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**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>*

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June 24th, 2022 – Budget Hearing

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

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8:55 am -- Call to Order. Present were Judge Scott W. Myers, Commissioners Jim Hamsher and Sam Palmer, Administrative Assistant Laurie Stinnett, Treasurer Julie Ellison, Planning Director Shannon Springer, Juvenile Director Cindy Tirico, Undersheriff Zach Mobley and community member Frances Preston. A Pledge of Allegiance was given to the United States Flag.

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AGENDA. MSP: Hamsher/Palmer – to approve the agenda as presented.

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BUDGET. FORM LB-1 Total budget numbers remain the same but as a result of the reduction of employee hours, the amount of \$258,019 was moved from Personnel Services to Contingency. **DISTRICT ATTORNEY’S OFFICE** Treasurer Julie Ellison had a couple of items that have developed since the budget was approved. The District Attorney (DA) issued notice that, as a result of the reduction in employee hours, his office will no longer be enforcing child support, resulting in a \$15,000 loss of revenue from the state. When questioned, Ellison estimated a minimum savings of \$20,000 resulting from the reduction of hours in the District Attorney’s (DA) office. To offset the lost revenue in the DAs budget, \$15,000 will be moved from Contingency to Personnel Services. **JUDGES WAGES** Ellison stated that the wages for the Justice of the Peace, unless volunteered, cannot be reduced. Commissioner Palmer asked to clarify the situation. Legal counsel was consulted and found that a six-year judge, regardless of qualifications, cannot receive a reduction in wages during the term in which they are elected, other than voluntarily. Judge Myers volunteered to receive the same reduction in wages as other general fund employees. The Court recommended that the Justice Court’s proposed wage reduction of \$15,774 be returned to Personnel Services from Contingency. A second proposal to decrease the Justice Court clerk’s hours from 32 to 20 hours per week was rejected by the County Court, who felt that the Justice Court would be unable to generate revenue without adequate staff.

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MSP: Myers/Palmer – to approve the budget changes as discussed in preparation for the adoption of the budget. Approved unanimously.

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1 **FISCAL YEAR-END MEETING.** The Court discussed the addition of a regular fiscal year-end
2 calendar meeting to facilitate end-of-year budget activity. **MSP: Myers/Hamsher – To**
3 **designate the last Wednesday of each fiscal year as a regular court meeting date. Approved**
4 **unanimously.**

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6 **MSP: Myers/Hamsher,Palmer -- to approve the motion to adjourn.**

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8 9:09 am Adjourned

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10 Respectfully Submitted,

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14 Laurie Stinnett

15 Administrative Assistant

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17 ***** Please note the court minutes are a summary of the court proceedings. An audio recording of*
18 *each court session is available, after approval of the minutes, by contacting the County Court at 541-*
19 *575-0059 or GCCourtAdmin@grantcounty-or.gov *****