



## Court Agenda

February 1, 2023

9:00 a.m.

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### **Additions to Agenda**

#### **1.0 Appointment Schedule**

**1.1** ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 9:55 a.m. Bob Thomas – Quarterly Report

#### **2.0 Action Items**

- 2.1 Sherman County Investment Policy Review 2023
- 2.2 DeMoss Park
- 2.3 Housing grant project deadline extensions

#### **3.0 Discussion Items**

- 3.1 Recycle DEQ Survey
- 3.2 MCEDD – CPACE Program
- 3.3 ODOT EV Charging Grant
- 3.4 Retirement Resolution
- 3.5 Library
- 3.6 Volunteer Appreciation Week is Week of April 16th
- 3.7 Commissioner Reports and updates

#### **4.0 Consent Agenda**

- 4.1 Minutes of October 5, 2022
- 4.2 Minutes of October 19, 2022
- 4.3 Claims – January 2023

#### **5.0 Future Agenda Items:**



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

**MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2023**

**Opened Court: 9:00 a.m.**

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

A quorum was present. Times Journal was present.

**Additions to Agenda**

**2.4 USDA Service Letter**

**3.8 Maintenance Tools**

**1.0 Appointment Schedule**

**1.1 ~~10:00 a.m.~~ 9:55 a.m. Bob Thomas – Quarterly Report**

Present: Bob Thomas

Bob Thomas, Wildlife Services Contractor, gave his quarterly report. Bob started off by talking about HB 2912 and SB 199. HB 2912 would prohibit person from using dogs to hunt or pursue lynx or bobcats. SB 199 would authorize State Fish and Wildlife Commission to establish by rule requirements or prohibitions concerning angling, taking, hunting, trapping or possessing of wildlife defined as predatory animal.

Bob stated that he is busier than ever. Coyote numbers are up in the areas that he doesn't usually work and are lower in the areas that he usually works.

Bear tracks are up. The bears are starting to interact with livestock.

**2.0 Action Items**

**2.1 Sherman County Investment Policy Review 2023**

**Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Sherman County Investment Policy Review 2023 as presented and authorize County Court to sign.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**  
**No: 0**  
**Abstain: 0**

## **2.2 DeMoss Park**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the DeMoss Springs Memorial Park Building Demolition bid in the amount of \$8,000 from Laurence Hardy.**

**Vote: 2-0**  
**Yes: Miller, Bird**  
**No: 0**  
**Abstain: 1**

**Judge Dabulskis knows this person and will refrain from voting.**

**Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the SherCo Electric bid of \$8,308.00 to install 2 solar powered LED lights on 25ft pole with concrete base.**

**Vote: 2-0**  
**Yes: Dabulskis, Bird**  
**No: 0**  
**Abstain: 1**

**Justin's family is the contractor and he will refrain from the voting.**

## **2.3 Housing Grant Project Deadline Extensions**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve an extension to the project completion date for Mary & Matt Bowen until May 12, 2023.**

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

**Motion by Judge Dabulskis, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve an extension to the project completion date for Kristi & Nick Weis until October 6, 2023.**

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

## **2.4 USDA Service Letter**

Commissioner Bird wrote a letter regarding USDA Service Center in Sherman County for County Court to sign and send to Senator Jeff Merkley, Senator Ron Wyden, and Representative Cliff Bentz.

The letter stated the following:

Several years ago, USDA committed to building a new USDA Service Center in Sherman County. The existing building had several building code violations causing the lease to be terminated. All agencies, Farm Service Agency (FSA), Natural Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) and Sherman County Soil & Water Conservation District/Watershed Council (SWCD/WC) have been temporarily re-located and employees, as well as farmers, must travel out of the County to receive services or to work.

It is our understanding there has been a contract awarded for the project, property selected, and drawings completed for the build. We now hear that the original contractor would like to renegotiate the build cost and lease, as it has been such a long process and of course, prices have increased.

Having these agencies in different towns/counties does not serve well for our farmers or the employees. The Sherman FSA and NRCS offices are now located in a temporary office in The Dalles (30-60 minutes away depending on location of travel from Sherman County); the SWCD/WC office has rented a temporary office in Moro, however it is big enough for one employee and with a Watershed Coordinator, the two desks don't allow for meeting space or privacy with clients. The SWCD/WC typically have a three person staff but that is not feasible with the limited office space.

We are hoping you would consider reaching out to USDA, helping to push the completion of this project. Having all three agencies together allows for more cohesive input into designing conservation projects for our Sherman County farmers. The number of projects individuals have applied for has decreased in the past year with agency personnel assuming one reason could be having offices not together nor in Sherman County, causing more travel time and time away from their farm operations.

With the influx of funding coming to these programs within the inflation reduction bill, we certainly want our USDA Service Center back in Sherman County, and services readily available to our community.

Sherman County prides itself on conservation practices and attention to the health of our land. This is in large part of the efforts of our FSA, NRCS, and SWCD/WC offices.

Any help would be greatly appreciate.

Thank you in advance.

### **3.0 Discussion Items**

#### **3.1 Recycle DEQ Survey**

Judge Dabulskis stated that as part of the implementation of the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act (RMA), DEQ's Materials Management Program is conducting a needs assessment survey of local governments statewide. County Court would like to find out what the

needs are in Sherman County such as: fencing, security, more recycling bins, etc. The Needs Assessment Survey is due by April 14<sup>th</sup>.

### 3.2 MCEDD – CPACE Program

Jessica Metta from MCEDD discussed the CPACE program which is for commercial property. Jessica stated that MCEDD could potentially review the applications. There is a fee to turn in an application. That fee would be paid to the county and then MCEDD would need to be paid.

Jessica wanted to know if the county wanted to opt in to the CPACE program and if so, County Court would need to adopt a resolution.

The consensus of County Court is to have Jessica send County Court draft letters. County Court is considering opting in. County Court would want MCEDD as the administrator.

### 3.3 PP&L EV Charging Grant

Consensus is to move forward to see if the County can apply for a PP&L EV Charging Station Grant.

### 3.4 Retirement Resolution

**Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve Resolution # 01-02-2023 in the Matter of Setting a Schedule for Retirement gifts for employees who have worked at least six years for the County and authorize County Court to sign.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

The break down in years for the schedule is as follows:

6-10 years = \$300    11-20 years = \$400    21-30 years = \$500    31+ years = \$750

County Court feels that any employee that works at least six years for the county should be presented with a gift when they retire regardless of part-time or full-time status.

### 3.5 Library

County Court discussed the Library IGA that was recently signed. Commissioner Bird stated that the entire duties of ORS 357.490 were granted to the Pubic/School Library Board in the initial formation resolution, however with the new IGA with the School District and County, library employees will be District employees and duties listed under #1 may need to be removed. She will discuss with Library Board.

Commissioner Bird also stated that the Public Library job duties may need to be reviewed by the Library Board with suggestions given to the School District so they can form the District job descriptions. This will be discussed at the next Library Board meeting.

Judge Dabulskis stated that the window that is leaking is an old window. The County should be getting a quote soon.

### 3.6 Volunteer Appreciation Week is Week of April 16<sup>th</sup>

County Court discussed ideas to recognize volunteers during Volunteer Appreciation Week which is the week of April 16<sup>th</sup>. It was decided to bring this topic back at a future County Court giving everyone time to think of more ideas.

Commissioner Bird and Tammi will work on an article for the April edition of the Citizen Reporter.

### 3.7 Commissioner Reports and updates

**Judge Dabulskis** – Attended a Recycling seminar; a NORCOR meeting; a Frontier Telenet meeting; a Frontier 911 meeting; and a District 57 conference call.

Judge Dabulskis had a resiliency grant review meeting with Jacque Schei and the Sherman County School District.

Judge Dabulskis stated that residents have been receiving letters from companies wanting to do wind and solar projects in Sherman County. White Peaks Wind Project is having an open house on Feb 7, 2023 at the Wasco Events Center from 4-7 pm.

**Commissioner Miller** – Attended Road Department interviews.

Commissioner Miller listened to LChip's meeting recording.

**Commissioner Bird** – Attended a Mid-Columbia Housing Authority meeting; a CAPECO meeting; a Sherman County School Board meeting; and a Mid-Columbia Community Action Board meeting.

Commissioner Bird had a meeting with Shellie Campbell of North Central Public Health District (NCPHD) for weekly updates. She also discussed thru email, with Paula Gundel of Environmental Health at NCPHD the new mobile food guidelines for the State of Oregon. Paula has been working closely with the food cart that is operating within Sherman County.

Commissioner Bird reached out to Jacque Schei of MCEDD in regards to the Pickle Ball group becoming a 501c3 to help apply for grant funding. Jacque is working with the organization as well as the City of Rufus as they are looking to apply for funding to help with resurfacing a tennis court in Rufus for pickle ball use.

County Court discussed the residents who are getting together to discuss the community pool idea. County Court would want this group to have answers to the following questions before they came to County Court to present the community pool idea:

- Who is going to pay for the build of the community pool?
- Who is going to pay for the upkeep and running of the community pool?
- Who is going to pay for the maintenance of the community pool?

- Who is going to design the pool?
- Where is the pool going to be located?

There is sure to be many more questions along the way. This list is just a starting point.

Commissioner Bird asked for an update on the DEQ Sewer grant. Judge Dabulskis stated that the grant was denied.

Commissioner Bird asked how many vacancies there were currently on County Committees. This topic will be on a future County Court agenda.

Commissioner Bird asked for an update on Broadband – Solar towers. Judge Dabulskis stated that the equipment was here and now Ryan LeBlanc is waiting for the weather to get better so that they can start working on this project.

### **3.8 Maintenance Tools**

Judge Dabulskis stated that there are some tools that need to be purchased for Steve Biagi which include an air compressor, a paint sprayer and a table saw and a few other smaller items. County Court was pleased to see how Steve is thriving in his position, willing to take on new tasks and likes to investigate potential future projects like the Senior Center paint job of the inside and outside of the building.

## **4.0 Consent Agenda**

### **4.1 Minutes of October 5, 2022**

**Motion by Commissioner Miller, second by Commissioner Bird, to approve the Minutes of October 5, 2022, as presented.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

### **4.2 Minutes of October 19, 2022**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Minutes of October 19, 2022, as presented.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

### **4.3 Claims – January 2023**

**Motion by Commissioner Bird, second by Commissioner Miller, to approve the Claims for the month of January 2023, as presented.**

**Vote: 3-0**

**Yes: Dabulskis, Miller, Bird**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 0**

**5.0 Future Agenda Items:**

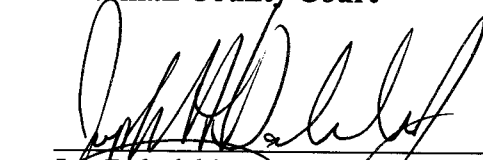
Volunteer Appreciation Week (March 1 agenda)

Volunteer Committee Openings (March 1 agenda)

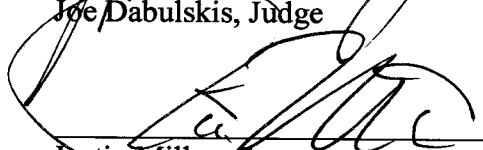
Being no further business before the Court, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.



**Sherman County Court**



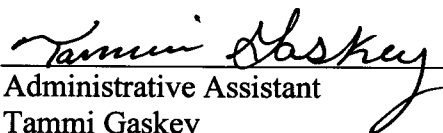
Joe Dabulskis, Judge



Justin Miller, Commissioner



Joan Bird, Commissioner

Attest:   
Administrative Assistant  
Tammi Gaskey