

Union County Board of Commissioners Meeting  
December 13, 2017

Present: Commissioner Steve McClure  
Commissioner Jack Howard  
Commissioner Donna Beverage

Commissioner McClure opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the pledge of allegiance was given with all three commissioners present.

**Public Comments**

**Public Transit Public Comment – Proclamation 2017-01**

Bob Kavanaugh, Union County Chamber of Commerce Director, 207 Depot Street, La Grande, stated that he had worked with Angie Peters and appreciated her focus around the community.

Angie Peters, Northeast Oregon Public Transit Manager, stated that they provide a summer shuttle in Wallowa County and also a link from Joseph to La Grande that offers boarding in Elgin. The Baker Bow route runs through North Powder and transports people to La Grande. There is potential funding to add Summerville and Union to existing routes, leaving Cove as the only community without service. Work is taking place to secure funding for service to Cove, but it would not be available until 2019. 78,000 rides are provided on average per year. The medical transport service is growing and a short-term holiday shopping bus will be offered this year that will service the small communities. The shopping bus will be advertised on the radio, social media, and public venue flyers.

Commissioner McClure stated that rules are still being developed for the new transportation bill that will help fund public transit. Northeast Oregon Public Transit is unique because it is not in a transit district but run by a private non-profit. New funding will help stabilize local public transit. He noted that coordination with EOU has been fantastic and the County has always supported transportation for the County Fair and the Shrine game. He stated that Ms. Peters was doing a fantastic job.

Commissioner Howard stated that the County has been fully invested in public transit and has acknowledged the fact that health resources are stressed without adequate transportation. He hopes the proposed proclamation will be a great first step for northeast Oregon to be recognized as Christmas Country. There are three counties in the transportation system and it offers a perfect conduit to ask the Governor for recognition as an official Christmas County for the State of Oregon. Not enough has been done to advertise local assets during the Christmas season, such as ski resorts. He appreciated that people that cannot afford transportation and are homebound will not be forgotten. He thanked Ms. Peters for establishing the shopping bus program that reaches the smaller communities and people that are homebound.

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of Proclamation 2017-01. Commissioner Beverage seconded.**

Commissioner McClure stated that he appreciates Ms. Peters' work and noted that it is difficult to provide essential transportation services in northeast Oregon.

**Roll call on Proclamation 2017-01: Commissioner Beverage, yes. Commissioner Howard, yes. Commissioner McClure, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Forest Public Comment

John Phillips, 753 N. Gale, Union, asked if Union County was coordinating with Baker County in regards to the forests. He stated that he would like to be involved with the Natural Resources Advisory Committee but cannot due to personal reasons. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is kicking people out of the forest and keeping them from logging, camping, fishing, and hunting.

Commissioner Beverage stated that the Natural Resources Advisory Committee (NRAC) applications are available on the county website. The committee will review plans from other counties before drafting a local plan. An attorney was hired to provide legal guidance on State laws for the plan, but the attorney is not writing the plan.

Commissioner McClure stated that the County needs to have a viable plan in place so that it can be legally implemented with the USFS. He stated that the NRAC will take this seriously and move through the process carefully. The County wants to engage in this process more than it has in the past.

Forest Public Comment

Larry Page, 1405 S. Third, Union, stated that he understood that the person that took Tom Montoya's place has made it quite clear that he doesn't care what anyone says, they are going to do what they want to do. The USFS closed roads in Baker County and then the County made them reopen those roads because they are operating under the 1990 forest revision plan, which is open forests. The 2005 plan was rejected. He does not see how the USFS can do whatever they feel like doing. They are trying to keep people out of the forests. The USFS Supervisor made a public statement that they were 50 years behind on maintenance. He doesn't think taxpayers should have to pay if USFS isn't maintaining the forests.

**Elected Officials, Department Head & Employee Comments**

Search and Rescue (SAR) Building Lease Agreement

Sheriff Boyd Rasmussen stated that a location was identified for a Search and Rescue (SAR) building on property owned by the City of La Grande near the gun range. He presented for the Commissioners' consideration a 99-year lease with the City of La Grande.

Bob Nelson, Search and Rescue Captain, stated that if the lease is approved, they will issue a press release explaining what they are doing and why, as well as to seek additional funding assistance for the building. The proposed building would be constructed in three phases.

Commissioner McClure clarified that the lease would be between the City of La Grande and Union County with SAR as the tenant; Mr. Nelson agreed that was correct. Commissioner McClure asked if SAR would be responsible for maintenance; Mr. Nelson stated that was correct. Mr. Nelson stated that SAR is a private nonprofit. Commissioner McClure stated that the County contracts with other 501(c)3 organizations so this relationship would not be unique.

Commissioner McClure appreciated the City of La Grande's willingness to lease the ground to the County.

Commissioner McClure asked if there was an agreement between SAR and Union County that details how it operates and liability. Mr. Nelson stated that SAR has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Sheriff's office.

Commissioner Howard stated that improvements to the property would automatically belong to the City in the case of a default and asked Mr. Nelson if he was comfortable with clause 10 regarding obligations of termination of lease and full recovery of possessions. Mr. Nelson stated that SAR had quite a bit of discussion about that; they fully understand and are comfortable with it. Commissioner Howard asked what steps SAR is obliged to take to avoid default if they are short on funds. Sheriff Rasmussen stated that they have \$30,000 to start the project and they anticipate more funds in the future. Mr. Nelson stated that they have enough funding to begin the project, but not enough to construct the building. Commissioner Howard stated that his normal instinct is to be weary, but he thinks they are on good ground.

Commissioner McClure noted that the lease allows time for the building to be constructed and an extension can be requested; he felt that the City was being more than generous in their lease terms. Mr. Nelson stated that the City realizes this could be a three year project.

Commissioner Howard asked if legal counsel had reviewed the lease; Mrs. Burgess stated that he had.

Commissioner McClure stated that it was a good location with adequate space to store equipment out of the weather.

Commissioner Beverage was happy SAR found the space they were looking for and also thankful that the City worked with them.

Mr. Nelson stated that they will install a gate to separate their area from the gun range; this will be an advantage for the City in controlling traffic.

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of the lease agreement with the City of La Grande for the Search and Rescue building and authorized the Chairman to enter into the lease on behalf of the County. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Agreement

Val Schlichting, Victims Program Manager, stated that this grant funds the Victims Advocate position, training for a second Victims Advocate and additional funding for a Juvenile Victim Advocate. Funding would also establish a restitution pilot program that would allow offenders to work and do community service; money earned will come out of the Justice Reinvestment Grant to pay victims directly for restitution.

Commissioner McClure asked Ms. Schlichting for more details about the Victims Advocate position. Ms. Schlichting stated that the position provides victims services, walks them through the criminal justice process, ensures that the victim's rights are not violated, enrolls them in

post-conviction notifications, and makes referrals as needed. Commissioner McClure noted that this was a continuation of the current grant agreement.

**Commissioner Beverage moved approval of the Victims of Crime Act grant agreement. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Affordable Housing Tax Proposal

Robin Church, Union County Clerk, stated that she was speaking as a private citizen, not as the County Clerk, in opposition to the Affordable Housing Tax; the Legislature has proposed to increase it by 400%. She believes that no one wants people to be homeless or pay more than they should for housing. This tax would be the same for all property owners in Oregon regardless of the value of their property. One example is a property owner that falls ill and must get a Power of Attorney, that person will pay the fee. When that person passes away, the heirs will deal with the death certificate and pay it again. When the heirs want the deed placed in their names, the fee is paid again. When they sell the property, the fee is paid again. It is a never ending fee and she does not see the State capping it. It is an atrocious abomination against a few citizens of the State. She sees people trying to follow the law and record documents but cannot afford it. Passage of this new tax will bring about more people not recording documents because they cannot afford it and then land records will not be correct.

Commissioner Howard stated that the increase would be significant and asked how the Clerks Association was dealing with it. Commissioner Howard asked if the Clerk's Association had taken an official position. Ms. Church stated that the Clerk's Association opposed it and was beat down badly in the Legislature in the past; the Realtor's Association has told them that if the Clerk's Association opposes it then they will be sued. Commissioner Howard was curious if the Clerk's Association might consider a sliding scale on this type of tax. Ms. Church stated that she did not know how that could be done legally; it is still a tax and the Constitution and Statues say that if you want a tax then you have to take that to a vote of the people. She added that Oregon Housing and Community Services are already getting \$551 million; the Clerks have added \$91 million the last ten years. She stated that this is a lot of money riding on the backs of a few people and there should be an audit before more money is given.

Commissioner McClure asked if the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) had taken a position on this matter. Ms. Church stated that they had not that she was aware of.

Commissioner Beverage stated that she heard in an AOC Legislative meeting that most of the Clerks were against it, but they did not think it was something that AOC would support. Most of the Clerks that they had talked to did not think it was a fair tax.

Commissioner Howard stated that AOC was not leaning away from taking a position, but was waiting to see who opposes it; the Realtors Association and HVA positions will be important. His understanding was that the \$55 increase would not move forward because it represents an arbitrary fee that matches California's increase. There are discussions about whether it should involve specific fees for services recognizing that the Clerk's Offices have not been paid for services. The sliding scale had some attractive reaction.

Ms. Church stated that she had been hearing that the increase will be passed on both sides because the Legislature feels they have enough votes to pass it. Commissioner McClure

asked Ms. Church if she had talked with her State Representatives. Ms. Church stated that she talked with Representative Barreto, who thought it was terrible, and Representative Hansell thanked her for the heads up.

Commissioner McClure asked the Commissioners if they wanted to take a position and write a letter.

Commissioner Howard stated that he did not want to do that and added that this was easy to support in principle but he did not support that rural counties would see no benefit from it. He was not comfortable knowing that funding would come from Housing. He is not seeing any assurance that affordable housing is helped by this process in rural Oregon. He is concerned about the arbitrary nature of copying a California fee without accounting for how it will be programed.

Ms. Church stated that the County would share in the pot with neighboring counties, regardless of the amount of money that Union County has contributed to the program. She stated that Union County has contributed over \$500,000 but only \$600,000 has come back to all of the counties in this area. Commissioner McClure stated that it is a net negative for Union County; Ms. Church agreed.

### **Consent Agenda**

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of the Consent Agenda, which included Claims Journals for November 15, 16, 22, 30; Commission Meeting Minutes from November 29. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **Resolution 2017-18, Adopting Section 3 Plan**

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, stated that there had been discussion at previous meetings to sponsor a Community Development Block Grant for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. In the process of submitting that application, she became aware of some plans that the County does not currently have in place to be eligible for the grant. The Section 3 plan refers to the Federal codes requiring the County to comply with Section 3 regarding employment opportunities funded by the Housing and Urban Development funds that the County would receive for minority and low income businesses. The resolution was reviewed by Becky Baxter from the State of Oregon, Kale Elmer of Community Connections and the County's legal counsel. It details how the County would comply with the requirement and is a good faith effort to engage with eligible individuals. It has a threshold of \$100,000 and it is not likely that individual home improvement projects would qualify under this because they are not at that level, but the County still needs a plan outlining how it would be addressed if those projects qualified. This plan is required for the County and Community Connection would comply with the County's plan.

Commissioner McClure asked what the plan would require if a project was more than \$100,000.

Margaret Davidson, Community Connection Executive Director, stated that if Community Connection needs to hire additional employees to complete the CDBG grant, then they would

have to go through the steps outlined in the plan to recruit specifically targeted populations. The only time it would affect construction contractors is if one is awarded enough jobs that the aggregate was more than \$100,000. That has never happened and is not likely to happen because jobs are spread throughout four counties and the homeowners choose the contractor for their projects.

Commissioner Howard asked if it was sensible to implement data collection provisions regardless of the thresholds. Ms. Davidson stated that she did not have specific information about data collection goals. Commissioner Howard asked if that was something that could be asked; Ms. Davidson stated that it could. Commissioner Howard stated that the goals are laudable regarding capturing selected markets for benefit and advance of opportunity.

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of Resolution 2017-18, Adopting Section 3 Plan. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### Limited English Proficiency Plan

Mrs. Burgess stated that the Union County Oregon Language Access Plan was needed for the Community Development Block grant. It documents the County's current practice in dealing with individuals who do not have English as their first language. The plan is to respond to needs on an as needed basis. The County has a few employees that know some limited Spanish for communication. The County also has access to three individual interpreters, as well as referrals from Eastern Oregon University. She stated that most often individuals that need this service will bring someone with them that they are comfortable with to translate for them. The County commonly uses EOU with their broad resources available. This plan was reviewed by the County's legal counsel and Becky Baxter at the State of Oregon; they indicated that it satisfies the legal requirements under the Federal rules.

Commissioner McClure asked if this was a general plan for the entire County and not specific to the grant; Mrs. Burgess indicated that was correct. She stated that in preparing the plan, departments provided input indicating how often they have needed this service and resources they were using.

Commissioner McClure stated that the County should have a plan like this and felt that the proposed plan was reasonable.

Commissioner Howard stated that this plan is nice to have, but it does not include disabilities access or sign language. In terms of technological adaptability; it would be interesting to develop a policy that allows how the County communicates website information and displays data at terminals. Sign language is routinely overlooked and he wondered what type of hearing assistance would be provided. Mrs. Burgess stated that there had been a few instances where sign language was needed; there are two sign language interpreters on the list of resources as well as a few trained employees at the County. Commissioner Howard stated that the County may want to include ASL and technology in the plan. Mrs. Burgess stated that the County recently received information about ASL and was provided to the County's Information Services Manager because there are thresholds to meet by certain times; he is looking into those requirements and how the County can make sure it is in compliance with those. Commissioner Howard stated that he would like to revisit the topic in three months.

**Commissioner Howard made a motion to adopt the Union County Limited English Proficiency Plan. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Commissioner Howard amended his motion to include 2017 in the plan's title.**

Commissioner Beverage noted that the plan indicates that it will be reviewed annually.

Commissioner Howard stated that he would like to review the plan again in three months.

**Roll Call on the 2017 Union County Limited English Proficiency Plan: Commissioner Beverage, yes. Commissioner Howard, yes. Commissioner McClure, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Regional Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Sub-agreement

Mrs. Burgess stated that this agreement is between Union County and Community Connection for the management of the Housing Rehabilitation Program; it was reviewed by the County's legal counsel.

Margaret Davidson, Community Connection Executive Director, stated that the agreement would continue the relationship that has been in place for at least 15 years and would not change the relationship or how funds are managed. This agreement is for the existing funds from the County that Community Connection is managing on its behalf and is separate from the new CDBG grant.

**Commissioner Beverage moved approval of the Regional Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Sub-agreement. Commissioner Howard seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

4-H & Extension Service District Lease Agreement

Mrs. Burgess stated that the Commissioners would be serving in their role as the 4-H and Extension Service District Board of Directors. She presented for their consideration an office space lease for the Tri-County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) at 10507 N. McAllister, owned by the 4-H and Extension Service District. The two-year lease is \$4,743 per year for 310 sq. ft. of general office space. It was approved by Samantha Bernards on behalf of the Tri-County CWMA.

Commissioner McClure stated that the lease must be in place for the entities to receive a tax benefit. Mrs. Burgess stated that when the 4-H & Extension Service District rents space to another government entity there are no property taxes paid by either entity on the facility.

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of the 4-H & Extension Service District Lease Agreement. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Baum Industrial Property Infrastructure Improvement Agreement, Amendment #2

Mrs. Burgess stated that this project had been ongoing at the Baum Industrial Park; infrastructure has been installed but the road was not paved. An extension was requested through December 2018 to allow the County to obtain additional funds to expand the paving. These are grant funds and the termination date is the only change made to this agreement.

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of Baum Industrial Property Infrastructure Improvement Agreement, Amendment #2 and appointed the Chairman as the designated signatory. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Appointments

**Commissioner Howard made a motion to consolidate all Court Orders as listed under Administrative Matters and to include a waiver of the reading of all but title as listed. Commissioner Beverage seconded.**

Commissioner McClure stated that he had read the Court Orders and was satisfied with the appointments. Commissioner Beverage concurred. Commissioner McClure stated that he appreciated community members that volunteer to serve on advisory committees.

**Roll Call on consolidating Court Orders in one motion: Commissioner Beverage, yes. Commissioner Howard, yes. Commissioner McClure, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Burgess read the following Court Orders by title only:

Court Order 2017-39, Appointments to MERA Motorized Advisory Committee:

Raymond Johnson, term expires December 31, 2020  
Logan McCrae, term expires December 31, 2018

Court Order 2017-40, Appointment to the MERA Non-Motorized Advisory Committee:

Logan McCrae, term expires December 31, 2018

Court Order 2017-41, Appointments to the Union County Health and Human Services Advisory Committee:

Chris Panike, term expires December 31, 2020  
Frankie Thamert, term expires December 31, 2020  
Christopher Evans, term expires December 31, 2021  
Eric Griffith, term expires December 31, 2021

Court Order 2017-42, Reappointment to the Vector Control District Board of Directors:

Shirley Roberts, term expires December 31, 2020

Court Order 2017-43, Reappointment to the Union County Budget Committee:

Stacey Candlish, term expires December 31, 2020

Court Order 2017-44, Reappointments to the Northeast Oregon Economic Development District Board of Directors:

Jack Howard, term expires December 31, 2019  
Donna Beverage, term expires December 31, 2019

Court Order 2017-45, Reappointment to the Wolf Depredation Compensation Committee:

Donna Beverage, term expires December 31, 2020

Court Order 2017-46, Reappointments to the Transient Tax Discretionary Fund Advisory Committee:

Tracy Christopher, term expires December 31, 2020  
Dave Campbell, term expires December 31, 2020

Court Order 2017-48, Appointments to the Northeast Oregon Economic Development District Budget Committee:

John Lackey, term expires December 31, 2020  
Shannon Houck, term expires December 31, 2020

Court Order 2017-49, Reappointment to the 4-H and Extension District Advisory Committee:

Sheldon Heffernan, term expires December 31, 2020

Court Order 2017-50, Appointment to the Union County Fair Association Board of Directors:

Sandie Treadway, term expires December 31, 2021

Court Order 2017-51, Appointments to the Northeast Oregon Housing Authority Board of Directors:

Steve McClure, term expires May 20, 2019  
Nicole Howard, term expires December 13, 2021  
Steve Clements (alternate to Nicole Howard), term expires December 13, 2021

Court Order 2017-52, Appointments to the Ambulance District Advisory Committee:

Scott Abernathy, term expires June 30, 2020  
Deb Stubblefield, term expires June 30, 2020  
Art Rhodes, term expires June 30, 2020

Court Order 2017-53, Reappointment to the Grande Ronde Model Watershed Board of Directors:

Norm Cimon, term expires November 30, 2019

**Commissioner Howard moved approval of Court Orders 2017-39, 2017-40, 2017-41, 2017-42, 2017-43, 2017-44, 2017-45, 2017-46, 2017-48, 2017-49, 2017-50, 2017-51, 2017-52, and 2017-53. Commissioner Beverage seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC HEARING: Appeal of Planning Commission Decision – Luke Hines of LJH Construction**

Commissioner McClure opened the public hearing. He stated that Luke Hines/LJH Construction, the appellant, requested an extension to 11:30 a.m.; the meeting and public hearing will reconvene at that time. He stated that the extension was granted as a courtesy to the appellant.

Commissioner McClure recessed the meeting and public hearing until 11:30 a.m.

Commissioner McClure stated that the public hearing on November 29, 2017 was postponed so that Mr. Hines and representatives of Union County would have time to tour the site and consider an acceptable agreement.

Scott Hartell, Planning Director, joined the meeting via conference phone.

Doug Wright, Public Works Director, stated that Scott Hartell, Planning Director was ill and unable to attend the site tour. Mr. Wright stated that he met in the office to discuss options with Joe Valek, Lori Hines, Luke Hines, and Brett Moore; they also completed a site tour. He reviewed the site plan from the Planning Commission as well as approved plans for LJH Construction's site. As a group they looked at ways to make it work with the best outcome for everyone. They measured from the edge of the building to the edge of the ditch; the building is in the 20 foot path, but then the ditch starts and the new road project came along. Prior to the site tour, Mr. Hines painted marks indicating where he would like culverts; he would like an 80 foot entrance in addition to 80 feet in front of the building for parking and another 50 feet on the other side where a transformer is located. Diagonal parking cannot be allowed because it would be in the right-of-way. They looked at potential parallel parking along the building, but the location of the transformer would create a problem for vehicles exiting the parking lot. The conclusion was to consider allowing 80 foot entrance, 80 feet in front of the building, and 50 feet on the other side by the transformer; this plan was agreeable to all parties. The cost of the culverts was not agreed upon. The Public Works standard policy is for businesses to get a work in right-of-way permit; it is a standing agreement that the permittee wanting access will purchase the culvert and the County approves where it is located.

Mr. Wright asked how the agreed upon terms would fit in with the overall plan that is currently at the Baum Industrial Park.

Mr. Hartell stated that the Zoning Ordinance and Industrial Park's performance maintenance standards document indicate that 50 feet is the maximum standard. Mr. Hartell stated that if there was consideration to increase that standard, he would recommend that it be taken back through the Planning Commission so that more research could be done to compare to other counties. If it is determined that an increase to the access approach is needed then it should be done as an ordinance and with a recommendation from the Planning Commission to adopt changes to the existing ordinance. Commissioner McClure asked how long that would take. Mr. Hartell stated that it could take two to three weeks to collect adequate information from other counties and make reasonable comparisons; an additional month may be needed after that to have it reviewed by the Planning Commission.

Commissioner McClure stated that in order for the Commission to allow that amount of time for further research, the appellant would need to grant an abeyance on the 120 day rule.

Commissioner McClure asked who would pay for the culverts. Mr. Wright stated that culverts are usually part of a project, but this situation is different because the locations of access points are unknown; usually the project pays for the culverts. He stated that he and Commissioner Beverage looked at those costs for the next phase of the road project.

Luke Hines stated that he would be satisfied waiting for culverts to be completed in the next phase as long as the ditch is not dug now. He stated that it was still unclear if the County could clean a culvert longer than 50 feet and wondered if that issue would need to be taken to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner McClure stated that Mr. Hines had two choices to consider: grant an abeyance and continue the local process, or, if the Commission denies the appeal, then he can appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals. Mr. Hines stated that he wanted it to be as simple and easy as possible and would prefer to resolve it locally.

Commissioner Beverage stated that the responsibility to clean culverts that are more than 50 feet long remained unclear.

Mr. Wright stated that it is more difficult to clean culverts longer than 50 feet and that the County would need to look at the future of the Industrial Park as a whole to determine the total number of culverts. Smaller lots could end up with multiple culverts, and regardless of how many culverts are installed, a vac truck is the only way to be effective in cleaning culverts. The lay of the land is another factor to consider; natural erosion and flatness can cause the culverts to plug up. He stated that he was willing to concede to get what Mr. Hines needs and would be good for his business, but it also sets precedence for the rest of the park. The question is how to best solve this problem now and with future businesses.

Commissioner McClure stated that the Industrial Park belongs to the County and the County wants tenants. He doesn't want rules that will limit opportunities for tenants. Needs should be accommodated in a reasonable fashion. He does not want to try to sell to potential businesses with restrictions that make it an unviable piece of industrial property. He stated that he understands Public Works' challenges to clean culverts but there may be a solution for that. He is afraid that if the County places stringent restrictions on the property, it will create problems as it is developed. Mr. Wright agreed that he did not want to place rigid restrictions on it either.

Commissioner Howard stated that the process that the Commissioners were dealing with was to make a decision in regards to the appeal and whether or not to refer the issue back to the Planning Commission. He stated that he understood the importance of a vac truck, but it would not be part of the record for decision.

Commissioner McClure stated that if Mr. Hines was willing to keep the process local, then the County will take the time to do it right. The County needs to consider options for the Industrial Park that include long term consequences. The County needs to be flexible not knowing who future tenants are. He appreciated Mr. Hines' patience in the process and asked if he would agree to keep it in abeyance. During that time, the County will do more research through the Planning Commission. He would prefer that the issue be resolved locally; it is unfortunate that this has happened the way it did, but the County still has to deal with it.

Commissioner Beverage concurred with Commissioner McClure. She would not like to create a hindrance for businesses to locate at the Industrial Park. She thinks this would be a good time to consider changing the ordinance before paving is completed.

Commissioner Howard asked Mr. Hines if he was willing to put it on record that he would keep it in abeyance. Mr. Hines stated that he would keep it in abeyance and currently has plenty of access to his acreage as long as digging doesn't continue.

Commissioner McClure asked Mr. Hines if he was willing to set aside the 120 day rule; Mr. Hines stated that he was.

Commissioner McClure suggested that the County put it on abeyance for time and send it back to the Planning Commission for more information.

**Commissioner Howard made a motion to place the appeal on abeyance pending further information from the Planning Commission. Commissioner Beverage seconded.**

Mr. Wright stated that in discussions with Brett Moore of Anderson Perry, the plan is to pave the road next year. Commissioner McClure stated that a one year extension was approved to finish the project.

Mr. Wright stated that it is important to remember the Hines' businesses are bringing 31 jobs to the table and he commends them for doing that. It brings economic development to our community. He wants to solve this problem while following the process.

**Roll Call on placing the LJH Construction appeal in abeyance; Commissioner Beverage, yes. Commissioner Howard, yes. Commissioner McClure, yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

MC closed the public hearing.

**Next Meeting and Location**

The next regular Commission meeting is scheduled to take place at the Joseph Annex Building on January 3, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner McClure adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorcinda Johnston  
Sr. Dept. Specialist II