

Union County Board of Commissioners Meeting
September 3, 2008

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

Call to Order

Chairman Hibbert called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with all three commission members present.

Northeast Oregon Business Development

Lisa Dawson, Director of Northeast Oregon Economic Development District, stated that the Northeast Oregon Business Development is a nonprofit organization that provides loans to businesses in Baker, Union, and Wallowa Counties. They are in the process of raising funds for additional funds in the loan pool. Lisa asked if the Counties would be willing to provide funding support for an application to USDA for the funds to loan to businesses. There has to be matching funds in order to make an application. Lisa gave the Commissioners a detailed list of loans taken and given from the Northeast Oregon Business Development. Commissioner Hibbert explained that there is a district meeting on September 11, 2008 for the Commissioners from the different Counties and she agreed to bring this before them at their meeting.

Weed Control

Bob Kelly, Public Works Assistant Director, requested approval for the Union County Weed Advisory Committee to use \$30,000 from the weed fund to support the fall Yellowstar Thistle and Napweed Cooperative Agreement Program. In this program the cost of materials are provided and the property owners are responsible for the application costs. **Commissioner McClure moved approval of the request for \$30,000 for the Yellowstar Thistle and Napweed Cooperative Agreement Program. Commissioner MacLeod seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Communications Tower & Building Bid Award

J.B. Brock, Emergency Services Officer, presented the Commissioners with the award of the informal solicitation of proposals for the Mt. Emily Communications Tower and Building. There were five proposals received for the building and five proposals for the tower. The evaluation was based on cost, experience with communications building, quality of materials, and the projected date of completion. There were two separate proposals. There were five proposals received for the tower foundation and the low proposal was Gyllenberg Construction at \$41,000. They provided a work history that sited multiple towers and they had an acceptable completion date. J.B. recommended accepting the low bid of Gyllenberg Construction. The communications building low bid was

J&H Construction at \$48,181.51 but there was no experience in communications buildings in their work history. J.B. recommended rejecting the low bid because of the lack of experience. The second lowest proposal was James Challis Construction at \$53,280. There was a work history that included multiple communications both towers and buildings. The completion date is acceptable. J.B. recommended accepting the proposal of James Challis Construction. Legal council was sought about not accepting the lowest bid and because of the guidelines that were established in the solicitation proposals it is acceptable to reject the lowest bid and accept the next lowest bid of James Challis Construction. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the recommendation to award the foundation proposal to Gyllenberg Construction and the communications building to James Challis Construction. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Consent Agenda

The August 13 claims journal (FY 2007-08), August 14, 18 and 21 claims journal (FY 2008-09), August 13 and 20 public works claims journal (FY 2008-09) were approved as presented on the consent agenda.

STF Funding Recommendation

Shelley Burgess, Administrative Officer, explained to the Commissioners that the Special Transportation Fund (STF) funding is received from the State Public Transit Department generated from cigarette taxes for transportation services for elderly and people with disabilities. There is an application process that is done every year. There is an STF Advisory committee that reviews the proposals and makes the recommendation to the Commissioners. There were four proposals received from CHD, Community Connections, Elgin Edge, and New Day Enterprises. The committee met on August 22, 2008 and reviewed all of the proposals. There is only \$44,000 available and the requests were almost double that amount. The committee deliberated on the services provided and are recommending funding CHD with \$7,903, Community Connections with \$21,821, Elgin Edge with \$4,395, and New Day Enterprises with \$10,000. The committee looked at the number of individuals that were served by the different providers and the level of other funds that the agencies were able to leverage with the funding that was contributed. **Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of the STF Advisory Committee funding recommendations for FY 2008-09. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Road Hazard Hearing (Rasmussen)

Court Order 2008-39, In the matter of declaration of a road hazard and an order for abatement was presented for consideration. Richard Comstock, Public Works Director, stated that there were some complaints filed about water being sprayed on Market Lane from Dennis Rasmussen's property. Richard attempted to

contact Dennis with a certified letter as directed by legal council. The certified letter was returned with no signature so a certified letter was sent to his attorney. The letter told him that there would be a hearing discussing the issue of the water being sprayed onto Market Lane. Dennis talked to Commissioner McClure about the matter and pointed out that there has been some modifications to his equipment so it will not spray onto the road.

Commissioner McClure explained that the first letter was to notify them that they were in violation by spraying the water on the road and it needed to be fixed, but because there was no response the next step was taken to call a hearing. There are pictures that show the water is coming onto the road from the pivot.

Commissioner McClure explained that this Court Order would give Union County the authority to go onto the property and make the corrections and bill the property owner for the cost of the repairs. If the corrections would have to be made by Union County the cost of the corrections would have to be brought before the Commissioners for approval at that time and order the property owner to reimburse Union County. Commissioner MacLeod moved approval of Court Order 2008-39. Commissioner McClure seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Wilhelm
Department Specialist