

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF AUGUST 31, 2021 WORK SESSION
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a regularly scheduled Work Session on August 31, 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 and Commissioner Brian Barney

Absentees: Commissioner Jerry Brummer

Others Present in Person or Via WebEx: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Administration Executive Assistant Amy Albert; Legal Assistant Lindsay Azevedo; Director April Witteven; Treasurer Galan Carter; Manager Tim Deboodt; Manager Kim Herber; Director Kim Barber; Account Manager Janet Pritiskutch; Matt Smith and members of the community.

WORK SESSION

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

Agenda Item #1, Impacts of Health Care Worker Vaccine Mandate: Fire Chief Matt Smith presented the Court with a letter expressing concerns for the community regarding Covid-19 vaccinations being mandatory for health care providers and health care staff. Mr. Smith estimated that twenty percent or more of the Crook County Firefighters and EMTs have concerns and do not wish to be vaccinated. If the vaccination mandates are to be enforced Crook County Fire and Rescue would be unable to provide adequate service. The Crook County Court will send Mr. Smith's letter to Governor Brown, State Representatives, the AOC and EAOC.

Agenda Item #2, Law Library Biennial Disbursement: Partial Transfer of Funds for Mediation/Conciliation Services: Library Director April Witteven discussed with the Court the 2021-2023 biennium state disbursement from the Oregon Judicial Department in the amount of \$53,500. Ms. Witteven proposed half of the balance go towards the cost of mediation provided by the Crook County Circuit Court. Last year mediation costs for Crook County were close to thirty-three thousand dollars. Account Manager Janet Pritiskutch will help Ms. Witteven with the disbursements.

MOTION to authorize using half of the law library's 2021-2023 biennium state disbursement for mediation. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 2-0.

Agenda Item #3, Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs Pass-Through Funds Application: Erik Nelson from Veteran Affairs presented the Court with the Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs' pass-through funds for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The funds are twenty-five thousand dollars more than expected and will require an amended budget. Mr. Nelson is planning on Veteran Affairs hosting an Armed Forces Day in May with the fund's overage.

Agenda Item #4, Letter of Support for City of Prineville Railway Application: Matt Wiederholt from Prineville Railway appeared before the Court requesting support for the Diesel Emissions Mitigation Grant Program through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The grant will allow the City of Prineville to purchase a zero-emission lithium ion powered motor in place of a diesel switcher locomotive. The Court is in support of grant and will sign a recommendation letter.

MOTION to approve the letter of support for the City of Prineville and for Judge Crawford to sign the letter outside of Court with the requested changes. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 2-0.

At 9:20 a.m. the Court read into Executive Session under the following statute(s): ORS 192.660(2)(h) Consulting with Counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

MOTION to direct staff to correspond with the counter party as discussed in the executive session. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 2-0. There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 10:05 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Albert