

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF FEBRUARY 7, 2024, REGULAR MEETING
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a Regular Court meeting on February 07, 2024, 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 Susan Hermreck, and Commissioner Brian Barney

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via Zoom: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Executive Administrative Assistant Sarah Puerner; Chief Information Officer Stephen Chellis; Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb; Veteran Service Officer Tom Evans; Administrative Assistant Mona Glade; Under Sheriff Bill Elliott; Office Manager Alexandria Solterbeck; Fairgrounds Manager Casey Daly; Library Director Sarah Beeler; Extension Manager Kim Herber; Airport Manager Kelly Coffelt; Assessment Technician Stephanie West; Assessor Jon Soliz; Treasurer Galan Carter; Road Superintendent Brad Haynes; Modernization Manager Stephanie O’Neal; Sheriff John Gautney; Community Development Director Will Van Vactor; Budget Analyst Jamie Berger; Chief Administrative Deputy Stephanie Wilson; Assessment Technician Linda Pepper; K. Gillen; JC; Monty Kurtz; Health Strategist Shelby Fisher; Rick Treleaven; Dick Zimmerlee; Jim Newton; Adam and Karen Mikulski; Traci Utterback; Tawndy Byrd; Judy Kennedy; Renee Moss; Dan Vieu; Colleen Ferguson; Angela Cumming; Gerry Borkoski; Jessica Williams; Joe Thompson; Mike Boynton; Julie Thompson; Valerie Rhoden; Deb Zimmerlee; Alex Stewart; Monique Davis; and members of the public.

REGULAR SESSION

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

Public Comment:

Monty Kurtz - Wanted to ask about the upcoming meetings for the TSP and if that included discussions regarding the 2nd access into Juniper Canyon.

Dick Zimmerlee – wanted to address the water contamination issue and asking the Court to suspend mining operation until more data can be collected.

Jim Newton – Licensed professional geologist. Water samples have been collected and analyzed and there appears to be an issue. The closer you get to the mining the higher the concentration. Manganese is elevated in the water testing and if above the threshold, can have significant health implications. Cannot access the Knife River mine site to collect water samples without trespassing. Wondering if the County has any capacity to hold the permittees accountable.

Traci Utterback – wants to protect their clients and the community and would like the County to take care of this issue. Wants to know what the solution is because grandkids can’t bathe and can’t drink the water. Animals are being born dead and irrigation water is being affected.

Adam Mikulski – Lives across the street from the Woodward and Vanier sites but doesn't have any water issues currently; however that can change so he has been monitoring water readings regularly. Dogami used his well to test to say nothing is wrong and the water is fine. Wants something done before it's too late.

Mike Boynton – Broker at Caldwell here in town, lives close to the mining site and is concerned with commercial wells that Knife River is putting in. They are pumping lots of water per minute. Central Oregon has been in a drought for 4-5 years so he doesn't understand why Knife river is allowed to pump this water. The water should be used for farmers and their fields and livestock. Wanted to know who makes these regulations and what the County can do.

Additions/Removals: None

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes
2. No public comments were received for the Title III request to pay for Community Wildfire Protection Plan update and funds will be spent in accordance with the applicable law as originally approved by the County Court on December 6, 2023.
3. Nutanix DR Renewal
4. Tri County Public Health Modernization MOU Amendment/Renewal
5. Airport - Amendment No. 1 to Oregon Department of Aviation CORE grant
6. Landfill Purchase Request for Roll-off Containers.

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

Discussion item #7: Presentation and requesting service contract increase:

Requester: Chanda Wallace

Details: Chanda Wallace, Executive Director of the Humane Society, attended the Regular Session to request a monthly increase in the current contract. The Humane Society of the Ochocos is requesting a service contract increase from \$3,000 per month to \$3,500. It has been many years since an increase has been requested. Currently, Crook County is paying \$36,000 per year and this request would impact the current fiscal year by \$2,500 if approved and implemented for February 2024.

MOTION to increase the service contract from \$3,000 per month to \$3,500 per month. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #8: Crook County Veteran Services Staff Introductions:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the Regular Session to introduce staff. Mona Glade has been anchoring the office since September, fielding questions, and coordinating resources. Tom Evans started as Veteran Service Officer at the beginning of January and will be working closely with ODVA on claim reviews and submissions until his training is complete and accreditation status is achieved. Ms. Plumb acknowledged Deschutes County and Lake County for their help while Crook County was short staffed.

Discussion item #9: Central Oregon Health Council \$25,000 grant award for Overdose Prevention in Central Oregon via Central Oregon Overdose Prevention & Response (COOPR) Coalition:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the Regular Session to discuss a Central Oregon Health Council grant award. As Chairperson of the COOPR Coalition, Ms. Plumb actively supported the application for a Naloxone Access & Overdose Prevention grant through Central Oregon Health Council (COHC). Stacy Shaw, Central Oregon Overdose Prevention & Response Coordinator, skillfully crafted an application that would allocate funds to Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties, to be managed by the COOPR Coalition, with Crook County serving as the fiscal agent. With the availability of naloxone through various channels, the grant funds for FY24 can now be utilized to address a broader range of needs, including primary prevention initiatives.

MOTION to approve the Central Oregon Health Council \$25,000 grant for Overdose Prevention, and to authorize Katie Plumb to sign the contract out of Court. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #10: Central Oregon Health Council \$25,000 grant award for Overdose Prevention in Crook County:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the Regular Session to discuss a Central Oregon Health Council grant award for Crook County. The Crook County Health Department Prevention & Health Promotion Team successfully applied for a Naloxone Access & Overdose Prevention grant through Central Oregon Health Council (COHC). Crook County has successfully applied for and received similar grants through COHC to support public safety and community service organizations with access to Naloxone. Crook County Sheriff's Office, Prineville Police Department, and BestCare Treatment Services are three of several local organizations that have benefitted from this program. With increased access to naloxone via other resources, grant funds in FY24 can be used to address a wider variety of needs, including primary prevention initiatives.

MOTION to approve the Central Oregon Health Council \$25,000 grant for Overdose Prevention in Crook County and authorize Katie Plumb to sign contract out of Court. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #11: PacificSource Medicaid Contract Amendment:

Requester: Katie Plumb

Details: Health and Human Services Director Katie Plumb attended the Regular Session to discuss an amendment to the PacificSource Medicaid contract for Health and Human Services. Historically, the Crook County Health Department (CCHD) has engaged in contracts with PacificSource for billable Medicaid services. The proposed amendment entails a per member per month (PMPM) payment from PacificSource to support the Perinatal Care Coordination program administered by CCHD. This

program, initiated with pilot funding from the Central Oregon Health Council for a duration of 7 years, no longer receives such funding. While systems for billable services were established during the pilot phase, they do not cover the entire program's implementation costs. The PMPM allocation from PacificSource recognizes the significance of perinatal care services for families in Crook County and acknowledges the positive impact on the healthcare system overall. As of December 31, 2023, PacificSource had 9,114 OHP members residing in Crook County. Fluctuations in member numbers are expected throughout the year due to the redetermination process for eligibility. For budgetary planning, an estimated total PMPM revenue of \$18,720 is anticipated for FY24, representing unanticipated and unbudgeted revenue. The projected revenue for FY25 is expected to increase to \$56,160.

MOTION to approve the PacificSource Medicaid Contract Amendment. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #12: FY 2023 Financial Statements, Audit and Governing Body Letter from Auditors:

Requester: Christina Haron, Finance Director

Details: Contract County Administrator Andy Parks attended the Regular Session to discuss the fiscal year 2023 financial statements, audit and governing body letter from auditors. There were no issues with reporting in the audit and there was an overall improvement in the timeline of this report. The County had a few financial highlights such as net assets increased, and a large portion of the revenue increase was intergovernmental.

Discussion item #13: Ready to Read Grant Acceptance:

Requester: Sarah Beeler

Details: Library Director Sarah Beeler attended the Regular Session to discuss the acceptance of a Ready to Read grant. Annually, public libraries in Oregon submit applications for this grant, and Crook County successfully secured it. The grant, amounting to \$9,965.00 is designated for summer reading programs targeting youth aged 0-14.

MOTION to approve Order 2024-09 in the matter of accepting a grant of \$9,965.00 from the Oregon State Library for the Ready to Read program. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #14: Airport / On call Engineering RFQ:

Requester: Kelly Coffelt

Details: Airport Manager Kelly Coffelt attended the Regular Session to address an Airport/On-call Engineering RFQ (Request for Qualifications). The purpose of this RFQ is to enlist a qualified engineering firm to provide ongoing project support at Prineville Airport, specifically aimed at advancing the airport's capital improvement plan over a five-year period spanning 2024 to 2029. This encompasses all potential future airport projects. The Airport/County intends to engage in a Personal Service Agreement with the selected engineering/consulting firm capable of offering design, engineering, construction services, and project supervision for FAA/AIP (Federal Aviation

Administration/Airport Improvement Program) projects. The County will reserve the right to contract the firm solely for projects deemed necessary, with individual contracts (task orders) issued for specific services. Following the evaluation policies outlined by Crook County RFP (Request for Proposal) committee and FAA guidelines outlined in AC 150/5100 for engineering selection, County staff have received statements of qualification from three firms: Century West Engineering, Morrison-Maierle, and Precision Approach Engineering.

MOTION to name Precision Approach Engineering as the most qualified firm and to direct staff to begin negotiations. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #15: Approve updates to the Crook County Investment Policy:

Requester: Christina Haron, Finance Director

Details: Treasurer Galan Carter attended the Regular Session to seek approval for revisions to the Crook County Investment policy. The proposed changes involve updating the criteria for determining a security's rating and adjusting language to reflect the Treasurer's transition to a part-time role. Specifically, the update replaces the Treasurer as the designated Investment Officer with either the Finance Director or the County Administrator, in the event the Finance Director is unavailable. This modification does not exclude the Treasurer from participating in investment decisions; rather, it redistributes the responsibility of the Investment Officer to other positions. Given the part-time nature of the Treasurer's role, it is believed that the position lacks the necessary information to independently make fully informed investment decisions on behalf of the County.

MOTION to approve the policy that is presented before the Court with the redlines on the Investment policy. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #16: Review community mental health program funding agreement no. 026007:

Requester: Eric Blaine, County Counsel

Details: Rick Treleaven, CEO of BestCare, attended the Regular Session to review the mental health program funding agreement no. 026007. The agreement makes available over \$2.2 million for services to treat behavioral health, addictions, and problem gambling. The duration of this agreement is January 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Unfortunately, the prior agreement (no. 173132) expired on December 31, 2023, and the successor document was not distributed until this month.

MOTION to approve signatures for the Community Mental Health Program Funding Agreement no. 026007. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Administrator Report: None

Court Member Updates:

Seth Crawford – Talked with Katie Plumb about the Veterans' folks, the OHA person, and also attended a fair dinner and got to meet with a bunch of the legislators that

helped get us some of the funding recently. They are in the process of trying to get a certain amount to split among all of the countries for Fairgrounds.

At 10:11 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.

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 authorize staff to discuss the real property matter with the counter party as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 10:58 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Puerner / Breyanna Cupp