

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES  
OF FEBRUARY 16, 2021 WORK SESSION  
Open Portion**

**Be It Remembered** that the Crook County Court met in a regularly scheduled Work Session on February 16, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Administration Conference room located at 203 NE Court Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754.

Court Members Present: Judge Seth Crawford, Commissioner Jerry Brummer and Commissioner Brian Barney

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via WebEx: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Administration Executive Assistant Amy Albert; Rick Treleaven; Angela Cummings; Community Development Director Ann Beier; Code Compliance Officer Louis Seals; On-Site Inspector Sanitarian Paige Reinhart-Anez; Natural Resources Manager Tim Deboodt; Health Department Director Muriel DeLaVergne Brown; Road Master Bob O'Neal; Manager Kim Herber; Under Sheriff James Savage; District Attorney Wade Whiting and Scott Cooper.

**WORK SESSION**

The meeting was **called to order at 9:00 a.m.**

ADDITIONS/REMOVALS: None

Agenda Item #1, Covid-19 Update: Health Department Director Muriel DeLaVergne Brown updated the Court on Covid-19 in Crook County. Covid-19 cases are declining in Crook County, last week the County had twenty-seven cases. The Health Department is holding a vaccination clinic every Tuesday at the fairgrounds, where residence are able to receive their first Covid-19 vaccination and their booster. It is expected that Crook County will receive four hundred doses of the vaccine per week along with any needed booster doses.

Agenda Item #2, Discussion on Community Mental Health Program Contracts with Coordinated Care Organization: Rick Treleaven and Angela Cummings from Best Care updated the Court on the Pacific Source contract which is currently under negotiation. The updated Pacific Source contract will have new financial terms, but the remainder of the contract will be mostly reflective of what is currently in place. The Pacific Source contract will be forwarded to Eric Blaine in the next two weeks for review. Mr. Treleaven gave a brief overview Best Care's current mental health programs, one being ACT a program in which members of the community who may not proactively seek mental health assistance are sought out and offered needed treatment. The second being a mental health clinician working with the Prineville Police Department in a proactive effort to reach individuals who are known to the police force and require mental health assistance. The third program is intensive in-home behavioral therapy, this program is geared towards keeping children with their families.

Agenda Item #3, Water Quality and Compliance Issues in Combs Flat/Melrose Area:

Community Development Director Ann Beier, Code Compliance Officer Louis Seals and On-Site Inspector Sanitarian Paige Reinhart-Anez asked the Court for advice on how to manage failed septic and well systems in the Combs Flat and Melrose area. Many of the residents in this area are not financially able to replace and/or repair their failing systems, unfortunately, the current state of their septic and well systems may result in their eviction due to the human health crisis it is creating. Community Development will seek out potential funding to help in replacing the current well and septic systems, while Commissioner Brummer will contact the City in the hopes of finding a solution.

Agenda Item #4, Juniper Canyon Access Project: Community Development Director Ann Beier updated the Court on the next steps of the Juniper Canyon Access Project. By the end of February Community Development will mail a survey to Juniper Canyon residence and post a survey to the County website, the survey will gather the community's thoughts on a second access point in Juniper Canyon. It will also be informative to community members providing a map of where the proposed access point will be.

Agenda Item #5, Community Correction Budget Position: Community Corrections Coordinator Brett Lind requested the Court approve converting the part-time Contracted Work Crew Position into a full-time Community Corrections Technician Position. This new position will be responsible for the Work Crew and assisting with office duties. Creating a full-time position will have no fiscal impact on the Sheriff's Office budget as the Work Crew Program can be self-supportive if ran full-time. The Sheriff's Office will provide the paperwork necessary for this to become a full-time position at the March 3, 2021 Court Meeting.

Agenda Item #6, Salary Grade/Step Increase of Tiffanie Bottoms: Road Master Bob O'Neal requested Office Manager Tiffanie Bottoms receive a grade and step increase from 115/11 to 119/5. Mr. O'Neal feels that Ms. Bottoms current pay does not accurately compensate for duties performed. The Court will approve Ms. Bottom's grade and step increase at the March 3, 2021 Court Meeting.

Agenda Item #7, Wyden/Merkley Wild and Scenic Bill: Natural Resources Manager Tim Deboodt asked for the Court's review and approval of a letter written to Senator's Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley regarding The River Democracy Act (RDA). The letter will be finalized and put before the Court on March 3, 2021.

Agenda Item #8, Natural Resource Advisory Committee Membership: Natural Resources Manager Tim Deboodt asked the Court for their assistance in selecting three new members for the Natural Resource Advisory Committee. Mr. Deboodt will send applications to potential members, once the applicants have returned their applications

the Natural Resource Advisory Committee will select their top prospects and present them to the Court.

At 10:30 a.m. the Court read into Executive Session under the following statute(s): ORS 192.660(2)(e) For the purpose of conducting deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, the County Court convened back into Open Session, inviting members of the public into the meeting room.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 11:05 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Amy Albert**