

**CROOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
OF JANUARY 22, 2025, REGULAR MEETING
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session on January 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the County Meeting Room located at 320 NE Court Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754.

Board Members Present: Commissioner Brian Barney, Commissioner Susan Hermreck; and Commissioner Seth Crawford

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via Zoom: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Executive Administrative Assistant Sarah Puerner; Executive Assistant Breyanna Cupp; Legal Assistant Alex Solterbeck; Airport Manager Kelly Coffelt; County Manager Will Van Vactor; Road Superintendent Brad Haynes; Facilities Director James Preuss; Chris Cookston; Library Director Sarah Beeler; Ben Roche; Natural Resources Manager Tim Deboodt; Elsie Ray; Mona Glade; Assessor Jon Soliz; Ashley McCormick; Tawndy Byrd; 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. OHA 2023-2025 Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment 14
3. Oregon Department of Emergency Management Grant Agreement
4. Jail Camera Replacement Bid Award
5. Request for Signature on CORE Grant Agreement for \$250K Airport Hangar Building Project
6. Enrollment of the District Attorney's stipend into PERS effective January 1

MOTION to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hermreck. No discussion. Commissioner Hermreck votes Aye, Commissioner Crawford votes Aye, Commissioner Barney votes Aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Discussion item #7: Airport Hangar Transfer from Suncreek Ranch, LLC to Coney:

Requester: John Eisler

Details: Airport Manager Kelly Coffelt attended the Regular Session to address the transfer of a hangar from Suncreek Ranch, LLC to Michael Coney. The discussion included a termination of the existing lease with Suncreek Ranch, LLC, alongside the establishment of a new 20-year lease agreement and a Memorandum of Lease with Michael Coney. The hangar in question encompasses a leased area of 3,250 square feet

and an impact area of 4,196 square feet. The effective date for this transfer is scheduled for January 31st.

MOTION to accept the lease as presented for Michael Coney. Motion seconded by Commissioner Crawford. No discussion. Commissioner Hermreck votes Aye, Commissioner Crawford votes Aye, Commissioner Barney votes Aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Manager Report:

Will Van Vactor discussed a Letter of Support for the Prineville Lake Acres 1 (PLA1) Special Road District's application for funding through the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant program. The proposed project aims to pave 13 miles of currently unpaved roads with asphalt. This initiative is crucial as it will address significant infrastructure needs within the community and greatly enhance safety, particularly in scenarios involving wildfires or other natural disasters. Additionally, Mr. Van Vactor provided an update on the FEMA issue, noting that a preliminary injunction has been filed. He mentioned that the court has set a tight briefing schedule, requiring defendants to respond within the week.

MOTION to approve the letter for the grant for PLA1. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hermreck. No discussion. Commissioner Crawford votes Aye, Commissioner Hermreck votes Aye, Commissioner Barney votes Aye. Motion carried 3-0.

Commissioner Updates:

Commissioner Crawford discussed the Wildfire Risk map and expressed his desire to collaborate with John Eisler on drafting a letter to present to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC). He noted that there is support from some eastern counties for this letter. Crawford is also focusing on identifying high-risk lots in certain neighborhoods and areas. Additionally, he mentioned his involvement at the state level concerning funding and his plans to attend Oregon Fairs Day to secure funding. He is also collaborating with Tim Deboodt on Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funds for local roads and forest land management.

Commissioner Hermreck provided an update on her legislative efforts for Oregon's fairs. She noted that the fairgrounds recently received \$9 million, and she aims to lobby for an increase to \$20 million. The Livestock Sales Committee, along with 4H, will assist in financing these efforts. Additionally, the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) and forestry services are implementing preventative measures in forest areas to enhance outdoor enjoyment in the mountains. On the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC), she addressed security issues within the bus systems and is working towards finding solutions. On the Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation (COACT), she is involved in transportation discussions with neighboring counties. Lastly, serving on the Central Oregon Health Council (COHC), she is focused on health impacts in the community and advocating for necessary funding.

Commissioner Barney mentioned that he is nearing completion of the final touches on the Justice Center, addressing various minor details and loose ends. He noted that James Preuss, the Facilities Director, is assisting in finalizing these tasks.

Public Comment: None

MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Crawford. No discussion. Commissioner Hermreck votes Aye, Commissioner Crawford votes Aye, Commissioner Barney votes Aye. Motion carried 3-0.

There being no further business before the Board of Commissioners, the meeting was **adjourned at 9:17 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Puerner / Breyanna Cupp