

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF OCTOBER 18, 2023, REGULAR MEETING
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a Regular Court meeting on October 18, 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, and Commissioner Brian Barney

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via Zoom: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Administrative Executive Assistant Sarah Puerner; Undersheriff Bill Elliott; Sheriff John Gautney; Chief Administrative Deputy Stephanie Wilson; Lieutenant Mitch Madden; Finance Director Christina Haron; Airport Manager Kelly Coffelt; Community Development Director Will Van Vactor; Contract County Administrator Andy Parks; Library Director Sarah Beeler; Extension Manager Kim Herber; James Staniford; Sean Briscoe; Jacquie Davis; Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb; District Attorney Kari Hathorn; Levi Roberts; Amber Heiberger; Tish Plasterer; Monty Kurtz; Mike Thomas; Shane Howard; Ristine Williams; Kristi Steber; Annette Kolodzie; Javier Sanchez; Richard Ross; Ben Adar; Chris Gannon; Megan Hormel; Melinda Hammack; Chenelle Hale; Tami Lee; James Michael Dunn; Chris Beard; Lori Jo Breedlove; Bonnie Dessler; Arleen Curths; Julie Reed; Dale Reed; Susan Hermreck; Garth Finley; and members of the public.

REGULAR SESSION

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

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Tri-county regional tobacco cessation collaboration agreement
3. 2023-25 Communicable Disease Regional Intergovernmental Agreement
4. 2023-2025 IGA for the Financing of Local Public Health Services in Crook County Agreement #180007-2

MOTION to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 2-0.

Discussion item #5: Swearing in of Patrol Detective, Patrol Deputy, and Corrections Deputies:

Requester: Stephanie Wilson

Details: Members of the Sheriff's Office attended the regular session to witness the swearing-in ceremony of new personnel. This included the addition of one Patrol Detective, one Patrol Deputy, and six Corrections Deputies to the Crook County Sheriff's Office. During the ceremony, Sheriff Gautney administered the oath of office to each

individual. He also spoke about the significance of the challenge coin, which embodies values of honor, service, justice, and integrity. Sheriff Gautney emphasized that the coin remains with the Deputy as a symbol of their service, provided they depart the Sheriff's Office in good standing.

Discussion item #6: Multiparty funding agreement for mineral/isotope study of the Crooked River:

Requester: Chris Gannon, Crooked River Watershed Council

Details: The Court received a presentation addressing concerns about elevated levels of minerals and isotopes in the Crooked River, with an uncertain origin. Identifying the source could lead to targeted measures to reduce these contaminants. Potential impacts on local agriculture, depending on whether the source is agricultural or natural, were discussed. The Crooked River Watershed Council aims to fund a study by the US Geological Survey to pinpoint the source of these minerals. Under the proposed agreement, Crook County would contribute \$8,000, with other parties contributing an additional \$32,000, facilitating the study and subsequent informed decision-making.

MOTION to fund and participate in the multiparty agreement on the Crooked River mineral isotope test study. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 2-0.

Discussion item #7: Approve grants for the Glenn Miller Orchestra patriotic concert, March 16, 2024:

Requester: Sarah Beeler

Details: Library Director Sarah Beeler attended the regular session seeking permission to apply for grants for the Glenn Miller Orchestra concert. Ms. Beeler expressed confidence in securing full funding through these grants. This performance is a great way to honor our military veterans and the location would be at the High School auditorium. The Court supports the applications of grants and if received, the Court would then act on the grant acceptance at that time.

Discussion item #8: Meta grant for a new bookmobile:

Requester: Sarah Beeler

Details: Sarah Beeler, the Library Director, attended the session to discuss pursuing a meta grant for a new bookmobile. She proposed applying for a hybrid truck and converting a toy hauler into a bookmobile. While the Library aims to retrieve the old bookmobile, this new approach offers an alternative avenue. The grant application deadline is October 20th, and the bookmobile is crucial for delivering technology and materials to schools and rural communities across Crook County. Funding for maintenance, fuel, and insurance will be sought through budget allocations, grants, or donations. The Court expressed support for these grant applications and plans to decide on acceptance if grants are awarded.

Discussion item #9: Update on Bowman Museum:

Requester: Sean Briscoe

Details: Sean Briscoe, Interim Executive Director, attended the session to update the Court on developments at the Bowman Museum. He emphasized his dual focus on maintaining museum operations and identifying areas for enhancement. Mr. Briscoe outlined several initiatives, including implementing breaks and lunches for staff to boost morale, expanding the team, securing additional funding through grants, revitalizing events and programs to attract more visitors, increasing educational visits for 4th grade classes, recruiting more volunteers, and fostering greater community engagement. He highlighted a strategy of rotating exhibits to encourage repeat visits from patrons.

Discussion item #10: Update on process to fill vacant Commissioner position:

Requester: Andy Parks

Details: Andy Parks updated the Court on the process to fill the vacant Commissioner position following Commissioner Brummer's resignation, effective October 5, 2023. A public notice was issued on October 10, 2023, inviting applications. As discussed in the October 4, 2023 meeting, interested individuals must submit an application, including a resume and statement of intent, by November 9, 2023. Detailed information, including qualifications, procedures, deadlines, and draft responsibilities for the commissioner role, is available on the County's website.

Discussion item #11: PUBLIC HEARING: First Reading of Ordinance 337 - An Ordinance Amending the Crook County Zoning Map and Comprehensive Plan to Amend the Destination Resort Overlay Zone Map and Declaring an Emergency:

Requester: John Eisler

Details: Crook County last updated its Destination Resort Overlay Map in 2008. The most recent amendment stipulated that the land designated for the Crossing Trails Destination Resort would be removed from the Map upon losing approval, which occurred last year. Earlier this year, the Court issued Order 2023-12 to the Planning Commission, who provided their recommendation in May.

This is the first of two readings.

Community Development Director Will Van Vactor provided the Court a script and Judge Crawford read the script into the record. These are required statements to make before opening the public hearing.

No one online was interested in testifying, and no documents were handed to staff as a written testimony.

Community Development Director Will Van Vactor provided a brief staff presentation, highlighting the background of the overlay map.

A public hearing was opened.

Arleen Curths and James Michael Dunn testified in favor of the ordinance. There was no one opposed to removing the overlay.

Public hearing closed. The second reading will be November 1st.

MOTION to read the ordinance by title only. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 2-0.

Judge Crawford read the Ordinance by title only. An ordinance amending the Crook County zoning map and comprehensive plan to amend the destination resort overlay zone map and declaring an emergency.

Administrator Report: None

Court Member Updates:

Judge Crawford had a good tour with the American Forest Resources Council regarding the 21' rule.

At 10:09 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)(e) For the purpose of conducting deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

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.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 10:32 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Puerner