

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

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**September 21, 2022 – 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.

9:00 am -- Call to Order. Present were Judge Scott W. Myers, Commissioners Jim Hamsher and Sam Palmer, Administrative Assistant Laurie Stinnett, Commissioner-elect John Rowell, Reporter Steven Mitchell, Reporter Tony Chiatti, Reporter Logan Baggett, Mindy Winegar, Dusty Williams, Millie Lysne, Tory Stinnett, Zach Mobley and Julie Ellison. A Pledge of Allegiance was given to the United States Flag.

**AGENDA.** MSP: Myers– to approve the agenda for September 21st, 2022 as presented.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Judge Myers attended a September 8<sup>th</sup> library board meeting; signed claims on the 14<sup>th</sup>; chaired a Mental Health Advisory meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>; attended an Association of Counties (AOC) District 1 meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> in Ontario; attended the County Safety Meeting at 9:00 am and a bid opening at the Road Department on the 20<sup>th</sup>; will attend a Zoom meeting with Eastern Oregon Counties Association (EOCA) regarding drought and water and will meet with Tucker Billman from OTEC on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Palmer missed the Blues Intergovernmental Council (BIC) meeting due to being called out of town; signed claims on the 14<sup>th</sup> and met with several department heads.

Commissioner Hamsher listened in on the BIC Conveners Meeting; sat in on the AOC meeting; signed claims on the 14<sup>th</sup>; attended a meeting with Senator Findley, Representative Owens and other state senators, representatives and commissioners on a Tuesday call; listened in on the White House briefing call; attended a National Association of Counties (NACo) Public Lands Steering Committee meeting; met with Business Oregon and meets tomorrow for wildfire risks assessment with the Local Community Advisory Council (LCAC).

**ROAD DEPARTMENT CONTRACT.** Roadmaster Alan Hickerson recommends awarding the snow removal contract for 2022-2024 for Grant County Road 24 and Baker County road 520 in the Granite area to Mark Hansen Contracting at \$100.00/hr and a total of \$80,000.00.

MSP: Palmer/Hamsher – to approve the award of the Snow Removal Contract to Mark Hansen Contracting as presented.

**COUNTY COURT.** Discussion was held regarding the scheduling of the next County Court meeting in the absence of Judge Myers. Commissioners would like to see the agenda before deciding whether to proceed or postpone the next meeting. Commissioner Palmer asked to add to the agenda the discussion of a Sheriff's Office vehicle purchase from Deschutes County.

9:30 am Tammy Workman entered

9:34 am Teena Ballard entered

**VEHICLE PURCHASE.** Undersheriff Zach Mobley stated that two '09 Ford 1-50s were available from Deschutes County for the total cost of \$5000. The vehicles are serviceable with all needed equipment. The Sheriff's Office is a year out on vehicles that have been ordered. Mobley noted that it would cost more to put two of the department's vehicles currently waiting for repair into working order. Those two vehicles would then become surplus property. MSP: Hamsher/Palmer – to approve the purchase of two vehicles from Deschutes County for the cost \$5000. Myers cautioned the department not to run short of cash in the vehicle budget line.

**LIVE STREAM OF COUNTY COURT MEETING.** Myers noted that the Court has a new audio/video stream of County Court meetings. An email has been sent to those on the Agenda list with instructions for joining the meeting.

**VICTIM ASSISTANCE.** Director Kimberly Neault wrote a grant and was one of two successful applicants in the state of Oregon to receive \$636,000; three years funding for the department. Myers and the Commissioners thanked Neault for her efforts in obtaining the grant.

**MINUTES.** Approval of the minutes of September 7th, 2022 was postponed until the next Court meeting on October 5th, 2022.

**FAIRGROUNDS.** Fairgrounds Manager Mindy Winegar gave an update on the results of the Fair and Rodeo. Winegar stated that the Fair was a success, although the gates were down a bit. The move to Idaho Cowboys Association (ICA) made a big difference in the rodeo's success, according to Winegar. They had close to 200 entries and 538 people through the gates on Friday and 800 plus on Saturday. She said that is huge compared to recent past rodeos. Winegar gave kudos to Rodeo Committee members Adam Shaff and Whitney Richie. She felt that the Fair numbers being down was due in part to the change in the headliner, but reported that the vendors did great and will all be back. They chose to spend a little more money on other entertainment which did not generate the desired crowds. The Fair came out \$35,000 ahead. She commended the amazing sponsorship of the Fair by the local community and businesses. Winegar is looking for a carnival for the coming year, but said that people don't always mind not having a carnival. **COPIER/PRINTER.** The Fair's copier/printer quit working the week of Fair. She would like to purchase through the same company out of Baker that provide and maintain the county copy machines. The cost of the new machine is \$2011. MSP: Palmer/Hamsher – to approve the purchase of the copier/printer as presented. This will come out of both Fair and RV lines. She also noted that all of their computers need to be replaced and

she will be bringing that before the Court. **FUNDING AND PROJECTS.** The Fair has received \$2,000,000 in funding. The Business Oregon funding of \$277,000 will be available in the spring of 2023. Winegar received engineers' bids for upcoming projects including the expansion of the RV Park, extension of the grandstands, a covered stage/picnic area, and work on Keerins Hall. Bidders included Sisal, Strux and High Desert Engineering. She would like to begin as soon as possible. Myers said that he would prefer more time to look at the bids. The decision was made to put this on the agenda for the meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October.

**HOUSE BILL 2174 (HB2174).** HB2174 requires Oregon Department of Administrative Services (ODAS), upon request of the county governing body, to credit forest reserve monies to certain public bodies whose service areas include the entire county. Court Legal Counsel has outlined the steps that need to be taken to receive these monies. He asked that the Court begin the process to appropriate the funds. MSP: Hamsher/Palmer – to approve moving forward in the process as outlined by legal counsel.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.** Economic Development Director Tory Stinnett requested permission to attend the annual Oregon Economic Development Summit in Coos Bay. She recently received her Economic Developer's certification through the same organization. She feels that there are many topics which will be pertinent to our community. She has dues and travel within her budget to cover the cost. MSP: Palmer/Myer – to approve the request to attend the conference. Approval unanimous. Stinnett shared that their next Grant County Community Action team meeting will be held at the newly remodeled Dayville Community Hall.

9:45 am – The meeting was adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Stinnett

**\*\*\*\* 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) \*\*\*\***