

Minutes of the Special Public Meeting  
Of the Crook County Court  
Friday August 29, 2014  
11:00 am

Persons Present:

- Judge Mike McCabe
- Commissioner Ken Fahlgren
- Commissioner Seth Crawford
- Colleen Ferguson, Office Manager
- Eric Blaine, Assistant Crook County Counsel
- Walt Wagner
- Darlene Harpster
- Jerry Harpster
- Jim Weechin

The meeting convened at 11:03 am. All members of the Court were present.

The purpose of today's special public meeting was to deliberate upon a request from Bend Cable Communications/Bend Broadband to execute documents stating that the work secured by two performance bonds in favor of the County has been completed.

While the forms simply ask whether the work has been completed, the bonding company has stated in a telephone call to staff that once they receive written confirmation that the work has been completed it will cancel the bonds. The effect, therefore, of today's decision would be to release more than \$415,000.00 in favor of the County (one bond is worth \$30,000.00 exactly, the other is worth \$385,173.00). Staff members do not have the legal authority to make that kind of decision, thus necessitating a meeting of the County Court.

The two documents were originally received by the County Road Department late afternoon on Thursday, August 21. They are not open on Fridays, so Jodi Stills at the Road Department had to confirm the completion of the work within five days. She's done that, and was thanked for her swift work given the other duties she's been performing.

Originally, the question of releasing these bonds was set for consideration at the regular meeting of the County Court on September 3. However, Bend Cable Communications stated that they absolutely must have these documents prior to September 1 (Labor Day), as they are conditions of the closing.

Discussion on the content of the bonds and the projects for which they've securing. The Road Department confirms that the work has been completed. If there is a need for the new owner to secure a bond for a future project, we will reach out to them directly.

Discussion on how we normally try to hold these types of deliberations at regular meetings, but at the request of Bend Cable Communications the Commissioners held a special meeting to meet their September 1 deadline.

Approved September 17, 2014

Commissioner Crawford made a motion to sign the "Contract Status Inquiry Forms" submitted by Old Republic Surety. Commissioner Fahlgren seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0, motion approved.

Discussion on the County's weekly work sessions: the County prefers not to schedule any voting matter at the work sessions.

Eric Blaine will send the forms off today.

Jim Weatjen would like the new owner to be informed that they must be bonded for future projects.

Jim Weatjen criticizes the Commissioners because they allowed the local newspaper to publish an article on the possibility of building a new courthouse. Discussion on the content of the article and the County's efforts to obtain state funding for the courthouse. Discussion on the need for a new County jail. Discussion on Jefferson County's jail and Crook County's use of that facility.

Discussion on the Common Core curriculum proposed for Oregon schools.

Meeting adjourned 11:39 am.