

**B E IT REMEMBERED THAT** the Crook County Court held a Public Hearing on the proposed Natural Resources Plan on November 6, 2017 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the County meeting room located at 320 NE Court Street, Prineville, Oregon. In attendance for the Court were: County Judge Seth Crawford; County Commissioner Jerry Brummer; County Commissioner Brian Barney; County Counsel Jeff Wilson; Assistant County Counsel Eric Blaine and County Court Secretary Colleen Ferguson.

Members of the public signing the attendance log were: Marna Tallman, Prineville; Phil Paterno, Powell Butte; Steven K.C. Shrader, Prineville; Marshall Cooley, Bend; Jerry W. Thomas Prineville; David W. Clark, Prineville; Barbara Fontaine, Powell Butte; Duane and Ruth Miller, Prineville; Paul and Kathleen Cuddy, Prineville; Ron Cholin, Prineville; Scott Hamilton, Prineville; Rich and Mary Mires, Prineville; Gordon and Jane Aggers, Prineville; Patrick Lair, Prineville; Frank and Donna Porfily, Redmond; Lisa Cutter, Bend; Ruthie McKenzie, Prineville; Tim Zook, Powell Butte; Melinda Kesther; Eric Newell, Prineville; Scott Smith, Prineville; Eric Klann, Prineville; Betty Rope, Prineville; Jim Roppe, Prineville; Mike and Teresa Ervin, Prineville; Ian Isaacson, Bend; Bill Welch, Redmond; Tristan Henry, Bend; Terry Holtzapple, Prineville; Pam and Chris Scranton, Madras; Brian Isaacson, Bend; Kev Alexanian, Crook County Weed master; Craig Woodward, Prineville; Susanne Walters Moore, Prineville; Patricia A. Beverley, Prineville; John M. Novak, Prineville; Jerry Cordova, Prineville; Cherie Fox, Prineville; Greg Jackle, ODFW; Matt Keenan, Prineville; Sid Harper, Prineville; Elliott Wharton, Prineville; Pete Sharp, Prineville; Cynthia Harper, Prineville; Darlene Fishel, Prineville and Jodie Fleck, Post .

The media was provided public notice of the meeting.

Judge Crawford called the meeting and public hearing to order and asked Mayor Betty Roppe to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Judge Crawford opened the meeting by asking everyone to hold up their hands if they agreed that they live in the best place to live, and to raise their hands if they believed it was important to have thriving forests. Everyone raised their hands for both. Judge Crawford said that the results of that action showed that everyone here tonight is in agreement of the two statements at the beginning of the meeting. Agreement is a good place to start. He provided the process directions for the rest of the meeting. Comments were to be held to two minutes, Assistant County Counsel Eric Blaine will be timing, and the Court asks that others stay quiet when someone is giving their comments. All members of the public that wished to make comments placed cards with their names on them in a container for Commissioner Brummer to draw from. He will draw three names at once. One person will speak, and the other two will be ready to go. All names will be drawn.

Mr. Wilson and Commissioner Brummer discussed the question of what the impact would be if County Court were to adopt a policy creating a foundation to have conversation, but that could not override the Federal law.

Judge Crawford read the statement into the record regarding maintaining and accessing the public lands and advocating conversation regarding custom, culture and the opportunity for a seat at the table, coordinating with BLM and the USFS, working with local governments and having inclusive access to healthy lands instead of exclusive.

***( The entire recording of the meeting and full comments are available on disc through the County Court and Administration Office)***

#1 Susanne Walters-Moore, 1900 NW Gerke Rd, Prineville, said she was a member of the Natural Resources Public Action Committee (NRPAC) and asked if the Plan is on line. Court—It is on line on the County web home page with the Karen Budd-Fallon changes included. She asked about this being a policy and position. Commissioner Crawford said it does not make a difference. It is not a land use matter.

#2 Ian Isaacson, 61018 Geary Drive , Bend and Chair of Back Country Hunters and Anglers said the Federal Lands are not owned by the Government and asked about how Crook County came about hiring Karen Budd-Fallon. Judge Crawford said that Ms. Budd-Fallon had worked for Reagan. Mr. Isaacson pointed out that the wording change of Public Lands to Federal Lands was a subtle change in the document. Judge Crawford answered that Federal Law is for Federal Lands managed by the Federal Government. Mr. Isaacson said he believed the language should be Federal Public Lands.

#3 Eric Klann, 6300 NE Birdsong Lane, Prineville commended the Court on their due diligence on this matter. Mr. Klann explained that Commissioner Brummer has taken trips on his own time to other Counties to learn about their Natural Resource program, and he appreciates that this will be a legal policy and not a rule. He is a seventh generation citizen in Crook County, and his children are eighth generation. Mr. Klann said this is not the silver bullet, but the start of a good conversation.

#4 Frank Porfily, 1643 NW 22<sup>nd</sup>, Redmond spoke on the plan being a document that can be changed at any time and the issue now is how to activate it and get it moving. He provided information on the Millican Road project and it being a direct result of coordination with the BLM. There was the matter of wood cutting on the BLM property being cut off and that got changes through coordination. This is another tool for the County and how is the Court going to activate it. He referred to a conversation with former County Judge Scott Cooper and the discussed about when coordination was invoked in Crook County. Judge Crawford explained that the Court plans to hire a committee leader and then form a committee to move forward with the plan. Commissioner Brummer explained that this is ongoing, and there may be more public meetings. Commissioner Barney said the Court will have a team together that will be proactive instead of reactive.

#5 Lisa Cutter, 22055 Butler Market Road, Bend, said she grew up in rural Deschutes County and has a lot of friends that come to visit her family. They take the friends to the Ochocos, and the friends are amazed that we have this area in our back yard. She spoke on increased outdoor tourism that brings money into the area and said this plan does not cover outdoor recreation enough. She would like to see more of that in the plan. Judge Crawford assured her that the County will not be giving away any land.

#6 Tristan Henry, 1935 NW Awbrey Road, Bend and Judge Crawford discussed the clearing of dangerous trees left after forest fires, improvement the safety for fighting fire and people in the areas, no clear cutting and the plan for clearing a certain number of acres. This gives a better chance to sit down, people to people, to discuss the use of the forests.

#7 Tom Casselman, 8611 NE Johnson Creek, Prineville recommended an extended time for review of the plan making the whole process more inclusive. He asked about costs regarding the management position and committee and how this could change any weight that the County has at the table. He knows that Commissioner Brummer is active with the BLM and FS. Judge Crawford said it gives the opportunity to work with BLM and the Forest Service to move forward and have the opportunity for the locals will be heard. Commissioner Brummer said he went to other counties that have invoked coordination, and the coordination puts the locals up front, one on one and gives the County an opportunity early on in the decision making. Mr. Casselman said he is not sure how it changes from where we are at right now. Judge Crawford said that Crook County has been in coordination since 2002. Commissioner Brummer said there was also a Natural Resources Committee active until 2009 that dissolved when part of the committee passed away. They were very involved at that time. At that time there were 27 to 29 members on the committee. Judge Crawford addressed the cost issue and said the County as always will try to be as frugal as possible.

#8 Phil Paterno, Powell Butte, said he was with the BLM in Crook County for over 40 years. He submitted a letter to the Court before he saw the new plan. He discussed the laws being inconsistent with Federal Land Use laws, Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), Coordination in FLPMA, and consistency with the laws governing Federal laws. He is not sure what is not working for the County at this time. He talked about the Millican Road project and said it was a simple easement, and it would have been approved without the extra steps that were taken by the County Judge. He advised the Court to not accept the NRP.

#9 Steve Shrader, 1013 NE Wyoming Drive, Prineville said he has a lifetime of enjoying working and living in and on the federal lands and has had frustration with both people in the trees and bulldozers and cats where they should not be. He has seen both ends of the spectrum. He believes the lands belong to all Americans, not just those of us lucky enough to live here. He read the first NRP and felt it was extreme. He believes the forests should be maintained for multiple uses. He believes that this policy is not for the long-term sustainable health of the land. Mr. Shrader believes the confusion about the words collaboration and coordination are causing more division about what can and cannot be done and urges the Court to give more time before adopting the plan.

#10 Marshall Cooley, 1440 NE Revere. Bend said he is a native son of the area and has a passion for being out in the forests. He urges the County not to adopt the NRP. He believes it misses the mark. He likes the areas to get away to and feels this plan would keep reducing those areas.

#11 Chris Scranton, 1440 Richard Lane, Madras, spoke on motorized vehicle use, hunting, and bird watching in the forests. He said that extraction is important but should not be the emphasis. He asked the Court to give more time for review and would like this matter tabled. Judge Crawford spoke on the percentage of land in Crook County that is Federal land, and that all citizens own the public lands.

#12 Matt Keenan, Paulina Highway, Prineville talked about the County citizens committee, adding more work being put onto the Court and there being no information on the budget for the committee. He spoke of specific pages in the NRP, Page 12 regarding notification that should include state agencies; page 24, specific number of years for data, multiple topics that favor special groups and other special interests.

#13 Paul Cuddy, 805 Crest Drive, Prineville thanked the Court for the opportunity to speak again. He spoke on opening this up more to other folks, the woefully inadequate time for review and giving the Court time for focusing on things that are in their control instead of this plan. He said case law is clear. This plan has no teeth, has nothing and everyone said there is great communication between agencies and County now and the system is not broken. He said to the Court that they had more important things to do, and this is unnecessary and has caused a lot of conflict. This plan and the division of the citizens has also caused people to decide not to come to our area. This is affecting the local economy negatively.

#14 Barbara Fontaine, 10891 SW Powell Butte Highway, read her written comments. She thinks the revised plan has some improvements but not enough time for review. She likes the committee idea but is concerned about the cost involved. She wants a cost analysis and is concerned about the position the County would be taking. She asked about focusing on roads, the effect on wildlife (Ms. Fontaine kept reading after the 2 minutes). She spoke of seeing muddy trucks come in and knows there has been another meadow or stream damaged by someone tearing up areas with their trucks. She said the Forest Service does not have funds to keep up. Judge Crawford said the Forest Service has closed several roads, and even with the closures, there is still vandalism. Good people follow rules. Any road used in the wet season will be damaged.

#15 Audra Oliver, reading her written statement, objected to the short review time and asked that the Court allow more time for review of the changed document. She agrees the committee is a better idea, acting as an advisory committee. Federal lands are to be managed for all not just some.

#16 Marna Tallman, 320 SW Beaver, Prineville, said she grew up on a farm and all things in life change. She is sympathetic for what the County is trying to do with the plan. She did all of those outdoor things that were talked about tonight. She is afraid this takes a lot of things away. Things change. Ms. Tallman said she hopes the Court can extend the time for review. She believes this would be an onus on the County and also an onus on other agencies. She asked to please give more time for review.

*At this time, Judge Crawford called for a 5 minute break.*

Judge Crawford reconvened the meeting.

#17 Jane Eggers, 4166 SE Tillamook Loop, Prineville, advised the Court that every PAC meeting has been open to the public. She asked about the committee and said she believed it would be a good resource to bring information back to the Court.

#18 LaQuita Stec, David Way, Prineville, expressed her personal concerns like changing policy to position. She spoke of a tool instead of a hammer, renewable energy, forest resources, and page 35 as a necessity of life in direct contradiction to page 34. She spoke of mentioning the antiquities act, customary used over the prehistoric portion. She spoke of wilderness will not as other uses may prove more valuable. She spoke of page 13, coordination and thanked the Court for the committee and not handing this over to the PAC. She presented a petition with 518 signatures.

#19 Teresa Ervin, 8015 SE Paulina Highway, discussed the muddy pickup statement and how pickups get dirty and muddy when you work with them. She spoke of coordination, equal basis, land, water and wildlife and each fairly represented. Ms. Ervin discussed the proper use of coordination.

#20 Rich Mires, 372 NE Holly, Prineville spoke of the unspoiled beauty of the Ochocos and wondering why there is this plan. He said this drafted plan has divided the people in the area. He said there is a lot of respect on both sides, and this seems like a rush. Also the cost of \$14.00 per copy was mentioned. (County policy is 25 cents per copy page and the plan has 56 pages). He added that he is proud of our area, and appreciates that anyone can come and see the beautiful area we live in.

#21 Tina Hamilton, 11282 Lister Ave., Prineville said the plan does not include everything. It neglects recreation and wildlife. Ms. Hamilton is an ultra-runner and enjoys running in the area. She said there are concern of management and support for sustainable management. She loves the freedom we have to enjoy the beautiful lands.

#22 Gail Casselman, 8611 NE Johnson, Prineville said she is behind the idea for further comment and review time. It is very important to the County's future. She talked about the PAC proposal that purports to represent most people in the County. Ms. Casselman suggested putting this issue on the ballot for a democratic vote.

#23 Jodie Fleck, Post, thanked the Court. She said on Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, it will be two years the PAC has worked on the plan. This current mode of operation has not been working well for 30 years. In August of 2016, the PAC worked further on the plan. This is not a rush. The plan is not perfect but will work. This is not some foreign law. The purpose of this is to work with Federal Agencies. She took exception to the muddy pickup comment.

8:00 p.m. The container was empty of all cards, everyone that chose had the opportunity to speak.

Judge Crawford thanked everyone for coming. The second public hearing will be on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017, during the regularly scheduled County Court session beginning at 9:00 a.m. The plan is to make a decision on Wednesday.

Commissioner Brummer spoke on the many acres and miles of burned trees and the billions of dollars spent on fighting fires leaving very little left to use for management. Forest health is done through and by management. We need to take better care of our forests, and if not, it will all be black and burned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Colleen Ferguson*

Colleen Ferguson, Crook County Court Secretary