

Union County Board of Commissioners Meeting  
June 25, 2008

Present: Commissioner R. Nellie Bogue Hibbert  
Commissioner Colleen MacLeod  
Commissioner Steve McClure

Call to Order

Chairman Hibbert called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with all three commission members present.

FY 2008-09 Union County 4-H & Extension District Budget Hearing

Resolution 2008-12, In the Matter of Adopting the Budget, Appropriating Funds Levying Ad Valorem Taxes, and Categorizing Taxes, for the Union County 4-H and Extension Service District for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 was presented for consideration. Carole Smith, Secretary 4-H and Union County Extension Service District, stated that there was one change done to the budget since the last meeting which would increase the proposed budget by \$20,000. There is a special group of funds that was not included in the first budget that was shown. It is special donation money that Paul Esther received for research property out of Elgin. It was \$20,000 that is held separate in the County to build an educational building on the property. The building is currently being built and the funds will be expended within the year. Carole gave the Commissioners a spreadsheet so they could see the new break down of the budget. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Resolution 2008-12. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

FY 2008-09 Union County Budget Hearing

Resolution 2008-13, In the Matter of Adopting the Budget, Appropriating Funds Levying Ad Valorem Taxes, and Categorizing Taxes, for Union County for the Fiscal Year 2008-09 was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess, Executive Secretary, explained that there are two changes to the budget since the budget hearing that is being proposed. The first change is in the A & T user fund where there was originally \$5,000 in the fund to be spent on materials and services for imaging software and maintenance and after further discussion with the Assessor and County Clerk it was thought to be more appropriate to show the expenditures in the Assessors budget. So the proposed changes are to change the \$5,000 expenditure from a materials and services to a transfer into the Assessors budget and it will be spent there. The second change proposed is from the Clerk's equipment reserve fund there is \$5,000 that was under materials and services needs to be transferred to the Clerk's budget. The \$5,000 is also for their imaging software. By making those two adjustments in those two funds does require the Commissioners to adjust the appropriation in the general fund increasing it by \$10,000 to reflect that additional revenue. **Commissioner**

**McClure moved approval of Resolution 2008-13. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

FY 2008-09 Union County Solid Waste District Budget Hearing

Resolution 2008-14, In the Matter of Adopting the Union County Solid Waste District Budget 2008-09 was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess, Executive Secretary, explained that this budget is presented as published and there are no changes. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Resolution 2008-14. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Major Partition Plat

Greg Blackman, Bagett, Griffith & Blackman, presented a plat for a partition on glass hill. The Commissioners signatures are needed because there had to be an extension of a road easement and road improvement for Forest Capital. It has been listed as an easement rather than a dedication. All other needed approvals and signatures have been obtained. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of the major partition plat as presented. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

CCF Funding Recommendations

Vicky Brogoitti, Commission on Children and Families Director, explained that she has a funding recommendation for contracts for FY 2008-09. The Commission has \$108,421 in a variety of grant streams that were available to allocate. Vicky gave the Commissioners the allocation of the grants. Patrick Knight, Commission Chair, proposed a funding formula because they were over requested by \$9,000. Vicky is requesting that a letter of appreciation be sent to Patrick Knight's employer which is Oregon Department of Transportation and a letter to Patrick Knight. The process was to score each of the applications that were submitted and it was part of the decision along with a formula. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the funding recommendations as presented. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Healthy Start Contract

Vicky Brogoitti, Director of Commission on Children and Families, stated that she was notified by Oregon Health and Sciences University School of Nursing that they would not continue to provide home visiting services beyond June 30, 2008. Commission staff and Healthy Start staff started a process to identify potential new umbrella organizations under which healthy start services could continue. It is the Commission's recommendation at this time that the Mt. Emily Safe Center be the umbrella organization under which healthy start home visiting continues. In addition to a letter from Mt. Emily Safe Center board that states they are willing to take on Healthy Start home visiting is the proposed budget from FY2008-09.

Healthy start funds are dedicated funds and cannot be used for any other purpose. The process for allocating these funds is different because the program comes up with a proposed budget. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Healthy Start contract between Commission on Children and Families and Mt. Emily Safe Center. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

**The June 5 and 12 claims journal, June 4 public works claims journal, and April 16 and 28, May 7 and 21 Board of Commissioners Minutes were approved as presented on the consent agenda.**

Solid Waste Transportation Agreement Amendment

Resolution 2008-15, Amendment to "Independent Contractor Solid Waste Transportation Agreement" for a Fuel Adjustment was presented for consideration. Hanley Jenkins II, Planning Director, received a letter from City Garbage Service concerning the increased fuel costs associated with the transportation of garbage. The agreement that Union County has with Waste Pro to transport garbage to the dump through the transfer station states adjustments are eligible when fuel prices exceed 25% of the initial bid for costs on July 15, 2006 assuming a fuel price of \$2.40. When the 25% is taken it would raise the fuel cost to \$3.00 and the fuel exceeded \$3.00 beginning in November of 2007. Waste Pro came to the County and asked to incorporate an adjustment. Waste Pro will calculate a fuel adjustment monthly that will be added to the current transportation fee which is based on per ton of solid waste that is hauled to the landfill. This charge is reflected on the monthly billing to each user of the transfer station. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Resolution 2008-15. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Solid Waste Fuel Adjustment Fee

Resolution 2008-16, In the Matter of Adopting the Opportunity to Charge a Fuel Adjustment Fee for On-Route Solid Waste Collection in Unincorporated Union County, Oregon was presented for consideration. This is the adjustment in fuel costs that will be relayed to each customer that is part of an on-route system with City Garbage. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Resolution 2008-16. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Transferring Appropriated Funds

Court Order 2008-34, In the Matter of Transferring Appropriated Funds was presented for consideration. Marlene Perkins, Administrative Officer, explained that every year the budget is gone through and any areas that were appropriated in the previous fiscal years budget that have been over spent by the way they were appropriated needs to have money moved to cover those. **Commissioner**

**MacLeod moved approval of Court Order 2008-34. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Appropriating Unanticipated Funds

Court Order 2008-33, In the Matter of Appropriating Unanticipated Funds was presented for consideration. Marlene Perkins, Administrative Officer, explained that these funds have become available from the Federal Aviation Administration to improve the runways. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2008-33. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Appropriating Unanticipated Funds

Court Order 2008-35, In the Matter of Appropriating Unanticipated Funds was presented for consideration. Marlene Perkins, Administrative Officer, explained that these funds are from the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission for Drug Court services. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2008-35. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Canceling Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes

Court Order 2008-31, In the Matter of Cancellation of Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes presented for consideration. Marlene Perkins, Administrative Officer, stated there is a motion of the tax collector and the District Attorney that personal property taxes are delinquent and wholly uncollectable. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Court Order 2008-31. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mill Creek Culvert Amendment

Marlene Perkins, Administrative Officer, stated that the amendment is the second amendment to the Federal Aviation Administration for Mill Creek Culvert for \$61,000 for permitting done by Anderson Perry. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the Mill Creek Grant Amendment 2. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consulting Services Authorization

Marlene Perkins, Administrative Officer, stated that this authorization will allow Will Warner to consult with Union County on the acquisition of the La Grande Airport property. There were some difficulties with the previous consultant and this consultant was found to replace the current one. Union County's lawyer, Brandon Erye, looked over the contract and he approved the contents of the contract. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of the authorization of consulting services with Will Warner. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Elgin Health District

Court Order 2008-30, In the Matter of an Order Calling for an Election on the Formation of an Elgin Health District, Election of Board and Establishment of a Tax Rate was presented for consideration. Shelley Burgess, Executive Secretary, explained that in March there was a petition from residents within the Elgin School District for formation of a health district. That petition has been processed in accordance with ORS 198 and a public hearing was held on May 7, 2008. In that public hearing the petition was considered and adopted an order that established the boundaries that were requested which were the same as the Elgin School District. There was notice given of the public hearing twice in three places as required by ORS 198. The next step was a publication of a notice for a final hearing which is done and this is the final hearing. If the proposed Court Order is adopted than the question would be referred to the voters in November. Kathleen Cathey explained that Carmen Gentry, Mayor of Elgin, has been heading up a committee that has been working on the development of the Elgin Health District. Carmen and the committee have raised \$93,500 and are within \$30,000 of their goal. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of Court Order 2008-30. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Union county Zoning, Partition, and Subdivision Ordinance Amendment

Ordinance 2008-02, In the matter of adopting amendments to the Union County Zoning, Partition, and Subdivision Ordinance Article 25 land division regulations was presented for consideration. Hanley Jenkins II, Planning Director, brought before the Commissioners a proposal to amend the portion of the Union County Zoning, Partition, and Subdivision Ordinance that pertains to the ability to divide land which is the partitioning and subdivision section of the Ordinance. The legislature adopted HB 3629 which initiated this amendment. There was also an issue raised by the County Assessor who was concerned about when a map is drawn for a partition or boundary line adjustment of land and when it should be recorded. State law states that Counties may authorize partitions of land for parcels greater than 80 acres in size by simply writing a description of the parcels which was being done by Union County because it was thought to be less expensive. It is more difficult for the Assessor to check a written description than to check a map. The change in the Ordinance would require all the divisions as well as boundary line adjustments to be mapped instead of those greater than 80 acres only being described. There is no added cost to the land owner.

Hanley explained that the next change is providing an opportunity for something other than a cul-de-sac at the end of a dead end road. The Ordinance now requires a cul-de-sac that is the right of way and a surface large enough for rural fire protection district trucks to turn around in. The City of La Grande and a few other jurisdictions are effectively using a hammerhead turn around. The Planning Commission has granted several variances to allow people use the hammerheads. The Planning Commission's concern is that the hammerhead turn around will become a parking lot for residence living at the end of those roads.

The Planning Commission's recommendation is that there would be "Fire Lane No Parking" signs put at the corners when someone is authorized to build a hammerhead. There will be a second reading of this Ordinance will be on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at 10:00 in the Commissioners Annex Conference room.

Elgin Rural Fire Protection District Annexation Petition

Court Order 2008-32, In the Matter of Adopting an Amendment to the Elgin Rural Fire Protection District Boundary was presented for consideration. Hanley Jenkins II, Planning Director, explained that there are two applications for two parcels that are next to each other and next to the existing Elgin Rural Fire Protection District. There was an Annexation request received on May 21, 2008 from Gene Hardy. Gene signed the appropriate form for the Department of Revenue acknowledging that he will be paying taxes to the Rural Fire Protection District as well as Rural Fire Protection from the State Forestry. There was a letter received on May 1, 2008 from the Elgin Rural Fire Protection District agreeing to the annexation of the two proposed parcels. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Court Order 2008-32. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Union Health Clinic and District

Walt Brookshire, president of Cove, Union, North Powder (CUP) medical association, and Terry Edvalson, volunteer staff with the CUP medical association, stated that they would like the Commissioners support for their proposal to seek a health district for the medical association. Walt explained that there was a budget analysis done of the clinic by the CUP board of directors. CUP partnered with Oregon Health and Sciences University (OHSU) to start a clinic in Union to serve the surrounding communities. OHSU now has to leave the partnership and will no longer be a part of the clinic. Starting a tax district to fund the clinic is the most stable way to provide the funds. Terry explained that CUP's plan is to be on the March election to form the district. CUP is going to apply for several grants to pay for the election process and the formation of the rural health district and any other transitional funding that is needed. The CUP Board has representation from all of the communities. Terry explained that CUP is requesting funds for the cost of the election. Robin Church, Union County Clerk, estimated that the cost of the election will be \$1,000. Commissioner McClure explained that the request has to be taken before the Discretionary Fund Advisory Committee for the funds before it can be approved. There is an application that needs to be filled out and taken to the Discretionary Fund Advisory Committee before a decision can be made.

Wallowa Whitman National Forest Year End Report

Steve Ellis, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Supervisor and Tannis Hester, Assistant shared a slide show on the recent projects and activities done concerning the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

Planning Department Fee Schedule (Cont.)

Resolution 2008-10, In the Matter of Union County Land Use Regulation Application Fee Amendments was presented for consideration. Hanley Jenkins II, Planning Director, explained that this Resolution is concerning the fees that are assessed for various applications in the Planning Department. Hanley gave the Commissioners a list of the fees that adjoining counties charge for their applications. Most of the adjoining counties still charge a higher rate after Union County raises its rates. Hanley explained that for some applications the fee that is charged will not cover the publication costs. The surrounding counties are charging similar amounts that are proposed by the Union County Planning Department. Hanley explained to the Commissioners what the charges cover and compared them to the amounts that the other counties are charging.

**Commissioner McClure moved approval of Resolution 2008-10.  
Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm  
Department Specialist