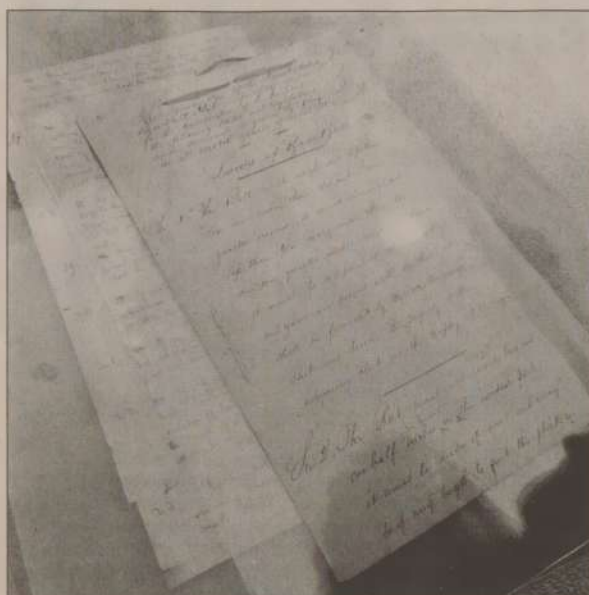


PLAY BALL!

The Original Rules of Baseball on Exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society July 1 - Oct. 9



Documents that the Official Historian of Major League Baseball declared "the Magna Carta of America's national pastime" will be on exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland (1200 SW Park Avenue) beginning this Friday, July 1, through October 9, 2016. The exhibit will be the first public display of these nineteenth century papers, which only recently came to light at an auction in California.

The hand-written documents were drafted by Daniel "Doc" Adams and presented at an unprecedented special meeting of all New York area baseball clubs in 1857. The documents, entitled "Laws of Base Ball," conclusively set the game's rules, among which included establishing ninety-foot base paths, assigning nine players to a side, and fixing the duration of the game at nine innings. A full transcription of the documents is available upon request; please email rachel.randles@ohs.org for a copy.

Baseball fans will also want to mark their calendars for Tuesday, August 2, as OHS will host John Thorn, Official Historian of Major League Baseball, for a lecture on the history of America's favorite game. The lecture begins at 7pm at the First Congregational Church (1126 SW Park Avenue). Tickets are \$25 and are available online at johnthorn.brownpapertickets.com.

John Thorn is the author of *Baseball in the Garden of Eden: The Secret History of the Early Game* and co-author of *The Hidden Game of Baseball*, which established alternative statistics later recognized and adopted as official by Major League Baseball. A sought-after consultant for exhibits and documentaries on America's game, Thorn also talks baseball with fans on his MLB blog, *Our Game*.

The Oregon Historical Society's museum is open seven days a week, Monday -- Saturday from 10am -- 5pm and Sunday from 12pm -- 5pm. The museum and exhibit will also be open on Independence Day, Monday, July 4, from 10am -- 5pm. Admission is \$11, and discounts are available for students, seniors, and youth. Admission is free for OHS members and Multnomah County residents thanks to the recent renewal of the Oregon Historical Society levy.

About the Oregon Historical Society

For more than a century, the Oregon Historical Society has served as the state's collective memory, preserving a vast collection of artifacts, photographs, maps, manuscript materials, books, films, and oral histories. Our research library, museum, digital platforms & website (www.ohs.org), educational programming, and historical journal make Oregon's history open and accessible to all. We exist because history is powerful, and because a history as deep and rich as Oregon's cannot be contained within a single story or point of view.

Unofficial Results of Sumpter Recall of June 28, 2016

CITY OF SUMPTER MAYOR AND TWO COUNCILIORS

RECALL OF MAYOR LELAND MYERS

YES	NO	Under Vote
53	51	2

RECALL OF COUNCILIOR CARY R. CLARKE

YES	NO	Under Vote
47	58	1

RECALL OF COUNCILIOR SAMANTHA ESPOSITO

YES	NO
48	58

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- Restroom Paper Products

Free Delivery in Baker City & La Grande

Rick and Bekki Hurley

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LITTLE LEAGUE

continued from page 1



Photo by Bryan Dalke

10-11-12 team after tough loss to Harney County on June 25.

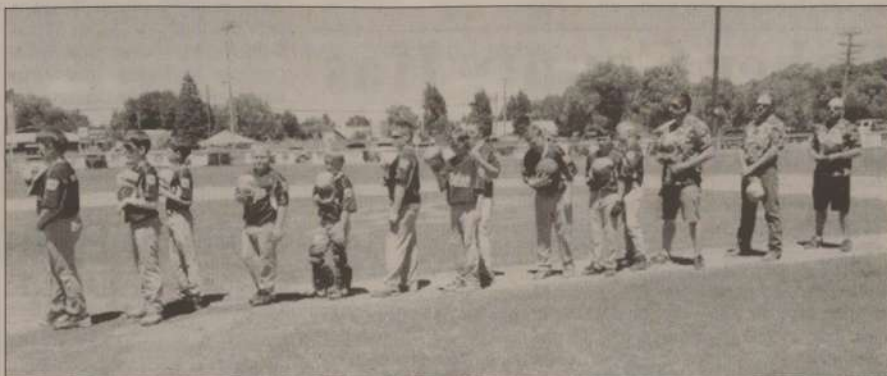


Photo by Julie K Davis

Commissioners Ask Just What to Do with \$42,180?

By Mary Jane Guyer

On June 23, the Baker County Board of Commissioners struggled to find common ground on just what to do with monies derived from sale of industrial property.

At the center of the discussion was where to direct \$42,180 — funds received by the County as a result of a property sale in the Industrial Park located on the west side of Baker City.

A little background: In the 1960's a for-profit organization, Baker Industries and Resources Corporation (BIRC), was formed. Its goal was to purchase properties in Baker to ensure potential industrial grounds could be secured. Numerous local leaders interested in Baker's economic future, purchased stock in the corporation as a means of financing property sales.

Over the years, properties were purchased, sold off, and monies were reinvested into other properties. Loans were provided to promote business opportunities, monies were donated to companies and community projects that were viewed by stockholders as advancing the economic future of Baker County.

County Commissioner-elect, Bruce Nichols, served as Treasurer for the BIRC. "The organization has always been dedicated to pursuing economic development opportunities for Baker County," stated Nichols. "In fact, BIRC was the first organization to donate to the Interpretative Center in the amount of \$10,000."

Nichols approached the County Commission suggesting that BIRC Industrial Park properties and remaining funds (approximately \$85,000) be placed with Baker County Economic Development. The Commission agreed and accepted BIRC's proposal during a public meeting, according to Nichols.

"BIRC was very clear about the intended use of the funds and of the proceeds from sales of those properties," said Nichols. "It was to go for economic development. Period."

Fast forward to present day: Several months ago, one of those donated BIRC industrial sites was sold for \$42,180. The funds have been deposited in the County's Facilities fund.

Craig Ward, Chairman of the Economic Development Council, has strong feelings about where those funds should be, and it is not in the County's Facilities fund.

"This community has dedicated hundreds of volunteer hours and held dozens of meetings to develop an economic development plan," said Ward. "At the heart of this plan is our desire to recruit businesses that bring family wage jobs to Baker County. The people of this community supported recruitment of employers involved with light manufacturing, call centers, and tech industry opportunities."

To that end, the Economic Development Incentive Fund comes into play. A joint venture of both the City and County, it is designed to help recruit businesses that might be interested in locating to Baker County. It is also a fund that helps existing city and county businesses to expand.

It is in the Economic Development Incentive Fund that Ward wants the money to be deposited. "I will not back away from this one," says Ward. "It has always been our goal to use those funds to bring family wage jobs to this community."

According to Ward, it has always been the understanding that when a property is sold by either the City or the County, the proceeds of those funds would go into the Economic Development Incentive Fund.

"I think it comes down to a question of trust," stated Ward.

During the June 23 meeting, Commissioner Kerns raised the question as to the whereabouts of the \$42,180 in the county's budget.

Chairman Harvey responded "It's been addressed by the EDC Chairman that he was under the impression that the money was supposed to go back to the EDC, but I have not had a chance to address that yet in a

public meeting."

Harvey stated there is no precedent for the funds going to EDC. "I think it is more of a want or desire on their part, his, so we have not had the chance to address that, yet."

Harvey continued, "Baker City is selling property and they are not giving the money back."

The *Record Courier* contacted City Manager, Fred Warner, and inquired about City property sales. Warner indicated that while the City has property available, parcels have not been sold. Leaving the question of what the City will do with money from property sales still open.

Kerns pursued the line of questioning regarding the whereabouts of the money.

Christina Cook, Baker County's Administrative Services Director, shared with the Commissioners that when the money came in, it was deposited into the County's Facilities fund. Cook went on to explain the money was deposited to replace the monies that were spent for purchasing the property adjacent to the County Road Department on 13th Street.

"To give you a heads up on that," said Harvey. "Most of the land is going to the Road Department and they have budgeted for that land and for their building. So, it makes our portion for the Parks Department, Weed Department and whoever else we put out there a lot smaller."

He continued, "The \$40,000 overshadows that. We have not really put anything down on paper yet to what plus or minuses — or how we do it."

Kerns pursued his line of question, "We haven't approved any new building out there."

Harvey responded, "And we haven't asked you."

Kerns continued, "I'm surprised it has been put into an account that's heading toward the purchase of that new building."

Harvey stated the County took money out of the Facilities Budget to purchase the property. This was to replace that expenditure.

Cook then reminded Commissioners that there is no money in the budget for a new building.

Commissioner Bennett weighed in saying, "The Commission has made a commitment that when we (the Board of Commissioners) sold property that those monies would go back to the EDC."

Harvey told Bennett he had not found that in writing.

Commissioner Harvey then proceeded to share other concerns he had pertaining to the county's payment of \$15,000 from the general fund for a flood plain study to allow for the sale of any property at the industrial site.

"The County should take off the funds for selling that property — we should not just give it to another group of people to spend," exclaimed Harvey.

He also announced his displeasure for paying a bill of \$15,000 for the City's property to be platted, "so they could sell it and then keep the money," Harvey went on to state, "I am going to give them a bill for that."

Commissioner Bennett asked Cook to look into the various issues that had been raised and report back to them in July.

Harvey continued, "The City has full advantage. They are selling 12 acres after we paid all the expenses and they are not giving anything towards the expenses. They are keeping the money. We are a piggy bank they tap into."

Kerns responded, "This is all designed to bring in industry and jobs. I don't think we should be talking about being a piggy bank or getting an advantage. We should be talking about what we want to do for the community."

"My emphasis is to encourage the City to be a partner in that effort," exclaimed Harvey. "But they are not at this point and time. We are going to revisit that."