



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

MINUTES

DECEMBER 7, 2022

Court Opened: 9:02 a.m.

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

3.3 Grass Valley Fire Comments

1.0 Appointment Schedule

1.1 Cycle Oregon May Event – Ann Marie

Present: Meinrad Kuettel, Georgia Macnab, Brittany Dark, Ann Marie Redente, Audrey Rooney

Cycle Oregon will be hosting the GRAVEL cycling event in Moro Oregon over the weekend of May 18 to 21, 2023. Our GRAVEL events typically bring about 350 riders. We'll also have a team of 50+ Cycle Oregon staff and volunteers supporting the event. We will need parking for 200 cars and 50 RVs/camper vans.

Cycle Oregon is a 30+ year old non-profit dedicated to transforming individuals and communities through bicycling. Proceeds from our events go into the Cycle Oregon Fund held by the Oregon Community Foundation. To date Cycle Oregon has made over \$2.5 Million in grants across the state of Oregon. In addition to grants, our events leave a positive economic effect for the communities we visit.

Cycle Oregon brings everything the event needs. We provide hot meals for breakfast and dinner, hot showers in camp, and a fully supported course for riders. There will be portable toilets provided (both in camp and on the route) and basic medical services. In addition to that infrastructure, we'll have a stage with live music in the evenings and a beer and wine garden. And the community is welcome to come enjoy the music and hang out!

We rely on local community groups to help us throughout the event. For this weekend, we'll need groups primarily to help with serving meals and staffing rest stops. (Cycle Oregon provides all the food and equipment.) Most shifts need 8-12 people, and Cycle Oregon will give a contribution to the group

ranging from \$500-800 for their work. This can be a great fundraising activity for schools, churches, and civic groups!

Community booths are a place for riders to connect with the local community to learn more about the people and places they visit. The Community Booth is typically located near our Rider Services trailer (Info Center) so questions that come up that relate to the area can be answered – anything from where to find specific services to general information about town, the county, etc. It can be a chance to promote future tourism or share photos and history of the area.

Above and beyond impacts to the community and the state, our riders often spend money in local establishments while on the ride, stay extra nights, or come back to communities we visit with friends and family as a result of participating in our events.

This event will be based at the Sherman County fairgrounds and the Sherman County RV park and features two or three days of bicycle rides primarily on gravel roads. Participants will arrive in Moro on Thursday or Friday.

We will offer riders a short and a long route for each day which feature a mix of gravel and paved roads. The routes are comprised largely on county gravel roads.

This event is non-competitive and will not require the closure of any road.

1.2 MCEDD: Housing Application, Business Siting Guide, Grant Application – Jacque Schei

Present: Jacque Schei, Brittany Dark, Meinrad Kuettel, Audrey Rooney

Housing – County Court reviewed the information provided to assess alignment of the proposed project with eligibility requirements and funding available.

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve Allison Moore-Tjaden’s Housing Rehabilitation Grant application for 20% of a revised project budget of \$40,000, totaling \$8,000, conditional upon meeting all program requirements and fund availability; and authorize Judge Dabulskis to approve project completion and grant payment.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Business Siting Guide – Jacque Schei is going to send the Business Siting Guide to Brittany Dark and all Sherman County cities for their review and then finalize the guide for distribution. Guide should be distributed to the cities, Chamber of Commerce, County, etc. The Business Siting Guide will be a helpful tool to folks that are thinking of starting a business. The guide gives tips on permits, license, resources, contact planning department, etc.

Grant Application – Sherman County proposal for DEQ onsite septic financial aid program discussion.

DEQ is accepting applications for 3rd party entities to run programs to help residents with septic system evaluations, repair, and replacement of old or failing systems and decommissioning of an onsite septic system and connecting to an available sewer line.

Sherman County proposes a program to provide grant funding to evaluate, permit, repair, and/or replace old or failing septic systems for property owners in unincorporated areas of Sherman County. There is limited data on the septic systems in the County and many were installed before a permit process started (prior to 1970). It is likely that many of the septic systems in the County are 20 years or older, with many being significantly older. As a result, many are likely near to or at the point of failure. In addition, it is documented that some of the existing systems are of cesspool type, without leach fields. Updating aging or failing septic systems and replacing cesspool systems with septic systems that allow a filtration process for sewage will help prevent leaching into the surrounding soil and prevent contamination of plant and ground and surface water. The outcomes will be improved protection of the environment, public health, and water quality. In addition, the County will have better data on septic systems to help guide decisions in the future.

Jacque, with information from Judge Dabulskis, had put a draft of the proposal together. Deadline is December 14, 2022. Consensus is to move forward with this proposal.

Reimbursable - would likely administer like housing applications. Would need to come up with numbers. ARPA money low to moderate at 100% prioritize low income.

Owner should pay for initial inspection if they do not need repairs. If repairs are needed, reimbursement will happen.

**Recessed at 10:12 a.m. to go into a Biggs Service District meeting
Reconvened at 11:31 a.m.**

2.0 Action Items

2.1 The Sherman County Historical Society and Museum

This topic is tabled for now. Commissioner Bird thought that she was told that the heating issue at the museum had been fixed. Commissioner Bird will reach out to Patti Fields at the museum to confirm.

2.2 Rufus to Biggs Fiber

The consensus of County Court is to move forward with the Rufus to Biggs Fiber project. Judge Dabulskis will bring the contract to County Court at a future meeting and make a motion at that time.

3.0 Discussion Items

3.1 Library

Commissioner Bird emailed Jeff Wallace, County Counsel, for an update on the Library IGA. Jeff stated that Melinda, the School District's Counsel, is reviewing the IGA now. Jeff is reviewing all the past documents and agreements between the County and the School District and both parties will be meeting the week of December 12th to discuss.

3.2 Commissioner Reports and Updates

Judge Dabulskis – Attended a Frontier 911 meeting; a meeting with Jacque Schei from MCEDD, meeting with Keith Bedell

Judge Dabulskis had a meeting with Brad and Georgia to discuss a group wanting to hold an event at the race track in Grass Valley this coming fall for up to 25,000 people.

Jeff Wallace, County Counsel, is writing a letter to Ford in The Dalles regarding a turbo that keeps going bad in one of the Sheriff's Office's vehicles.

Judge Dabulskis mentioned that we are continuing to have heating issues in the new building of the courthouse. One issue was fixed and now a compressor is bad. There are four compressors and one of the four is bad. Long is looking into when components were put into the building to see if any warranties are still in place.

Tammi sent out invoices to GorgeNet and Windwave this week for the conduit that was put in place in Biggs during the Biggs water project.

Judge Dabulskis is scheduled to go to Washington D.C. in February for the NACo Legislative Conference.

The flagger class has been set-up for December 28th from 10 am – 2 pm. Location to be announced later. There are currently 11 people signed up for this class.

Commissioner Miller – Attended a Fair board meeting.

Commissioner Miller, Brad Baird, and Jacque Schei met with Crestline representatives to discuss the Biggs Water project.

Commissioner Miller has had conversations with resident regarding the fire in Grass Valley.

Commissioner Bird – Attended a Mid-Columbia Community Action Council meeting; a meeting with Kenny LaPoint about Turn Key; a Prevention meeting; an Oregon Main Street tour; a North Central Public Health Department Executive meeting; and a City of Grass Valley City Council meeting.

Commissioner Bird spoke to Liz Miller about the Kent Water project for an update. Currently waiting for the cement slab to be poured.

Commissioner Bird asked for an update regarding Georgia Macnab and Jeff Wallace looking at an easement for Demoss Park. Judge Dabulskis would like to take a drive and look at the location and Georgia and Jeff have not had a chance to look at the paperwork yet.

Commissioner Bird asked if there was an update on the Bus Barn since the new land assessment was completed. No one has heard anything at this point.

3.3 Grass Valley Fire Comments

Meinrad Kuettel discussed the recent Grass Valley Fire with County Court. Meinrad mentioned that the volunteer firefighters were not formally trained to deal with a chemical fire, yet they did a fantastic job fighting the fire.

- They did discover that the pump was inadequate to get water for the fire.
- The fire reports have not come back yet.

Meinrad stated that he believed that the hemp facility originally received a permit for an agriculture business which later expanded to manufacturing with chemical which he believes seems out of the scope of what is permitted.

Community members are expressing to Meinrad that they would like to see the site cleaned up and not to have the company rebuild. Folks seem to be concerned about the chemicals and the likelihood of another fire.

4.0 Consent Agenda

4.1 Minutes of August 3, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of August 3, 2022, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.2 Minutes of November 2, 2022

Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of November 2, 2022, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.3 Minutes of November 21, 2022

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

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.4 Claims – November 2022

Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the November 2022 Claims as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

4.5 Treasurer's Report – October 2022

Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the October 2022 Treasurer's Report, as presented.

Vote: 3-0

Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird

No: 0

Abstain: 0

5.0 Future Agenda Items

Sherman County Distinguished Action Award

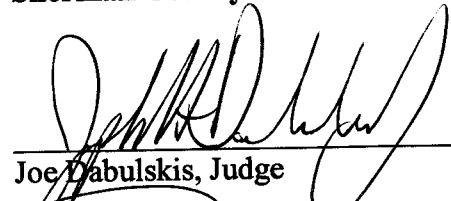
Library

Rufus to Biggs Fiber

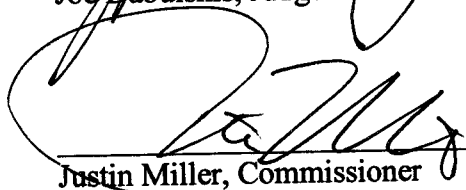
Sherman County Historical Society and Museum HVAC

Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

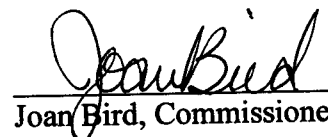
Sherman County Court



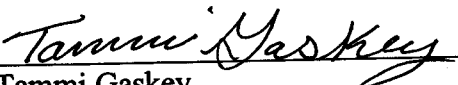
Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest: 

Tammi Gaskey
Administrative Assistant