

## Morrow County Court weekly meeting held

The Morrow County Court met on February 11 at the Morrow County Court House in Heppner with Judge Tallman, Commissioner Grieb and Commissioner Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of those meeting provided by Leann Rea.

February 11:

-The court approved accounts payable in the amount of \$580,119.50.

-The sheriff's department presented the court with a report regarding the "Parole and Probation" reimbursements from the state. There is a very complex and complicated formula that is used to determine the amount the county will receive. Currently Morrow County contracts with Umatilla County for jail space for these offenders as well as treatment of the offenders. Treatments provided include counseling for alcohol and drug abuse, anger management, and others as needed. All agreed the number one priority needs to be the safety of our residents, and then secondly the counseling and treatment of the offenders. After additional research the court will decide how to proceed with the parole and probation offenders.

-The court reviewed the written road report. Depot Lane: Moved the equipment that was being used for shoulder work along Upper Rhea Creek Road to Depot Lane on Monday (2/9). On Tuesday (2/10) began shoulder and ditch work along both sides of the road from Paterson Ferry Road to the entrance into the Wagon Wheel subdivision. Started work on the Wagon Wheel end with the county's excavator and a rented excavator. This should cut the project time in half. Decided to begin this project now as the rental rates are 31% off

until the first of April. With the two excavators working together it is going to take the entire crew, except for the three grader operators. Plans are to have the initial preparation project finished in three to four weeks, if the weather cooperates.

Upper Rhea Creek Road: Have finished with sloping the banks and building up the shoulders where needed with the bank material. Will come back and finish with the gravel on the shoulders once the shoulder work on Depot Lane is completed.

Misc.: The crew has been working on signs and reflectors along Bombing Range Road. All reflectors in stock have been used, so the project will be completed when the new reflectors arrive. The grader operators are continuing with weed burning in the mornings and grading in the afternoons, once the roads thaw out. The Road Canyon bridge project is on hold until the head wall pilings are all in place.

-The Court opened bids from Morrow County Grain Growers, Mark Hansen, Alligare, & Wilbur Ellis for herbicides. Also opened bids from Morrow County Grain Growers, Hellar & Sons, and Chevron (Devin Oil) for diesel, unleaded gasoline, aviation fuel and lubricants. The road department will review the bids to determine if the bids are complete, and the math is correct. The department will then make a recommendation to the court for the awarding of the bids.

-Mike Slater from La Grande and Buster Gibson from Heppner, representatives from the Wildlife Services reported to the court that they are anticipating a significant cut from their state funding. They reported they attempt to supplement

their budget by contracting with different individuals to assist them with predator control. At the same time they need to be available to assist with dangerous animal control. They wanted to give the court a heads-up that as budget time approaches they will be asking the county for additional funding this year.

-The court awarded a three year janitorial contract to Hermiston Cleaning Services in the amount of \$8,400.00 per years with a 10% discount, for this year. It includes the cleaning of carpets, windows, blinds, etc. at twelve different county sites. The bid provided a cost break down for each site.

-The planning department updated the court on several issues, including the planning commission's decision to allow the planning department to approve the renewal of "hardship dwelling permits" at the counter rather than taking them to the commission. The court concurred with the commission's decision. Other items of discussion was the continuing work on the updating of the Code Enforcement Ordinance, the department is continuing to work with a number of entities that have expressed an interest in siting wind tower farms, as well as the possibility of creating a power corridor for the siting of power transmission lines.

-The Court reviewed the proposed six month work plan for the Umatilla Basin Water Coalition and gave their approval to be provided to the Coalition at the next scheduled meeting. The Court reviewed the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County, the Port of Morrow and the City of Boardman.

## Heppner Elementary School Chess Mates compete in regional Chess for Success Tournament

Heppner Elementary School Division II Chess for Success players took second place in a recent Chess for Success tournament. Kellie Nelson garnered second place for the eighth grade. Division I players took first place and Kai Arbogast was first place for the fifth grade, Rylee Kollman took second place, Joe Jones took first place for third graders and Alex Lindsay took second place.

The Division I team also qualified to go to the state tournament on March 13 and 14th in Portland. The Division I team includes Kai Arbogast, Joe Jones, Alex Lindsay, Rylee Kollman, Patrick Burch, and Cara Arbogast.

Wayne Seitz, Dick Jones, James Pappas, Cherry Weber, Bridget Waite, Doris Brosnan, and Isabelle Kramer were the dedicated volunteers that worked with Chess Mates this year.

In 1994, Frank Eisman formed Chess for Success, which now includes 52 schools and over 2,500 students. There are 23 Regional Chess for Success Tournaments held and the



Heppner Elementary School Chess Mates recently competed in the regional Chess for Success Tournament in Hermiston. Participants were: bottom row (L-R): Emily Pappas, Patrick Burch, Alex Lindsay, Joe Jones, Cara Arbogast, and Kai Arbogast. Top row (L-R): Cade Arbogast, Rylee Kollman, Kellie Nelson, Jessy Wolford, Skyler Hawks, and Ross Cutsforth. —Contributed Photo

winners of the Regional Tournaments qualify to play in the Chess for Success State Tournament. Last year 560 players qualified to play in the two-day championships held at the Convention Center in Portland.

Chess for Success is an educational program that uses chess to teach children important skills necessary for success in school and life. Chess instills in children a sense of self-confidence, patience, self-control and responsibility. The challenge of the game stimulates critical thinking.

Children learn social skills, sportsmanship, how to solve problems, control anger and learn from mistakes. They also learn the important connection between actions and consequences and the benefits of thinking before acting.

There are three divisions for the Chess for Success Tournaments. Division I is for students kindergarten through fifth grade, Division II is for sixth, seventh, and eighth grades and Division III is for high school students. Heppner took 13 students.

## Creative Care Preschool takes field trip



One's Creative Care Preschool students, families and teachers Betty Rietmann and Karen Holland recently visited Skye and Penny Krebs' sheep operation. They were able to see hundreds of new lambs and hold and bottle feed some of them. After the tour Penny Krebs served everyone juice and frosted sheep shaped cookies. Parents and kids all enjoyed the morning trip. —Contributed Photo

# AFFORDABLE FULL COLOR PRINTING

Flyers \* Letterhead \* Brochures  
Business Cards \* Envelopes \* Posters

Our new full color printing system will deliver the quality you want at the price you can afford!

This is not a color copy machine.

It is quality color printing from your digital files. Graphic & Design available too!

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE PRICE QUOTE

Heppner Gazette-Times Printing  
188 W. Willow • Heppner, Oregon

(541) 676-9228

david@rapidserve.net

