

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES  
OF OCTOBER 25, 2022 WORK SESSION  
Open Portion**

**Be It Remembered** that the Crook County Court met in a regularly scheduled Work Session on October 25, 2022, 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; Assistant Finance Director Christina Haron; Road Master Bob O'Neal; Accountant Kathy Puckett; Under Sheriff Bill Elliott; Sheriff John Gautney; Manager Kim Herber; Director Kim Barber; Assessor Jon Soliz; Rich Allm; Bruce Bischoff and members of the public.

**WORK SESSION**

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

Public Comment: None

Agenda Item #1, Oregon Paid Sick Leave: Rich Allm from WHA attended today's meeting to discuss the new Oregon sick leave program effecting all companies with 25 or more employees. Beginning in 2023, employees will contribute 0.6% of their income, after the first \$1,000 and employers will contribute 0.4% to the sick leave program. Employees will be able to take up to 12 weeks per year of leave paid through the program. The County has the option of going through the state program or through a private provider. Mr. Allm would like to receive quotes from two additional private providers before the County makes any decisions. If the County goes through a private provider, they will need to submit a letter of intent before the end of November.

Agenda Item #2, Letter to ODOT re: Hwy 126: Road Master Bob O'Neal drafted a letter to ODOT regarding the recent vehicle accidents at the intersection of Hwy 126 and O'Neil Hwy. The County Court approved signing the letter with the addition of signature blocks for Senator Finley, Representative Breese-Iverson and the City of Prineville.

**MOTION** to authorize signing letter to ODOT regarding the intersection of Hwy 126 and O'Neil Hwy. The letter will be worked on outside of Court adding signature lines for Senator Finley, Representative Breese-Iverson and the City of Prineville. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Agenda Item #3, Letter re: Measure 114: Sheriff John Gautney presented the Court with a letter he drafted to the citizens of Crook County. The letter expresses Sheriff Gautney's concerns with Measure 114 and requests citizens vote no on the measure.

**MOTION** to approve Sheriff Gautneys letter. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Additional Item: Members of the County Court received a letter from Tillamook County asking for their support in delaying implementation of the NOAA-NMFS Biological Opinion.

**MOTION** to approve the BiOpt letter to Senator Merkley, Senator Wyden, Representative Bentz, Representative Bonamci, Representative Schrader, Representative Blumenauer and Representative DeFazio. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

At 9:43 a.m. the Court read into Executive Session under the following statute(s): ORS 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection and 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 counter party as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0. There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 10:44 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Amy Albert**