

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF JUNE 7, 2023 REGULAR MEETING
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a Regular Court meeting on June 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in the County meeting room located at 320 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 Zoom: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Administration Executive Assistant Sarah Puerner; Commander Bill Elliott; Assistant Finance Director Christina Haron; Budget Analyst Jamie Berger; Library Director Sarah Beeler; Community Development Director Will VanVactor; Andy Parks; Assessor Jon Soliz; Manager Levi Roberts; Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb; Clerk Cheryl Seely; Treasurer Galan Carter; Director Sydney Chandler; District Attorney Kari Hathorn; Public Works Director Jeff Hurd; Road Superintendent James Staniford; Kelly Coffelt; Tim Deboodt; Jerry Jones; Michael Robinson; Roxanne Basey; Priscilla Smith; Barbara Fontaine; Dave Fishel; Pastor Ron Hemphill; Michaela Edwards; Kim Fox; Colleen Ferguson; Sarah Freeman; Ashley Garing; Josh Derrick; Jacquie Davis and Chris with Greater Idaho.

REGULAR SESSION

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

Public Comment:

Priscilla Smith wanted to speak regarding item #17 on the agenda. Two years ago, the Court declined to have a similar question put on the ballot, so Ms. Smith wanted to know what has changed since that time. Ms. Smith mentioned that some citizens are proud to be called Oregonians and that Eastern Oregon is not all conservatives. Demographics are changing, Idaho has a lower minimal wage and sales tax, retirees would take a hit and that moving the border would be an extreme measure.

Barbara Fontaine wanted to speak regarding item #17 on the agenda. Ms. Fontaine lives in Powell Butte and agrees with Ms. Smith. Ms. Fontaine moved here 50 years ago to live in Oregon and would like her granddaughter to have the same freedoms that she has received. Ms. Fontaine stated that Idaho will not invest in our state as much as Oregon would invest in Idaho. She urged the Court to not continue down this road and that Crook County is already experiencing a lot of the national woes for far right and far left.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Approve Amendment #9 to Agreement w/ The Humane Society of the Ochocos for Animal Custody and Care Services
3. Approve Amendment #15 to IGA #169507 for the Financing of Public Health Services
4. Promotion of Chelsea Watson to Systems Administrator
5. Approve Jeff Hurd as the new Capital Projects Manager - Public Works
6. Approve Nick Lilly as the new Capital Projects Manager - Facilities
7. Quarterly Report for third quarter fiscal year 2023
8. Access to Earned Vacation Pay
9. Half-Step Increase - Anniversary Date
10. Annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) for Crook County Deputy Sheriff's Association (CCDSA) and increase to number of vacation hours available annually for payout
11. Annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) for non-represented and Road Department employees
12. Elected Officials Compensation Committee Recommendation
13. Compensation study – consider scope of services and fees with JB Rewards
14. Tuition Reimbursement Policy
15. Airport Non-Commercial Lease Policy
16. "Purchase" of surplus airport property by the County

MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #17: Referral of ballot title to County Clerk re: sentiment for Idaho border relocation:

Requester: John Eisler

Details: Legal Counsel John Eisler attended the regular session to discuss referral of ballot title to the County Clerk regarding sentiment for Idaho border relocation. This order is to send the ballot measure to the County Clerk approving the language and opening the appeal period. There is no meeting or action required by the Court and this item would be on the ballot for the May 2024 election.

MOTION to pass Order 2023-26 in the matter of instructing the County Judge to file with the County Clerk a Notice of County Measure Election in the matter of citizen sentiment regarding the Oregon-Idaho border. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #18: Seeking acceptance of grant funds to cover cost of library HVAC:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the regular session to discuss accepting grant funds to cover the cost of the library HVAC. Public Health learned of a grant opportunity related to heating/cooling and clean air shelters prior to

the library HVAC being replaced. Crook County Health Department staff worked with facilities and library staff to apply for funds for which the library is eligible since it operates as a cooling/heating/clean air space for the public. Delays in the grant process have resulted in funds just now being available. The total amount available in funds is \$115,346.

MOTION to accept the grant funds to cover the cost of the library HVAC system. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #19: Seeking Environmental Health Contract Amendment Approval:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the regular session to discuss approval for an environmental health contract amendment. This is a periodic adjustment to fees and programmatic elements. Pool/spa license fees to Oregon Health Authority increased from \$45 to \$90 each. Overall remittance factor decreased from 12.81% to 12.22%. The current local fee schedule accounts for these changes.

MOTION to approve agreement 170663 as presented. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #20: Consideration of adding June 19 as a County paid holiday:

Details: Legal Counsel Eric Blaine attended the regular session to discuss considering adding June 19th as a County paid holiday. Judge Crawford stated that it is an important day in our country and that the Court would like to add this day to the Crook County paid holiday schedule. Court requested that the Finance department present a cost analysis of this at the next work session on the 14th.

MOTION to approve Order 2023-34 in the matter of adding June 19th (Juneteenth) to the list of county paid holidays for all employees. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #21: PUBLIC HEARING: Second reading of Ordinance 339 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 6.04 of the Crook County Code Regarding Animal Control Definitions, Penalties, Enforcement Authority, and Public Nuisance Animals:

Details: The current language of the ordinance is strictly referring to dogs being a nuisance. In the recent past it has come up that other animals can become a nuisance, such as domesticated fowl. This change to the ordinance will in no way change the way that Crook County handles livestock animals. If this Ordinance is approved, it will go into effect 90 days after.

MOTION to read Ordinance 339 by title only. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Judge Crawford read by title only and opened the Public Hearing. There being no comments received from the public, Judge Crawford closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION to approve Ordinance 339, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 6.04 of the Crook County Code Regarding Animal Control Definitions, Penalties, Enforcement Authority, and Public Nuisance Animals. Motion seconded. No further discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #22: PUBLIC HEARING: First reading of Ordinance 341, regarding protection of homeless persons and the community, and declaring an emergency:

Details: The County Court has asked that a draft ordinance be prepared for their review, to address the safety of homeless individuals and the Crook County community from certain specified problems that are increasingly prevalent in Oregon.

MOTION to read Ordinance 341 by title only. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Judge Crawford read by title only and opened the Public Hearing.

Sarah Freeman wanted to acknowledge that the County needs to be careful about what is available and what is not available. Shelter space is important for those who don't have a place to go but the County must take a hard look at what we are willing to provide. Compassion can come in different forms, but we want to avoid becoming Portland.

Ashley Garing mentioned that there was a fire in Bend in the winter months that caused a business to burn down. It may be beneficial to include distances away from buildings and away from propane lines and avoid structural fires if someone is going to use fire for warmth during the winter months.

There being no further comments from the public, Judge Crawford closed the Public Hearing.

Discussion item #23: PUBLIC HEARING: Order 2023-27 to Adopting Crook County fiscal year 2023-2024 budget:

Details: Order 2023-27 is for the County Court to adopt the Crook County budget for fiscal year 2023-2024. The new budget would begin July 1, 2023, and what was presented today is what was recommended from the Crook County Budget Committee with no recommended changes.

Judge Crawford opened the Public Hearing. There being no comments received from the public, Judge Crawford closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION to approve Order 2023-27 in the matter of adopting Crook County fiscal year 2023-2024 budget beginning July 1, 2023, making appropriations, and imposing and categorizing ad valorem taxes. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #24: PUBLIC HEARING: Order 2023-28 to Adopting Crook County Road Agency fiscal year 2023-2024 budget:

Details: Order 2023-28 is for the County Court to adopt the Crook County Road Agency

fiscal year 2023-2024 budget. The Budget Committee approved a budget with total requirements of \$1,635,000. After Budget Committee approval on May 17, 2023, the Finance Department received the quote for liability insurance required by the Intergovernmental Agreement for this Agency. Because appropriation to pay for insurance was not part of the proposed or approved budget, a slight change to the approved budget is necessary.

Judge Crawford opened the Public Hearing. There being no comments received from the public, Judge Crawford closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION to approve Order 2023-28 in the matter of adopting Crook County Road Agency fiscal year 2023-2024 budget beginning July 1, 2023, and making appropriations in the total amount of \$1,637,000. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #25: PUBLIC HEARING: Order 2023-29 to Adopting Crook County Historical Fund fiscal year 2023-2024 budget for Bowman Museum:

Details: Order 2023-29 is for the County Court to adopt the Crook County Historical Fund for fiscal year 2023-2024 budget for the Bowman Museum. The Crook County Budget Committee approved the budget of \$644,000 and the committee has not received any other changes from the Museum Director.

Judge Crawford opened the Public Hearing. There being no comments received from the public, Judge Crawford closed the Public Hearing.

MOTION to approve Order 2023-29 in the matter of adopting Crook County Historical Museum Fund fiscal year 2023-2024 budget beginning July 1, 2023, making appropriations, and imposing and categorizing ad valorem taxes for the amount of \$644,000. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Contract Administrator Report

Andy Parks had two items to discuss with the County Court.

- 1) Has had a meeting the last few days with the Public Works Director regarding the Landfill staff. It has been decided to move in a different direction than fill the Landfill Manager position. The County is going to make some internal promotions within the Department for this position.
- 2) Has spoken with the City Manager regarding right-of-way. The County has several roads that are inside city limits that the County is responsible for maintaining. Looking into how to move these roads from County to City responsibility.

Court Member Updates

Judge Crawford has been working with the State on the Biomass Plant. Has a tour with Vince Porter to talk and build a stronger relationship with.

Commissioner Barney is continuing to work on the Justice Center. They are currently deciding on furniture for the Justice Center.

At 10:14 a.m. the Court convened 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; ORS 192.660(2)(b) To consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open hearing.

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 parties as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION to accept the employee's resignation effective today, Wednesday June 7th and to provide the final paycheck and paperwork as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION to authorize Judge Crawford to sign any documents on behalf of Crook County in furtherance of the first motion as may be necessary. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 1:29 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Puerner