**Crook County Compensation Committee**

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**CROOK COUNTY COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**OF MARCH 13, 2025**

**BE IT REMEMEBERED** that the Crook County Compensation Committee convened on March 13, 2025, at 4:04 p.m. in the Administration Conference room located at 203 NE Court Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754. The Committee met to approve minutes, interview applicants, and deliberate on making a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners regarding appointment of third member.

Board Members Present: Ronda Sneva and William “Bill” Anderson

Absentees: None

Others Present in Person or Via Zoom: County Manager Will Van Vactor; Executive Assistant Breyanna Cupp; Finance Director Christina Haron; HR Director Meghan Mckee; County Clerk Cheryl Seely; Monty Kurtz; Prineville Review-Justin Alderman; Blaine Noland; Amy; Elsie Ray; Gail Staniford; Don Vogel; Wendy Woodly; Nicole Ontko; and Harrison Moore.

**Public Comment:**

Don Vogel- Would like to address a couple of issues. I feel like I represent most citizens of Crook County and recommend Blaine Noland. The citizens of Crook County spoke up during the election and most recently on the planning commission applicants. Blaine Noland is the best candidate and nothing personal but that’s best for Crook County. We need to maintain customs and culture here. This person needs to be selected on their merit and qualifications.

Gail Staniford- Second what Don said

Nicole Ontko- Second what Don said

Committee Members reviewed the minutes of the March 6, 2025, Meeting

**MOTION** to approve minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Anderson. No discussion. Committee Member Ronda Sneva votes Aye and Committee Member Bill Anderson votes Aye. Motion carried 2-0.

Bill Anderson went over the process of interviewing each applicant for the vacancy on the committee and asked while one is being interviewed if the other would please step outside. Will Van Vactor stated that it a public meeting and they aren’t required to step out but if they want they can. The committee decided to conduct the interviews in alphabetical order. Monty Kurtz interviewed first.

Monty Kurtz answered the interview questions that were prepared by HR Director Meghan Mckee. The interview was completed and Bill Anderson states that in terms of keeping this process fair we will ask the same exact questions to the other applicant.

Monty Kurtz responded to the interview questions prepared by HR Director Meghan McKee. After completing the interview, Bill Anderson emphasized the importance of fairness by stating that the same questions would be posed to the subsequent candidate. Blaine Noland was interviewed next. Ronda acknowledged the thoroughness of Blaine's resume and cover letter, suggesting they could conclude the interview unless he wished to continue. Bill reviewed the questions and noted that most information was already covered in Blaine's application materials. The committee did pose one final question regarding fairness, to which Blaine provided an answer. Ronda concluded that they had gathered sufficient information from the interview.

The committee engaged in discussions to formulate a recommendation for the Board of Commissioners concerning the appointment of a third member. Ronda noted that the cover letter and resume provided comprehensive information about both Monty and Blaine. Bill expressed that he does not find any significant differences between the two candidates, except for public opinion. Ronda emphasized the importance of public perception in her assessment, while Bill reiterated from the previous meeting that Monty's involvement, attendance at meetings, and budget management offer him a deeper understanding of the situation.

Ronda expressed her gratitude to the public for voicing their opinions, as she values the input of the County's residents and appreciates their presence at the meeting today.

**MOTION** to recommend to the board of commissioners the appointment of Blaine Noland to the elected officials compensation committee. Motion seconded by Anderson. No discussion. Committee Member Ronda Sneva votes Aye and Committee Member Bill Anderson votes Aye. Motion carried 2-0.

It was discussed that the recommendation will be added to the March 19th Board of Commissioners agenda and the next steps for the committee.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned the meeting at 4:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Breyanna Cupp