

**CROOK COUNTY COURT MINUTES
OF AUGUST 16, 2023, REGULAR MEETING
Open Portion**

Be It Remembered that the Crook County Court met in a Regular Court meeting on August 16, 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, Commissioner Jerry Brummer and Commissioner Brian Barney

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via Zoom: Legal Counsels Eric Blaine and John Eisler; Administration Executive Assistant Sarah Puerner; Assistant Finance Director Christina Haron; Director Will Van Vactor; Director Kim Barber; Library Director Sarah Beeler; Jeff Hurd; Andy Parks; Sydney Chandler; Nick Lilly, and Monty Kurtz.

REGULAR SESSION

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

Public Comment: None

Additions/Removals: None

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Order 2023-38, accepting a \$5,000.00 grant from the Ford Family Foundation
3. Approval to renew existing service agreements with Egnyte
4. Approval to renew existing service agreements with Nutanix
5. Approval to renew existing service agreements with Kaseya
6. Personal services contract with Parametrix to perform consulting services relating to an update to the County's Transportation System Plan (TSP)

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

Discussion item #7: Opposition to Truck Size and Weight Increases:

Requester: Jeff Hurd

Details: Jeff Hurd attended the Regular Session to discuss with the Court an opposition to truck size and weight increases. The USDOT has been considering increasing truck weight limits to 91,000 lbs. and analyzed the impacts to roads and bridges but only over roadways that were part of the National Highway System. The Coalition Against Bigger Trucks completed a more comprehensive study and concluded that if the weights were allowed to increase to 91,000 lbs. this would cost Oregonians \$3.4 billion dollars to upgrade bridge infrastructure. Crook County has two bridges that

would be affected immediately if allowed (Powell Butte Canal and Irrigation Ditch Weigand). The Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors has prepared correspondence to Senator's Wyden office as to its implications the legislative change can have to our bridge infrastructure. OACES is wanting to know if County Commissioners would like to sign the letter.

MOTION to delegate to Public Work Director Jeff Hurd authority to sign the letter regarding the proposed weight increase legislation. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION to authorize County Court to sign onto the OACES letter about the proposed weight increase legislation and to authorize signing outside of Court. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

Administrator Report:

To address security concerns, The Sheriff and Judge Crawford have proposed suspending courthouse tours until the new Justice Center is complete. This item will be shared with the museum advisory board August 17, 2023.

The contract county administrator will be taking some time off in the week of August 20, 2023, but will be available for pre-scheduled meetings via Zoom. Eric Blaine will fill the role of County Administrator in his absence.

Court Member Updates:

Commissioner Brummer stated he's been attending regular meetings with COACT, COIC and ongoing state meetings. Commissioner Brummer also spoke about the Fair and expressed his gratitude to the volunteers and employees for putting on a great fair.

Judge Crawford met with the Central Oregon Association of Realtors (COAR) and addressed the transportation plan and information about possible CCs, advising that the County would like to bring in people with knowledge in these topics to consult with COAR. Judge Crawford also mentioned that Oregon State Representative Kevin Mannix visited Prineville and he attended a meeting and raised the concern that the County pays for DA office though it is a state office. Representative Mannix indicated he may be able to address the issue in the next legislative session.

Public Comment:

Monty Kurtz asked if the County could provide information about the Justice Center and where we are in the construction process.

At 9:15 a.m. the Court convened into Executive Session under the following statute(s): ORS 192.660(2)(f) To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney; 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 proceed with the direction as discussed in the Executive Session related to building matters. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION to proceed with executing a separation and severance agreement as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 3-0.

MOTION to proceed with decisions related to governance as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion seconded. No discussion. Motion carried 2-1.

There being no further business before the Court, the meeting was **adjourned at 11:32 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Puerner