

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 WORK SESSION
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a regularly scheduled Work Session on September 14, 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; Legal Assistant Lindsay Azevedo; Veteran Service Officer Erik Nelson; Manager Casey Daly; Director Troy Poncin; Manager Tim Deboodt; Counselor Kelly Dunn; Finance Director Dodge Kerr; Accounting Manager Janet Pritiskutch; Manager Jeremy Thamert; Manager Casey Daly; Assessor Jon Soliz; Director Troy Poncin; Manager Kim Herber; Sheriff John Gautney; Under Sheriff James Savage; Director Debra Patterson; Veteran Service Office Erik Nelson; Director Katie Plumb; Steve Forrester; Kelsey Lucas and members of the public.

WORK SESSION

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

Agenda Item #1, Adjusted Budget for Veterans: Veteran Service Officer Erik Nelson presented the Court with a proposed adjusted budget for the Veterans Department. Mr. Nelson proposed the budget be decreased by 10% and allocated elsewhere, as this funding is not required for the Veteran's Department and Veterans use resources from many departments within the County. Mr. Nelson received an increase in fund from the Oregon Department of Veteran Affairs. An extension for this application has been granted to the Veteran's Department, giving them until October 31st. However, Mr. Nelson will be submitting the application this week after the Court approves the Order adjusting the supplemental budget for the Veteran's Department.

Agenda Item #2, Letter of Support to Relocate Weir Dam: Fairgrounds Manager Casey Daly requested the County Court submit a letter of support to relocate the Weir Dam. This will move the water rights at the Fairgrounds from behind the horse barn to behind the Vector Control building. The pumps will continue to have power and will allow the Fairgrounds to no longer pump water directly out of the creek and will keep the water trucks off of public roadways. Mr. Daly has spoke with the City of Prineville regarding this project, they are in support and have offered to donate an unallocated water tank. The Fairgrounds does not have the budget for this project and will need help with funding.

Agenda Item #3, Creating Internal Policies that Dictate Internal Workflows the May Require Outside Departments to Act: The insurance carrier for the County's IT Department has requested internal policies be set regarding a few areas of concern. IT

Director Troy Poncin asked for the Courts approval for IT to write these policies and send them to Human Resources and Legal Counsel for their approval. The Court agreed with this procedure, and IT will proceed in this manner.

Agenda Item #4, Consider Adoption of Oregon 2021-50, Declaration of Emergency Lack of Adequate Resources to Respond to Public Health and Safety Services; Discussion of OHA Vaccine Mandates: County Counsel drafted Resolution and Order 2021-50 in response to the vaccine mandate. The Order outlines the potential implications to the citizens of Crook County if County employees are laid off as a result of not receiving the Covid-19 vaccine. Eric Blaine will send out a draft of the Order for any changes that need to be made before the Order is approved at County Court on Wednesday.

Agenda Item #5, House Bill 2343: Kelsey Lucas, Crook County Economic Development Director discussed House Bill 2343 with the Court. This bill would authorize the Court and the City of Prineville to allow businesses whose employment fell below eighty percent due to Covid to continue to qualify for the Enterprise Zone tax exemption. Endura Products is the only Crook County business who will need this exemption for this tax year. City of Prineville Manager Steve Forrester was in agreement with County Court that Endura Products should receive this exemption. A resolution will be drafted and signed by the City of Prineville and Crook County before the November 1st deadline.

At 9:55 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 prepare information regarding vaccine and workplace safety to County employees. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 10:50 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Albert