

**MINUTES**  
**UMATILLA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Board of Commissioners' Meeting of January 16, 2013

9:00 a.m., Room 114, County Courthouse

Pendleton, Oregon

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**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Larry Givens, Chairman; Dennis Doherty, Commissioner

**COUNTY COUNSEL:** Doug Olsen

**MEMBERS & GUESTS PRESENT:** Bob Patterson, City of Pendleton Public Works Director; Robb Corbett, City of Pendleton Manager; Jerry Baker, Umatilla County Commissioner Position 1 Candidate; Bob Heffner, Umatilla County Budget Officer; Bob Stoltz, Umatilla County Print Shop Manager; Jack Esp, Umatilla County Commissioner Position 1 Candidate; Phil Wright, East Oregonian reporter; Paul Chalmers, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Director; John McCullough, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Department Appraiser; Les Kannier, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Department Appraiser; Patrick Smith, US Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services Specialist; Mark Kirsch, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Randy Mills, OSU Extension Livestock Agent; Bobby Corey, Cunningham Sheep Property Manager; Dan Lonai, Umatilla County Administrative Services Director; Connie Caplinger, Umatilla County Executive Assistant; Mark Royal, Umatilla County Community Corrections Director; Mark McLeod, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Appraiser; Shirley Winburn, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Office Manager; Cindy Anderson, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Office Assistant; Rick Pullen, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Appraisal Administrator; Terry Schuening, Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Appraiser; Bill Thornburg Umatilla County Assessment and Taxation Appraiser; Homer Peterson, COHO Inc Owner; Bill Hansell, Oregon Senator, District 29; Neil Brown, City of Pendleton Councilor; Larry Nye, constituent; Eli Stephens, Pendleton Tea Party Patriots; Tom Glover, Walla Walla Community Development Association; Tom Watson, Oregon Sheep Producers; Karin Watson, Oregon Sheep Producers; Cheryl Cosner, Upper Dry Creek Ranch co-owner; Robert Cosner, Upper Dry Creek Ranch co-owner

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. Chairman Givens reminded all present that the meeting is a public forum.

**BUSINESS ON AGENDA**

**Employee of the Month: Commissioner Doherty read the resolution selecting Les Kannier the Employee of the Month for January 2013 and moved adoption of that resolution. Commissioner Givens seconded. The motion carried 2-0.**

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the December 19, 2012 meeting were still in process as of the time of this meeting.

**Additions to Agenda:**

1. Xerox Documate Scanner 4830
2. Accept Fair Bd resignation
3. Appointment to STF Committee
4. Recommendation for wolf compensation grant awards

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Authorization of payment to M. Terrill Thomas (Wolf Depredation Payment) - \$13,307.62
2. Waive the hiring freeze and authorize recruitment and hire for Nurse Family Partnership RN
3. Approve payment to Papé Machinery – Ag Exchange - \$1571.89
4. Approve contribution to Hermiston Senior Center - \$2000
5. Advance per diem for Rick Pullen

**Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the consent agenda as presented with the addition of the advance per diem for Rick Pullen. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.**

**Agenda Items:**

1. **Supplemental Budgets (Public Hearing):** Commissioner Givens opened the public hearing at 9:11 a.m. Bob Heffner provided the staff report as below. When the staff report was complete, the chair opened the floor to public comment at 9:15 a.m. No public comment was offered and the floor was closed at 9:15 a.m.

- a. **Fair Improvement Fund, Budget Order 2013-24:** Bob Hefner reported that the supplemental budget resulted from the sale of the fairgrounds and the IGA for transfer of funds which required an increase to effect the transfer of the sales proceeds, plus accrued interest. **Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of a resolution adopting a supplemental budget pursuant to ORS 294473 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, moved adoption of Budget Order 2013-24. Commissioner Givens seconded. The motion carried 2-0.**

b. **Foreclosed property fund, Budget Order 2013-25**: Bob Hefner reported that the program required a \$35,000 increase resulting from significantly higher sales of properties. **Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of a resolution adopting a supplemental budget pursuant to ORS 294.473 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, moved adoption of Budget Order 2013-25. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.**

c. **Youth Investment Program, Budget Order 2013-26**: The program had a higher than anticipated cash carry-over of grant funds, which are not subject to return to the general fund, from the previous year which must be account in the materials and services line. **Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of a resolution adopting a supplemental budget pursuant to ORS 294.471 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, moved adoption of Budget Order 2013-26. Commissioner Givens seconded. The motion carried 2-0.**

Commissioner Givens closed the hearing at 9:18 a.m.

2. **Budget transfer (1)**:

a. **Public Health GF, Budget Order 2013-29**: Bob Hefner reported that changes in state grants were made affecting operations for the program. Connie Caplinger added that this supplemental budget adjustment was necessary periodically because they're related to a time study required for the grant stream continuance. That study resulted in restructuring of the grants, usually on a monthly basis. **Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of making a transfer of appropriations pursuant to ORS 294.463 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, moved adoption of Budget Order 2013-29. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.**

3. **Authorization of cash match payment for the OEA grant LRA \$9947.20**: Connie Caplinger on introducing the topic, announced that the pinkies for meeting agendas were accessible on the county website. She provided a brief history of the LRA and explanation of the cash match requirement for the grant. Each of the member agencies, listed in the history, was to share in the cash match. The fund source for the grant was ultimately the Department of Defense through the Office of Economic Adjustment for administration and implementation of reuse authorities' plans for former bases. **Commissioner Doherty moved that the Board approve the payment of \$9947.20 as the county's share of the cash match. Commissioner Givens seconded, commenting that the depot property was the only 20,000 acres not yet zoned in the state of Oregon. The motion carried 2-0.**

4. **Reauthorize HB2001 road projects**: Bob Patterson presented the list and history of the projects using the HB2001 funds and provided maps to the commissioners to use. Those roads in blue showed the already expended funding parts. The original authorization included Stage Gulch and Daniel Roads. The city reviewed the process of expending funds and proposed to

extend Stage Gulch north to the Pinkerton property while trying to pull away from the ¼ mile of Stage Gulch and Daniel to create a loop through the project. The city still had approximately \$1.3 million to be expended in 2013. They were asking for the county's support first and then would go to ODOT on February 7th for its endorsement.

Commissioner Givens asked if the city was still taking jurisdiction of portions of Stage Gulch and Daniels. Bob Patterson replied that the city was taking jurisdiction for the paved portions of those roads, but that the gravel portions would still be the county's responsibility.

Commissioner Doherty asked if the city needed to expend the funds by the end of the 2013 fiscal year or calendar year. Bob Patterson responded that the funds needed to be expended by the end of the calendar year.

Commissioner Doherty commented that the original improvements on Stage Gulch and Daniels were undertaken with the expectation that there would be impact on the two roads and that if and when those roads needed improvement, the Board felt that the city should carry that responsibility. Bob Patterson stated that Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) required that when the city improved the road, it would become the city's responsibility. He went on, stating that the process would be to build out the roads as development took place.

Commissioner Givens stated that he preferred that city move forward and take jurisdiction of those portions. Bob Patterson replied that the county was set up to maintain gravel and city was set up to maintain paving and that in the past the two jurisdictions had swapped maintenance responsibility, depending upon the road surface no matter whose jurisdiction the road fell under.

Commissioner Doherty asked how long the proposed change would be. Bob Patterson stated it would be ¾ of a mile and that any monies left would extend the road as far as it would take them.

Commissioner Doherty asked about the condition of the remainder of the road. Bob Patterson answered that it was installed when Airport Road was put in. He pointed out that the red section of Stage Gulch was priority 1 with the second priority being 49<sup>th</sup>, the third was Northwest B, but that the city would not know how far the funds would stretch until the bids were received. Commissioner Doherty asked for the distance of county road involved. Bob Patterson replied that it was about a ½ mile.

Commissioner Doherty asked for a cost estimate for that portion if it were done according to the original agreement. Bob Patterson answered that it would be roughly \$500,000 to \$600,000. Commissioner Doherty pointed out that the county might end up needing to pave the remainder eventually. Bob Patterson explained that the onus for paving the remainder of the road would be on the developers.

Commissioner Doherty asked for the best way to ensure that the paving remained the developers' responsibility. Bob Patterson commented that he believed there were triggers in the MOA. He was asking to move funds to the eastern part of park where the greatest probability of development was. The MOA had jurisdictional language relative to the improvement and the trigger to change the jurisdiction.

Commissioner Doherty commented that he wanted the best business plan available for the project. The only catch would be if Stage Gulch and Daniels would need to be paved. He would want to document that understanding.

Robb Corbett asked which understanding would need to be documented. Commissioner Doherty replied the requirement that developers would pave the road. Robb Corbett suggested that could be made part of the decision.

Doug Olsen pointed out that a 2009 amendment proposed to memorialize the planned process. Commissioner Doherty stated he was hesitant to act until the Board had the opportunity to talk with Tom Fellows. Doug Olsen commented that any reallocation would be predicated on the transfer of jurisdiction at that point.

Commissioner Doherty commented that the condition was to ensure that the city was in a better position to make sure of the arrangements. Bob Patterson explained that the city's issue was that it was not equipped to maintain a gravel road. Commissioner Doherty replied that he did not think the county would be opposed to maintaining the road.

Robb Corbett stated that he would need to go back to council to get its agreement to that condition. Bob Patterson reminded the Board that the transfer of jurisdiction would affect the county's allocation through the state funding formula. Commissioner Doherty stated that he simply would prefer that whatever was worked out would be done in one document.

Commissioner Givens stated that he would prefer that the details be worked out with Tom Fellows and that the city take jurisdiction and work out a written agreement on the maintenance of the roads.

Commissioner Givens stated that the Board would wait to learn the city council's preference before acting. Robb Corbett commented that there could be a timing problem because the city had to have support for the proposal for the NEACT meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, if it was not acceptable to the Board where the city took jurisdiction of a portion of Stage Gulch and the county maintained Daniels, then he would need to take the counter to the council.

Commissioner Doherty asked when he could present the counter to city council. Robb Corbett stated that the next city council meeting was set for February 5<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Doherty did not

want to crowd the deadline for submission of the proposal to NEACT and suggested that the Board send Doug Olsen, Robb Corbett and Bob Patterson to craft a conditional motion and bring it back at the end of the meeting. Doug Olsen suggested that the board could craft a motion to take jurisdiction on Stage Gulch and maintain Daniels to be taken to city council, triggering the approval at that point. That motion and could be ready by the January 30<sup>th</sup> administrative meeting as there was already a draft of the amendment available.

5. **Extend new position – Temporary Probation Officer I or II** : Mark Royal presented the request for the extension of a previously approved temporary position, which was prompted by the simultaneous medical leave status for both Hermiston probation officers. One of them returned to work on Monday and the other was expected to return in February. Mark Royal proposed to extend the temporary position to the end of June. The current temporary had been a previous employee. The rationale for extending the position to June 30<sup>th</sup> was the workload and the opportunity to implement a day reporting program in response to an increase in gang activity in the Hermiston area.

Commissioner Doherty commented that the status of the temporary position would affect the collective bargaining agreement, because the term would cross the 6 month threshold before June 30<sup>th</sup>. Connie Caplinger stated that human resources could get an agreement with the union regarding that and that the board could craft a motion such that it could approve the extension of the position conditional upon union consent. Mark Royal offered to work with the union in order to obtain the agreement. **Commissioner Doherty moved that the board approve Community Corrections' request to extend the temporary position through June 30, 2013 subject to union concurrence. If union concurrence was not obtained, the request must return to the board. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.**

6. **Approve payment of \$4750 to Soler Production Company for booth set up**: Hulette Johnson reported that the annual bill presented by the contractors who originally were engaged by Pendleton Woolen Mills for the set up of the booth at state fair was reduced because the company only did the set up for the fair since the gear was stored at the fairgrounds in the Jackman-Long Building. The bill presented was their final bill. The equipment was traditionally transported from Portland for a cost of about \$7500. He reported that the state fair staff would set up the booth this year to reduce cost and time needed. Commissioner Doherty commented that he understood that the company reduced the amount, because the county had been asked to pay for services already rendered previously. **Commissioner Doherty moved to approve payment to Soler in the amount of \$4750 for booth set up at state fair last fall. Commissioner Givens seconded. The motion carried 2-0.**

7. **Routine purchases/payables for service contracts**: Dan Lonai presented the request which was prepared because the elections program was required to conduct elections that generate specific regular purchases, such as maintenance on software and postage that ran about \$11,000. The request was geared to pre-approve necessary and repetitive expenses for elections

instead of coming to board continually which often slowed down the process. The details for the vendors were provided on a memo for the Board. The estimated total of those costs requested as pre-approved was about \$67,000. Doug Olsen corrected the amount to about \$70,000.

Connie Caplinger reported that the finance director had some concerns. Dan Lonai added that the finance director wanted exact numbers, but that the program could only provide estimates for most of those regular costs due to fluctuations in quantity and by piece costs. Commissioner Givens asked if there would be any problems caused should the board decide to defer a decision until a later meeting. Dan Lonai replied that he would need the approval in time to get the ballots out for the May election. Doug Olsen added that the payables for postage were usually up to \$11,000, Ryder and Cenveo were from \$25,000 up to \$33,000 and \$8,000 to \$19,000 for ESS and the secretary of state. The amounts would be taken from the current year's budget.

**Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the expenditures for routine purchases and payables for service contracts as detailed in the memo provided to the board.**

**Commissioner Givens seconded.** Jack Esp asked if the foreseeable expenses were not included in budget. The commissioners explained that the expenditures were in the budget, but due to the individual amounts must be approved by the board. **The motion carried 2-0.**

8. **Funding for animal damage control - 10:30:** Randy Mills reported that the wildlife services program was experiencing an approximate \$10,000 shortfall for the entire fiscal year and asked for the time on the agenda because he would like to address the gap now to try to resolve the gap before late spring. He added that several people were attending the meeting for the purpose of adding their input, particularly from the livestock industry which was most affected by the funding. He pointed out that the benefits of the wildlife services program reached beyond the livestock industry.

Commissioner Givens commented that the program had come up in discussion a few times in Wolf Depredation Committee meetings. He added that the Umatilla County Cattlemen's Association (UCCA) had not been able to provide any ideas as of yet although they were asked to bring some suggestions to the commissioners.

Mark Kirsch, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist, introduced Ken Mitchell as the federal employee assigned to the county. Ken Mitchell's responsibilities encompassed all migratory species that fall under federal authority, i.e. geese and seagulls. As a result of that and Ken Mitchell's role and space as a federal employee, he would work on anything from mouse to moose problems. The dividing line for the wolf management area relative to agency responsibilities was Highway 395. To the east of the highway, the responsibility fell to the state. To the west of the highway, wolf management was a federal responsibility. Ken Mitchell's assigned area approximated Umatilla County from the river corridor to the mountains, also with bubbles of those areas in Union and Wallowa Counties.

Commissioner Givens recognized Senator Hansell as he re-joined the meeting and asked for input from him due to his expertise. Senator Hansell commented that the big producers were not the only members of the public affected by wildlife matters and that Ken Mitchell often undertook the smaller problems as well, such as skunk eradication.

Commissioner Doherty commented that when the board, ODA and ODFW representatives last discussed the animal damage control matter, the board took the \$10,000 shortfall under advisement relative to the general fund budget. In the interim there was to be discussion among the livestock producers about whether the industry would put something together to develop a longer term approach to the habitual funding shortfall.

Randy Mills reported that no group was actually developed although several producers were at the meeting. Doug Olsen commented that the county had also received a letter requesting funding for aerial hunting. Patrick Smith replied that the aerial hunting request was a separate request.

Commissioner Doherty stated that since the current request was for \$10,000 to continue Ken Mitchell's position through the end of the budget year and he would not want to see the service disappear, he had a proposal.

Cheryl Cosner commented that there was talk of putting together a formal committee and she had expected a meeting. She agreed that if the livestock industry would gather together, it would be possible to develop some long term plans. Commissioner Doherty supported a commitment with the condition that the livestock producers participate.

Commissioner Givens suggested that the start of the gathering of a committee could be instigated from the wolf committee and should include more than livestock producers. Commissioner Doherty commented that Senator Hansell had been the point man on the encouragement to the producers' participation. Commissioner Givens stated that although the board would not take formal action, the shortfall would be addressed.

Tom Watson stated that he believed the funding should be a county issue because it is so broad-based. Karin Watson asked whether the wildlife services program addressed the problem of feral dogs. Homer Peterson commended Ken Mitchell's services.

Mark Kirsch explained that the reason the wildlife services program was in funding difficulty was due to declining federal support. He went on to say that the county supported the program, but that the state was waffling on whether there would be funding for it. Commissioner Doherty commented that the board would ask that the group bring a specific action request in due course.



9. **Accept the resignation of Planning Commission member:** Commissioner Doherty stated that Clinton Reeder served on planning commission for 33 years because there was no term limit and that he had submitted a letter of resignation. Commissioner Doherty moved that the board accept Clinton Reeder's letter of resignation with the expression of gratitude to be implemented at a later time, making the resignation effective upon acceptance. **Commissioner Givens seconded, commenting that he understood that Clinton Reeder had many planned projects, including writing a book. The motion carried 2-0.**

10. **Appointment to planning commission:** Commissioner Doherty commented that the board had been interviewing to replace another position on the planning commission and therefore had the opportunity to appoint someone in Clinton Reeder's position. He recommended that the board reappoint Randy Randall and Tammie Williams and appoint Suni Danforth in Clinton Reeder's vacated position and Don Marlatt in Dave Lynde's position. **Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of appointment of Suni B. Danforth, Don M. Marlatt, Randy D. Randall and Tammie L. Williams to Umatilla County Planning Commission, moved adoption of Order Number BCC2013-010. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.**

11. **Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Intergovernmental Agreement – Ordinance Adoption (Public Hearing):** Commissioner Givens opened the public hearing at 10:47 a.m.

a. **Staff report:** Doug Olsen reported that entering into the IGA required that the county enact a new ordinance, Ordinance 2013-01. The board previously discussed formal ratification on December 19<sup>th</sup> and wanted further input from the City of Milton-Freewater. Milton-Freewater now ratified the agreement and, therefore, it was brought before board for consideration. Tom Glover announced that the City of Milton-Freewater signed the agreement and that Umatilla County would be the last to sign other than the state departments of transportation. The MPO's first official meeting was scheduled for February 13, 2013. Commissioner Givens commented that the MPO process was originally established in 1962.

b. **Public Comment:** Commissioner Givens opened the floor to public comment at 10:52 a.m.

Jerry Baker reported that there was a lot of discussion particularly about the weight of votes and that the city council in Milton-Freewater went into agreement reluctantly.

Larry Nye, coordinator of the Milton-Freewater Tea Party and a fiscal conservative, stated that the meeting followed the East Oregonian's article. He cautioned that all should be aware of what the effect of the MPO would be, that a trickle-down effect would be that other

federal funds would be choked down also in a similar manner. He suggested that the board consider the long term effect and maybe take the hit.

Commissioner Givens commented that part of the process was to pick one's battles and as a member of the board he did not want to jeopardize other federal projects, although there was discussion of being forced into the agreement.

Commissioner Doherty stated that most people did not like to be told one has to do something, but the MPO was an opportunity for the valley to come together in some fashion and the pairing with Walla Walla could be an advantage. Commissioner Givens added that Walla Walla was not pleased with the one vote per entity concept.

Eli Stephens of the Pendleton Tea Party reiterated what Larry Nye and Commissioner Givens stated. He was gaining the sense from his campaign that the public believed that government was out of control and that they want more local control. He agreed that when dealing with situations, people needed to draw the line and pick their battles.

Jack Esp added that he concurred with Larry Nye and Eli Stephens, that government must begin living within its means.

Commissioner Doherty pointed out that there also was a delegation of citizens that want to spend. He had a sense that both factions want to have control of government. Commissioner Givens closed the floor to public comment at 11:03 a.m.

c. **Adoption of Ordinance: Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of adoption of ordinance ratifying the creation of an Intergovernmental entity known as the Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization, moved adoption of Ordinance 2013-01. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.**

**Recess and Reconvene:** The chairman recessed the meeting for a brief break at 11:05 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

12. **Appointment of representatives to MPO Board:** Doug Olsen presented the proposed order, reporting that the order would appoint Commissioner Givens to the policy board with Tamra Mabbott as the alternate and committee representative. The alternate committee representative would be Tom Fellows. **Commissioner Doherty moved adoption in the matter of appointments to Walla Walla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Board and technical advisory committee, Order Number BCC2013-011. Commissioner Givens seconded. The motion carried 2-0.**

13. **Recommendation for wolf compensation grant awards:** Commissioner Givens reported that the committee awarded a total of \$15,495 in compensation for damages caused by

wolf predation. Doug Olsen added that the proposal would be made official in Order Number BCC2013-017 when it was prepared. Commissioner Givens reported that the funds covered a variety of reparations, including bone pile removal, fencing, and range riders. The recipients were listed on the order, plus \$495 was paid to OSU extension for administration costs of the program. Randy Mills reported that the applications totaled just short of \$30,000 resulting in allocation of just over \$15,000. One applicant did not ask for funding but provided the application for documentation purposes. Commissioner Doherty commented that since Doug Olsen was ready to prepare an order, he would make a motion to approve the allocations.

**Commissioner Doherty moved that the board approve the wolf compensation committee recommendations and authorize expenditures and reimbursements as described in the total amount of \$15,495 to be documented in Order Number BCC2013-017. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.** Commissioner Givens commended Randy Mills for off the books work performed as well as on the book.

14. **Xerox Documate Scanner 4830**: Commissioner Doherty introduced the topic as coming before the board because the cost for purchase of a scanner was over the department head's authorization limit although budgeted. The budget officer signed off on the agenda item.

**Commissioner Doherty moved that the board authorize the purchase of a Xerox Document Scanner 4830 in the amount of \$1984.11. Commissioner Givens seconded**, asking what the scanner's purpose would be. Paul Chalmers replied that it was needed for archiving records. **The motion carried 2-0.**

15. **Accept Fair Board resignation**: Commissioner Doherty reported that the board received a memorandum from Billie Jean Morris announcing her resignation from the fair board and read it aloud. **Commissioner Doherty moved that the board accept the resignation. Commissioner Givens seconded and the motion carried 2-0.** Doug Olsen advised that the process of advertising for the position had begun.

16. **Appointment to STF Committee**: Doug Olsen presented the proposed order, stating that the vacancy was result of the passing of David Lynde who had acted as the chair of the committee. The recommendation was to appoint Richard Winter to that position.

**Commissioner Doherty, in the matter of appointment of Richard D. Winter to Umatilla County Special Transportation Fund Advisory Committee, moved adoption of Order Number BCC2013-16. Commissioner Givens seconded. The motion carried 2-0.**

### **New Business:**

Sen Hansell announced that he was available to take questions on the LRA grant topic and would be willing to help with LRA matters, but has until Friday to drop any bills necessary related to the LRA process. He planned to attend the LRA meeting.

### **Commissioners reports:**

1. **Senator Hansell:** The senator reported that he was not aware of the degree of ceremony to the opening of the legislature. Twenty nine family members arrived for the event and Senator Ferrioli commented on the vast contingent. Senator George hosted one of the Hansell grandsons on the floor. He had been engaged in continuous meetings and was in the county for a court appearance. As of the meeting, the senator announced he would be in the local area until beginning of February when the session was to begin.

2. **Commissioner Givens:** The commissioner reported on the Oregon Fairs Association conference, stating that on Friday night he met with two of the AOC staffers regarding the transmission line bill proposal. He also attended the Association of Oregon Counties meeting on the following Monday and then the joint session and swearing in ceremonies after the AOC meetings that day.

3. **Commissioner Doherty:** The commissioner acknowledged JR Cook's work with the water commission and coalition and expressed his appreciation for Commissioner Givens' attendance at the briefing of commission and coalition on the Columbia River-Umatilla Solutions Team proposals for cooperation among water users. Following the meeting the coordination discussion was held with landowner/irrigators and the groups decided to move forward with formation of a 501 (c) (6) nonprofit corporation to take the commission projects into the future. The participants were to be coordinators of the organization and the articles of incorporation were to be filed within a week, provided there was enough support from Morrow County, Umatilla County and key water users to effect the changes. With that in place, he expected the commission project to continue. Commissioner Givens stated that no de-brief was done, but that JR Cook explained the new organization. There were timing questions only and most of the attendees seemed to be accepting of the new organization. Commissioner Doherty commented that the commission was brought to a crossroads many other times, but this is significant and he wanted to recognize JR Cook for his duties and expansion of those duties. Commissioner Doherty also noted that the membership on the AOC Water Policy Committee had changed somewhat and that the committee had a couple members with different ideas. He planned to attend the February meeting, but the consensus was that the structure of the committee may be deteriorating. The wrap up of the CRUST process was not expected to take place until February 13.

**Scheduling of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held February 6, 2013.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Headley  
Executive Secretary  
Umatilla County  
Board of Commissioners