **Faster Internet Oregon campaign:** The speed test is still open! The Faster Internet Oregon speed test campaign is a statewide broadband mapping effort for Oregonians to report Internet speeds or a lack of connection at home. Help identify Oregon's areas with the greatest need for high-speed broadband by taking the test - it takes less than 1 minute! <https://www.fasterinternetoregon.org/>
- **Electric Vehicle Charging:** Staff attended the Transportation Electrification Infrastructure Needs Analysis (TEINA) Advisory Group meeting to learn more about plans for electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Oregon. The TEINA effort is separate, but complimentary to the state National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Plan. The NEVI plan is focused on charging needs over the next five years and along major roads. The TEINA effort is broader – identifying needs and gaps across the state for the short and long term (over 15 years) for multiple vehicle classes and use types. Staff supported a business in Grass Valley in setting up an evaluation of their site by Pacific Power for an EV charging station. Staff helped the business apply to Pacific Power's Oregon Electric Mobility Grant for funds to install an EV charger in their parking lot. The application was submitted at the end of August and recipients will be notified of awards in November.
- **Organizational support:** Staff has been working with the Sherman Kids Zone to identify grant opportunities they are eligible for and outline what their request should be. The main support they need is funding for general operations so they can continue to provide their services for free. They are also considering expanding to an additional room at the Wasco School Events Center to provide services for older children, which will increase

their operations costs. Staff touched base with the new facility manager at the Wasco School Events Center to see if there is anything we can help with. Staff also continues to provide support as needed for Little Wheats Day Care.

- **Sherman County Pub Talk – November 8 at 5:30 pm at the Dirty Cowgirl in Wasco.** MCEDD has received a grant through Oregon Community Foundation to support a series of entrepreneurship networking events known as Pub Talks. Staff have been working with the Small Business Development Center, the Oregon Frontier Chamber, and several businesses to plan one in November in Sherman County. The Court is welcome to join if you are able and please share with anyone that might be interested.
- **Business support:** o Staff have talked to several businesses in the county about various requests or issues – funding to support new and expanding businesses, resources for businesses, and funding to support septic tank replacement. Business have been referred to Business Oregon, the SBDC, or MCEDD’s loan fund manager as appropriate.
- Staff talked to Commissioner Bird about developing a business siting guide for Sherman County. Staff discussed the idea with Georgia Macnab and outlined a plan for developing a draft.
- Staff have had several conversations with Oregon Raceway Park about the future of the business and opportunities to support connecting with or developing additional amenities in the area.
- **City of Rufus support:** The City recently completed a hazardous materials survey for the community center. Staff have been coordinating with the Business Oregon brownfield program to determine next steps and funding possibilities for clean-up or removal of any hazardous materials at the center.
- **City of Grass Valley wastewater:** Staff were working with the City to plan another community meeting in September to discuss the funding options that were presented at the One Stop meeting. However, DEQ staff noted that the agency would have a better idea in December of updated funding options from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund related to additional funds coming from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, specifically the increase to the maximum amount of forgivable loan. The City decided to postpone the community meeting until they can get the updated numbers from DEQ.
- **DEQ Onsite Septic Financial Aid Program:** In response to a request from a business, staff reached out to DEQ staff regarding funding opportunities for septic system repair or replacement. DEQ staff noted that a new funding program, supported by ARPA funds, will be available to eligible third-party organizations soon. These organization will then need to develop program guidelines, eligibility requirements, and an application process for property owners to apply for grants or loans to update their septic system. Focus will be on low-and moderate-income residents and communities that were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Staff will follow up with DEQ to learn more.
- **Rural Capacity:** MCEDD has funding to support staff time to help local governments and nonprofits get ready for grants, find and apply for grants, and administer grants. Staff will be using some of these resources in Sherman County to support the Grass Valley wastewater discussions, Sherman Kids Zone in seeking funding, and to support the bus barn project in finding additional funds. If there are other projects staff can support, please let me know.
- **Housing Assistance:** Three new grant applications have been submitted since the end of July. One application has questions pending, but the other two will be presented the Court for review. Staff have also checked in with ongoing projects and will have time extension requests to present to the Court. Four projects have been completed since the end of July.

1.2 ~~9:30 a.m.~~ 9:53 a.m. Dana Pursley-Haner – Emergency Services Quarterly Report

Present: Dana Pursley-Haner, Wes Owens

Dana Pursley-Haner, EMS Director, gave highlights from her quarterly report. Dana stated that EMS has went on 224 ambulance calls. Dana also stated that EMS is no longer testing volunteers for COVID as of 10/1/2022. Dana also mentioned that she does the billing for MVC that North Sherman and Moro Fire respond to. She has offered assistance to South Sherman as well, but has had no response.

1.3 ~~9:45 a.m.~~ 10:08 a.m. Wes Owens – Sherman County School District Quarterly Report

Present: Wes Owens, Marnene Benson-Wood

Wes Owens, Sherman County School District Superintendent, gave his quarterly report.

- Wes thanked County Court for the SIP payment, the Science teacher grant and the scholarship money
- Wes has been doing safety plan presentations to other schools
- Strategic Plan discussions will be starting soon
- The switch to student transportation with North Wasco has been working great
- Discussion for a 4-day school week are ongoing

1.4 ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 10:22 a.m. Marnene Benson-Wood – Treasurer Quarterly Report

Present: Marnene Benson-Wood, Shandie Johnson

Marnene Benson-Wood, Sherman County Treasurer, gave her quarterly report. Marnene explained the concept of OSTF or the Oregon Short Term Fund account. The OSTF is managed by the Oregon State Treasury to keep taxpayer dollars safe and to help governments of all sizes to stretch public funds. The OSTF enables governments to earn a rate of return on money between when revenue is received and when the money is needed to pay bills. The rate is determined by Treasury staff based on market conditions and yield for fixed income securities such as government and corporate bonds. Because the OSTF is made up of government operating money, it is invested in U.S. dollar-denominated, high-quality, short-term fixed income securities. It is not invested in the stock market. The primary objectives of the OSTF investment activities, in priority order, are preservation of principal, liquidity, and yield. All state agencies and certain public universities participate in the fund. Local governments, such as school districts and counties, and tribal governments have the option to access the fund by participating in the Local Government Investment Pool, Roughly 1,000 local governments participate.

Interest Rates Paid on Account Balances in the OSTF

Interest is accrued on interest bearing accounts based on the end of day balance of the account times the rate for that day, divided by the number of days in the year. Accrued interest is distributed on the last day of the month and includes interest accrued for the last day of the month.

1.5 ~~10:30 a.m.~~ 10:34 a.m. Shandie Johnson – Justice of the Peace Quarterly Report

Present: Shandie Johnson, Brad Lohrey

Shandie Johnson, Justice of the Peace, gave her quarterly report. She reported that at the end of 2022/2023 first quarter, the Justice Court JP Fees line item was \$91,030.91. This amount is \$28,530.91, or approximately 45.6%, greater than the budgeted amount.

Total traffic related fillings for the first quarter ended at 623, which represents an approximate 78.5% increase from the first quarter of the previous year.

There were five wildlife violations and two animal offenses in the first quarter of this fiscal year compared to two wildlife violations and three animal offenses in the first quarter the previous fiscal year. Mia Moore is the new hire replacing Melanie Corey. Mia will start 10/24/22. Melanie will be retiring in December.

Theresa will stay on part-time for Justice Court and she will transition to Sherman County Treasurer (which is part-time) starting January 2023.

Recess at 10:54 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:58 a.m.

1.6 ~~11:00 a.m.~~ 10:59 a.m. Sheriff Lohrey – Cat/dog problem

Present: Brad Lohrey

Sheriff Lohrey came to inform County Court of the growing number of puppies/dogs dumped in Sherman County. Brad stated that this year, 2022, has been higher than normal for the number of puppies/dogs abandoned alongside a road in Sherman County. Three puppies were recently abandoned in Biggs. Brad is trying to find homes for them now. Brad has reached out to Home at Last and has not heard back from them. In past years, the Sheriff's Office would drop off abandoned puppies/dogs (no cats) to Home at Last and pay them up to \$2,000 a year with a line item from the Sheriff Office's budget.

Biggs, Moro and Grass Valley seem to be hot spot to drop off puppies/dogs.

Bob Thomas is working with the City of Grass Valley and the City of Wasco to help the cities with their stray cat issues.

1.7 11:15 a.m. Sheriff Lohrey – Frontier 911

Present: Brad Lohrey

Sheriff Lohrey stated that Frontier 911 has a meeting next Tuesday, October 25, 2022. As of November 1, 2022, Frontier 911 will be down to 4 employees as dispatchers for four counties. They are bringing in a few dispatchers from other counties to backfill shifts. December through February will be hard for traveling dispatchers to drive to Condon.

In 1999-2000 911 for Sherman County went away from Wasco County. We first went to Morrow County and then we build our own in Condon with a backup in Fossil. Brad is currently working with Ryan and Steve to see if there are any options to build a satellite office here in Sherman County. We have to look at the ORS's to see if they allow for a remote operator in Sherman County as the ORS is written or would it need to be updated.

1.8 ~~11:45 a.m.~~ 11:35 a.m. Debbie Hayden – Paid Leave Oregon

Present: Debbie Hayden, Arla Melzer

Debbie Hayden, Finance Officer, presented Paid Leave Oregon. An application needs to be turned in by the end of November. It is hard to implement the plan when you don't know the rules. Every time you submit a plan it costs \$250.

Consensus of County Court is to have Debbie continue researching and if she doesn't get the answers that she is needing to make an informed decision, then the County should go with the state plan.

2.0 Action Items

2.1 Housing Applications

Entered into Executive Session in Accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (f) documents at 9:30 a.m.
Exited Executive Session at 9:47 a.m.

During Executive Session individual housing applications were discussed.

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve an extension to the project completion date for Kathy Hine's project until April 6, 2023.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve an extension to the project completion date for Matt and Mary Bowen's project until February 12, 2023.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve James and Shelby Stroud's Housing Rehabilitation Grant application for 20% of the project budget, totaling \$7,996.30, conditional upon meeting all program requirements and additional funds being received for the housing programs; and authorize Judge Dabulskis to approve project completion and grant payment.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve Paul and Carol Sather's New Housing Construction Grant application for \$10,000, conditional upon meeting all program requirements and additional funds being received for the housing programs; and authorize Judge Dabulskis to approve project completion and grant payment.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Jacque will review and update forms. She will expand completion date to 18 months and max of \$20,000 for combined grants.

2.2 LONG proposed project agreement

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the LONG project proposal to replace the condenser coil in the new building (that is not under warranty) in the amount of \$21,700 and authorize Judge Dabulskis to sign.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 Library

Commissioner Bird met with Jeff Wallace, County Counsel. Jeff walked with Melinda Thomas, the School District's Counsel, and she feels that they will take one more attempt at the IGA and if that doesn't work then they feel that we are at an impasse.

Entered into Executive Session in Accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (i) Personnel at 12:00 pm
Exited Executive Session at 12:24 p.m.

During Executive Session Personnel issues were discussed.

3.2 Commissioner Reports and Updates

Judge Dabulskis – Attended a Greg Smith call; a Chamber Business Entrepreneur meeting; a WIR Fall Conference; a AOC meeting in Salem; a Safety Committee meeting; and a CREA meeting.

Judge Dabulskis went out to the Art Festival of about 400 people to check on logistics and make sure that all safety protocols were being followed.

Judge Dabulskis noted that LaDonn with DEQ is still requesting paperwork to receive the \$50,000 congressional spending money.

Commissioner Bird – Attended a Prevention meeting; a NCPHD & Caitlynn Blagg meeting; a NCPHD Executive Committee meeting; a SWCD meeting; a Center For Living meeting; a NCPHD Board meeting; and met with Jeff Wallace (County Counsel).

Commissioner Bird asked about Gorge Transit discussing a possible bus stop in Biggs. She asked if it was a Grey Hound bus? How many times a day would it stop? No clear answers at this time.

Commissioner Miller – Commissioner Miller followed up with CDL training through MCP. They are looking in to this possibility.

4.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Minutes of June 29, 2022

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of June 29, 2022 as corrected.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Minutes of July 6, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of July 6, 2022 as corrected.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.3 Minutes of July 20, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of July 20, 2022 as corrected.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.4 Minutes of September 21, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of September 21, 2022 as corrected.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.5 Revenue/Expenditure Summary – September 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the September 2022 Revenue/Expenditure Summary as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Bird, Miller

No: 0

Abstain: 0

5.0 Future Agenda Items

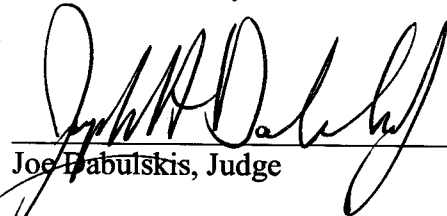
Golden Hills SIP Fees

County College

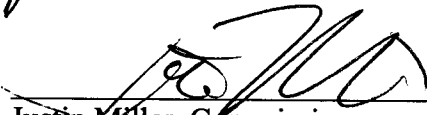
Frontier 911

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Sherman County Court



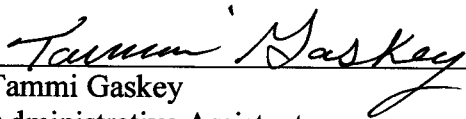
Joe Habutskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 
Tammi Gaskey
Administrative Assistant