

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

3  
4 *Access the County Court Agenda and approved Minutes under Grant County Court at*  
5 <https://grantcountyoregon.net/AgendaCenter>  
6

7 **June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Special Meeting of the County Court**  
8

9 Pursuant to notice made to the newspaper of general circulation throughout Grant County, the  
10 radio station, county website, and e-mail distribution list, a special meeting of the County Court  
11 was held at the County Courthouse in Canyon City, OR.  
12

13 4:01 pm -- Call to Order. Present were Judge Scott W. Myers, Commissioners Jim Hamsher and  
14 Sam Palmer, Administrative Assistant Laurie Stinnett, Treas. Julie Ellison, Human Res. Laurie  
15 Cates, Dept. Spec. Joleen Moulton, Clerk Brenda Percy, Chief Dep. Assessor Christina Ritner,  
16 Assessor David Thunell, Juv. Couns Mike McManus, Asst. Planner Shana Joslin, Planning Dir.  
17 Shannon Springer, Watermaster Eric Julsrud, Fair Groundskeeper Dusty Williams, Vict. Ass't.  
18 Director Kimberly Neault, Legal Ass't. Jamie McKay, Appr. Stephanie Williams, Fair Manager  
19 Mindy Winegar, Chief Appr. Steve Fletcher, DA Jim Carpenter, Reporter Logan Baggett, Econ  
20 Dev. Spec. Misty Palmer, Road Dept. Office Manager Tammy Workman. A Pledge of Allegiance  
21 was given to the United States Flag.  
22

23 4:06 pm John Morris and Sheriff Todd McKinley entered  
24

25 Judge Myers recapped recent budget decisions, noting that employee hours were reduced from  
26 40 to 32 hours weekly, saving the county approximately \$258,000 in annual wages. The  
27 purpose of today's meeting is to set hours to best serve the public and to implement consistent  
28 hours of operation throughout the building.

29 **HOURS.** With no discussion forthcoming, Myers made the motion to set hours of operation  
30 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. **MSP: Myers/Palmer: to set hours for**  
31 **courthouse county offices to 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Commissioner Palmer**  
32 **seconded with discussion. The start date will be June 26<sup>th</sup>; the beginning of the next pay**  
33 **period. Approved unanimously.**

34 **ACCRUALS & BENEFITS.** Myers made the motion to keep in place the current benefit and  
35 accrual levels for employees with reduced hours. **MSP: Myers/Hamsher – to approve the**  
36 **continued current level of accrual and benefits for employees receiving a reduction in hours.**  
37 **Approved unanimously.**

38 **COMPENSATION.** Myers stated that no overtime or compensation time should be accrued,  
39 other than in the case of an emergency. Department heads are responsible for this oversight, as  
40 per current policy. **MSP: Myers/Palmer -- to approve the motion that no comp-time accruals**  
41 **occur, other than in an emergency, and that it is the responsibility of the department head to**  
42 **ensure that this policy is enforced. Approved unanimously.** Myers noted that this does not  
43 apply to on-call time for corrections staff.

1 Myers asked that all general fund department spending be reduced during the next fiscal year.  
2 This includes, but is not limited to, training, travel, and office equipment.

3  
4 4:13 pm Frances Preston entered

5 4:15 pm Kathy Stinnett entered

6  
7 AFFECTED PERSONNEL. Personnel subject to reduction in hours: planning director, planning  
8 assistant, two legal assistants (DA Office), county court judge, treasurer, human resources  
9 manager, assessor, two appraisers, two office assistants (Assessor’s Office), clerk, deputy clerk,  
10 justice of the peace, justice court clerk, maintenance, economic development director and  
11 juvenile director.

12  
13 EXCEPTED PERSONNEL. The Fairgrounds and Airport are not general fund departments, and are  
14 not subject to the reduction in hours.

15  
16 EMPLOYEE QUESTIONS.

17 Will other budget issues would take priority over the reinstatement of full-time hours?

18 Will hours be reinstated immediately as funds are received?

19 How will hours would be reinstated across departments?

20 Will the court plan for more budget meetings, to avoid “scrambling” at the end of the fiscal  
21 year?

22 Do we know when and what funds are anticipated?

23 Will incoming monies build the contingency?

24 Will future PILT money equal the amount of the reduced wages?

25  
26 EMPLOYEE COMMENTS.

27 There are projected funds that will be delayed by public hearing.

28 Reduced hours in combination with current inflation rates is a hardship.

29 Employees should be notified as soon as possible with information that impacts their position.

30 An email the following day, at minimum, would have been in order.

31  
32 COURT RESPONSE.

33 Myers said the process for submission of a law enforcement bond has begun.

34 Myers said department hours will increase at the same level, if not fully reinstated.

35 Palmer said work hours reinstatement has priority over other budget items.

36 Hamsher’s position is that hours would be reinstated immediately upon receipt of monies.

37 NACo has not determined the dates when projected monies will be available.

38 Employees may flex hours for appointments outside normal hours of operation to serve the  
39 public, but must not exceed 32 hours per week.

40 New hours of operation will be released to the press and posted for the public.

41 While this was a difficult decision to make, the alternate could have been closing the doors.

42  
43 **MSP: Myers/Palmer** -- to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously.

1  
2 4:29 pm       Adjourned

3  
4 Respectfully Submitted,

5  
6  
7  
8 Laurie Stinnett  
9 Administrative Assistant

10  
11 **\*\*\*\* Please note the court minutes are a summary of the court proceedings. An audio recording of**  
12 **each court session is available, after approval of the minutes, by contacting the County Court at 541-**  
13 **575-0059 or [GCCourtAdmin@grantcounty-or.gov](mailto:GCCourtAdmin@grantcounty-or.gov) \*\*\*\***