



Bill Bradshaw/Wallowa County Chieftain

Wallowa County Commissioners John Hillock and Susan Roberts sign documents at the conclusion of their Wednesday, June 15, 2022, meeting.

Commissioners endorse ranchers' protection of cattle

Resolution stands by livestock owners against wolves

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — The Wallowa County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution Wednesday, June 15, expressing support of local ranchers and their agents in protection of their livestock against attacks by wolves.

The resolution comes on the heels of numerous attacks on livestock by the predators, particularly the Chesnimus pack, of which two were shot in recent weeks. An agent of Crow Creek rancher Tom Birkmaier shot one and a biologist working for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife shot the other.

The resolution, as read into the record, acknowledged the importance of livestock ranching to the culture and economics of the county and wolves threaten the viability of local ranches.

The resolution also stated that “state and federal agencies charged with managing wolves have failed to imple-

ment effective management practices to protect domestic livestock.”

The measure also called the toll on ranches “unsustainable” and stated that the Oregon Conservation and Management Plan was brokered with diverse stakeholders and addresses effective and responsible management and that the plan is legally binding.

As a result, the commissioners expressed their support of ranchers “in their ability to implement effective and responsible means in the protection of their livestock.”

There was no discussion on the matter among the commissioners, nor was there any public comment. Commissioner Todd Nash, a rancher who drafted the resolution, was absent due to ill health, according to Commission Chairwoman Susan Roberts.

The commissioners also approved a lease agreement for ranchers to graze their cattle on the East Moraine above Wallowa Lake.

Roberts said the Wallowa County Stockgrowers considered five applicants and recommended that 80 head of cattle be allowed to graze. Charles Warnock will take the lead with 40 cattle

and Katie Lathrop will graze another 40.

In other business, there were several approvals of unanticipated revenue and grant applications. The commissioners approved:

- An order for \$112,747 received from the fair fat stock sale.

- A grant of \$75,000 from the Community Response Smoke Plan.

- A grant of \$277,000 in bond sales from the state’s digital lottery for use at the fairgrounds.

- A grant of \$15,000 for election modernization equipment.

- An agreement for occupancy of the Community Complex Service Center for the coming fiscal year.

The commissioners also approved:

- A funding request of \$2,000 for the Woodlands & Watersheds Festival.

- Employee action notices including Anthony Boyd will go from just working Wallowa County Community Corrections to being the part-time fair manager, Winifred (Annett) Conner transfers from being grants manager to information technology manager and Veronica Warnock is a new hire as deputy district attorney.

No city land available for pump track

Bike club considering other options

By **BILL BRADSHAW**
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Once more, hopes for a bicycle pump track on city property have fallen through, as property in the Prairie Creek Floodway has been determined unsuitable, the City Council was told during its meeting Monday, June 13.

City Administrator Lacey McQuead and the council apologized to Angela Mart, president of the Wallowa Mountains Bicycle Club, who has been promoting the idea of a pump track. The administrator said the city has no other property that could be used for such a track.

Mart said June 16 that the club is not giving up on the project.

“We think that it’s a plan and a project that’ll benefit kids and families in the upper valley,” she said. “The mayor, the city administrator and the public works director have all been amazing in trying to help us finding an option.”

McQuead told the council that the property is no longer an option. She said she had met with the state Department of Land Conservation and Development and after a review of the Enterprise Municipal Code it was determined the entire parcel is in the floodway. As a result, the current fill on the west side of the property and a waterway that runs through its middle draining into Prairie Creek, any pump track will not be allowed.

McQuead said any other plans for the property previously discussed also will not be allowed and the land

is virtually useless to the city.

Light requested

In another matter, Molly Wells and Heather Poor gave a presentation to the council on what they believe is the need for a flashing crosswalk on Highway 82 in front of Safeway.

It would be the only traffic signal in the county, if approved.

Wells told of her experience with an accident there that took the life of an Enterprise resident. She asked the council to form a group to further discuss options to prevent future such accidents.



L. McQuead

Poor provided statistics regarding pedestrian accidents in Oregon.

McQuead said that prior conversations on the matter have taken place, including funding discussions with the Oregon Department of Transportation. The Public Works Committee agreed to reach out again to the ODOT to see what finance options are available and discuss potential costs for placement of such a traffic signal in Enterprise.

An update will be given at the July council meeting.

Other business

In other matters, the council:

- Heard McQuead’s Administrative Department report that stated a reduction in Department of Land Conservation Technical Assistance grant from \$50,000 to \$25,000 because of a lack of funding. The \$25,000 was the original amount granted.

- Heard city librarian Denine Rautenstrauch’s explanation of a plan for the current library assistant to take over as director upon Rautenstrauch’s planned retirement in Jan-


uary. The council approved the plan.

- Heard Public Works Director Shawn Young’s report that spring and summer work has been delayed because of the weather, particularly that of painting crosswalks and parking lines. Councilor Jeff Yanke asked about possibly painting a crosswalk between the Wallowa Valley Senior Living Center and Wallowa Memorial Hospital. Young said he would visit the site to check on the possibility.

- Approved a water service request to property outside the city limits after McQuead read from the city code to ensure it was permissible.

- Approved hiring an administrative support specialist for the Enterprise Police Department who would be responsible for state and federal reporting, evidence management and support staff for the EPD.


- Scheduled the next regular council meeting for July 11.



Births

A daughter,
Whitney Dawn Wilsey, was born June 3, 2022 in Enterprise to Timothy and Lindsay Wilsey of Enterprise. Grandparents are Luanna (Sissy) and Gary Cooper, and Natalie and Wesley Wilsey.

A son,
Clayson James Tillery, was born June 13, 2022 in Enterprise to Jacob and Jennifer Tillery of Wallowa. Grandparents are Alice Alleson and Loraine Tillery.



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Elane Blanchet Dickenson 1948-2021

Elane Blanchet Dickenson passed away on Nov. 8, 2021, surrounded by her children.

She was born July 31, 1948, to John Blanchet, Jr. and Jenny “Lou” Blanchet, and was the oldest of six children, including a brother and four sisters.

Elane grew up on the family wheat farm in Coombs Canyon, Oregon, which was homesteaded by her grandfather and was a gathering place for her extended family to gather, work, harvest, and enjoy country living.

She graduated from Pendleton High School in 1966 and attended Oregon State University, where she met many lifelong friends.

She later attended Linn-Benton Community College where she became editor of the campus newspaper and discovered her love for journalism.

After college, Elane traveled the country, spending time in California, New Mexico and Florida, with Oregon as her home base. In 1976 she moved to Kansas and gave birth to her daughter, Jenny. She and Jenny returned to Northeast Oregon in 1978 and Elane landed a job as a reporter at the Wallowa County Chieftain, a position she continued for 36 years until she retired in 2014.

In the early 1980s, Elane married Eddie Dickenson. Before they divorced, they had a son, Matthew, in 1984. Both of her kids were the light of Elane’s life and were with her during her battle with cancer and at the time of her death.

Elane was an avid reader and prolific writer, known for her detailed reporting and insightful people features. She enjoyed and supported the arts in Wallowa County, and she took up watercolor painting later in her life. Many of her watercolors depict scenes from the family wheat ranch near Pendleton and of Wallowa County, the two places that she considered home.

A single, working mom for most of her

adult life, Elane worked hard to support herself and her two kids. Even though money was tight, she always found a way for vacations, road trips, and camping as a family, usually inviting a cousin or three along for the adventure.

She loved to travel, particularly to the Oregon Coast, to Portland to visit her friends and family, and to Las Vegas to see the bright lights of the city and gamble at penny slots. In retirement she traveled to Montreal and Quebec to see some family history, took a road trip with friends to the Grand Canyon, and spent a month in Paris, a lifelong dream, exploring daily life in the city, big tourist attractions, and taking the train to surrounding countries.

Elane loved everything about being a grandmother to her four grandchildren. She said they enriched her life immeasurably, and she had a very special relationship with each one of them. They delighted in her warm generous spirit and fun, anything-goes outlook on life.

She is survived by her children, daughter Jenny and her husband, Lawrence Herman; grandchildren, Lily, Addie, and Bryson Herman; son, Matt Dickenson and his wife, Heather Bell; granddaughter, Kira Dickenson-Bell; brother, Larry Blanchet; sisters, Marianne Wilke (husband Greg), Laurie Ford (husband Tony), Sylvia Quest (husband Lawrence), and Caroline O’Gara (husband Pat), and many nieces and nephews, cousins, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Lou Blanchet, her sister-in-law Linda Blanchet and niece, Amy Blanchet.


A celebration of life will be held at Joseph Community Center at 2 p.m. on June 25 at the Joseph Community Center.

Donations can be made to Community Bank in Joseph. A scholarship will be formed in her name to promote writing and the arts in Wallowa County.





Honoring All Who Served



Veterans Appreciation Dinners

Brought to you by

Wallowa County Veterans Services &
Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness




We are hosting Veterans
Appreciation Dinners in each
town throughout May and June.

May 5, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Imnaha Christain Fellowship

May 19, 6:00- 7:30 PM

Troy School

June 2, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise

June 16, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Senior Center in Wallowa

June 30, 6:00-7:30 PM

Joseph Community Center

Please RSVP
to help us plan.



scan me to RSVP

or call 541-426-0539.