

**IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF GRANT**

*Access the County Court Agenda and approved Minutes under Grant County Court at  
<https://grantcountyoregon.net/AgendaCenter>*

**March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – Regular Meeting of the County Court**

Pursuant to notice made to the newspaper of general circulation throughout Grant County, the radio station, county website, and e-mail distribution list, a regular meeting of the County Court was held at the County Courthouse in Canyon City, OR.

9:03 am -- Call to Order. Present were Commissioners Jim Hamsher and John Rowell, Administrative Assistant Laurie Stinnett, Louis Provencher, Sam Palmer, Safety Manager Ryan Palmer, Billie Jo George and Frances Preston. A Pledge of Allegiance was given to the United States Flag.

**AGENDA. MSP: Hamsher/Rowell** -- to accept the agenda as presented.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Commissioner Hamsher and Commissioner Rowell shared their past two weeks' activities.

**CLAIMS.** The court had approved claims & extension warrants 103-110.

**HAND CHECKS.** The Court approved outside of normal claims day, check number 66162.

**MINUTES. MSP: Hamsher/Rowell** -- to approve the minutes of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, as presented.

**RESOLUTION 23-10.** Emergency Management intrafund transfer. MSP: Rowell/Hamsher – to approve the transfer from Materials & Services to Personnel in the amount of \$4000.00.

**RESOLUTION 23-11.** General Relief Help Fund intrafund transfer. MSP: Rowell/Hamsher – to approve the transfer from Capital Outlay to Materials & Services in the amount of \$389.00.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT PURCHASE.** Safety Manager Ryan Palmer requested approval to purchase new chain saws to replace three that are beyond their end of life cycle. Scarcity in replacement parts has extended downtime and decreased productivity with the current saws that have been in use since the 1980s. Three bids were received as of March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. The department would like to award the bid to JD Rents for the amount of \$969.99 per saw, for a total of \$2909.97, to be taken out of budget line 54003. MSP: Hamsher/Rowell -- to approve the purchase of the Road Department chainsaws as requested. Approval unanimous.

Due to all remaining items being timed, Commissioner Hamsher called for a break until 9:20.

9:13 am       Adjourn

9:20 am       Reconvene

**COUNTY SURVEYOR MIKE SPRINGER.** Re-plat No. 2023-R submitted for approval and signature of the Court. He noted that this property owner is combining several city lots into one lot. Re-plat was approved and signed by the Court.

9:27 am Enter Mindy Winegar and Dusty Williams

**EARTH MAPPING RESOURCES INITIATIVE.** Thom Seal, PHD, PE, QP of the Arcanum Institute Inc, has asked the Court for a letter of support regarding the new earth critical mineral research and earth-mapping resources which purportedly has three (3) billion dollars available. He would like to see Grant County considered for the development of these resources. A part of this exploration includes geo-physical mapping to determine the location of the strategic and critical minerals. Potential deposits of those critical minerals in Grant County include copper, cobalt, chrome, nickel, uranium, zinc and some platinum. According to Seal, the first step is to identify the location, grade and have them included in the database. The Court requested some changes be made in the wording before approval and signature of the letter.

9:30 am Enter Shannon Springer

9:31 am Enter Eric Bush

**FAIRGROUNDS CONTRACT AND RENTAL AGREEMENT FOR KEERINS HALL.**

ENTERTAINMENT CONTRACT. Fair Manager Mindy Winegar presented a contract with the Boondock Boys. Due to problems with the sound equipment/electrical, they encountered difficulties at last year's performance. MSP: Hamsher/Rowell – to approve the contract with the Boondock Boys for August 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm on the center stage. Approval unanimous.

KEERINS HALL RENTAL AGREEMENT. Winegar gave an update on the rental agreement for Keerins Hall. Winegar stated that they are proposing \$500 per month rental in its current condition and \$1500 per month rental upon remodel of the building. Plans for the remodel of the stage are currently at the city for planning approval; she will be seeking electrical quotes for the work being done to reach the outdoor stage and areas. Winegar left with a reminder to contact your state representative to urge them to take the one percent cap off for county fairs.

9:47 am Enter Julie Ellison

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATES. HEATING, VENTILATION AND AIR CONDITIONING**

(HVAC) GRANT. Emergency Management Coordinator Eric Bush asked the Court to authorize Judge Myers to sign the Inter-Governmental Agreement currently being prepared by the State for grant awards for HVAC systems in the Pavilion and Berry Building. MSP: Hamsher/Rowell – to approve the upcoming grant and authorize Judge Myers to sign it when it is available. Approval unanimous.

COUNTY-WIDE GRANT ADMINISTRATOR. Bush asked the Court to consider hiring dedicated personnel to manage all County grants. He listed the advantages of this proposal, including the stream-lining of grant processes and tracking, consistency in unique entity identifiers (UEIs), and accurate information prepared for yearly audits. The Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) has resources to aid counties with obtaining personnel to fill this need. He feels that the administrative costs associated with the grants could potentially pay for the

position. BROADBAND UPDATE. Commissioner Rowell asked the Court to consider moving ahead with Ortelco/Rally internet service available. He felt that the County could then look at other options as they became available. No decision was made by the Court.

10:33 am      Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Stinnett  
Administrative Assistant

**\*\*\*\* Please note the court minutes are a summary of the court proceedings. An audio recording of each court session is available, after approval of the minutes, by contacting the County Court at 541-575-0059 or [GCCourtAdmin@grantcounty-or.gov](mailto:GCCourtAdmin@grantcounty-or.gov) \*\*\*\***