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Petitions must be filed with the clerk of the board or postmarked not later than December 31, 2009. The board will meet at Morrow County Courthouse in the city of Heppner. A schedule of hearings for those who request to be present will be posted 48 hours prior to the meeting(s) in/on Morrow County Clerk Website: Morrowcountyoregon.com If you have requested to be present at the hearing you will be notified of the date, time, and place to appear. All other hearings will be scheduled as time allows. Contact the board of property tax appeals for further information. Executive sessions may be held during the session as authorized by ORS 192.660, to consider documents and information made confidential under ORS 308.290(10), ORS 308.411, and ORS 308.413. It shall be the duty of the persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed. Bobbi Childers, County Clerk Morrow County, Oregon Dated at Heppner, Oregon this 14th day of December, 2009. Published: December 16, 23, and 30, 2009 Affidavit

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR** qualified contractor to build and construct an improvement at the south Morrow Transfer station. Morrow County Public Works Projects - Morrow County, Oregon Morrow County, Oregon, requests proposals for a qualified contractor to build and construct an improvement at the South Morrow Transfer station. Contractors submitting qualifications shall be considered based upon the following general evaluation criteria:

1. Fee schedule.
2. Experience.
3. Method of approach.
4. Availability of labor and equipment.

Copies of the Request for Qualifications may be obtained from Morrow County Public Works, P.O. Box 428, 365 W Hwy 74, Lexington, Oregon 97839, (541) 989-9500. Complete proposals will be accepted at the same address no later than 4:00 p.m. December 18, 2009 any questions or concerns may be addressed to Sandi Putman. Published: December 2, 9 and 16, 2009

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

December 9, 2009 The Morrow County Sheriff's Office has in its physical possession the unclaimed personal property described below. If you have any ownership interest in any of that unclaimed property, you must file a claim with the Morrow County Sheriff's Office within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice, or you will lose your interest in that property. Bikes, Shoes, Watch, Tool, Baseball hat, Cash Register, Drill Bits, Wrenches, Volt Meter, Toolbox, Screw Drivers, Set of Keys, Shotgun, Garage Door Opener Published: December 16 & 23, 2009

**Sheriff's Report**

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

- MCSO received report that two Irrigon juveniles, a five-year-old and a nine-year-old were missing. The mother of the juveniles was located and she found the kids playing at a house.
- MCSO received report of a mother and three teenagers with a truck with

**HES November Students of the Month announced**



Heppner Elementary School announces their November Students of the Month. The character trait was motivation and work ethic. Pictured top row (L-R): Claire Grieb, Emily Pappas, Skyler Palmer, Sydney Qualls, Kacie Gray, Alex Lindsay, Logan Grieb, Patrick Collins, and Demitra Schmidt. Bottom row (L-R): Kylie Boor, Alison Cecil, Evan Kollman, Marlee Mitchell, Brett Jewett, Amelia Baker, Hayden Qualls, Hayden Hyatt, and Blane Mahoney. -Contributed Photo

**SCHOOL DISTRICT**

"It's not a Democrat or Republican thing to me," said Kuhn. "We have to look the staff in the eye and say we did everything we could." He said that as a school board member, his main focus is to support education. He said that if the measures are defeated, the Morrow County School District would have to cut teachers, programs and/or instructional time. "If we lose this money, the legislature is not going to back-fill it," said Kuhn. "Most people who sponsor these measures live in the valley and it will come out of their pockets. We have an obligation to our kids." Kuhn also said that where the money is obtained is not as important as providing a good education for our children. "Our job is to gather every penny we can," he said. He said that the local economy would also suffer if school district jobs are cut. He added that the voters of Morrow County supported a serial levy, but "That serial levy isn't going to mean much if we don't support the legislature. How could we ask for more money?"

Both Miles and Kuhn said that they believe they have been good stewards of the public dollars. Morrow County School District superintendent Mark Burrows told the board that if the measures are defeated, the State School Fund for 2009-2011 would be under-funded by around \$285.5 million. Burrows said this would result in a devastating loss of \$1,236,035 for the Morrow County School District, which would amount to cutting 20 teachers or 18 instructional days.

Also at the meeting, Burrows told the board that the district had received a "clean audit", but had received several notes, including a recommendation that the district hire a certified public accountant, which is not mandatory. Oster told the district that an actuary is mandatory to evaluate liabilities. Cost is estimated to be around \$4,500.

The audit, by the Oster Professional Group, showed the district has total assets of \$30,564,684 in 2009, compared to \$30,959,173 in 2008; total liabilities of \$25,152,399 in 2009, compared to \$25,445,140 in 2008; and total net assets of \$5,412,285 in 2009, compared to \$5,514,033 in 2008.

Expenses include:  
-Instruction: \$10,496,732 for regular

programs, \$3,044,997 for special programs, \$15,030-summer school programs.

-Supporting services: \$302,986 for student support services; \$507,343-instructional staff, \$428,532-general administration, \$1,511,454-school administration, \$3,574,734-business services, \$520,635-central support services, \$217,899-supplemental retirement program.

-Enterprise and community services: \$959,292-food services; \$1,054-community services.

-Debt service: \$1,202,404.

-Depreciation: \$698,866.

Total government activities: \$23,481,958  
General revenues include:

-Taxes-property taxes levied for general purposes-\$4,030,224, property taxes levied for debt service-\$1,483,673.

-State school fund-\$12,271,124.

-Common school fund-\$142,175.

-Other unrestricted funds-\$175,995.

-Unrestricted investment earnings-\$149,221.

-Sale of capital assets-\$129,766.

-Miscellaneous-\$633,415.

Total general revenues: \$19,015,593 with changes in net assets of -\$101,748.

Net assets at the beginning were \$5,514,033; net assets at the ending were \$5,412,285.

At the year ending June 2008, the net assets at the beginning were \$6,731,319; net assets at the ending were \$5,514,033.

The audit stated that property tax revenues increased by about a half a million during the year; revenues from miscellaneous sources decreased by about \$4 million; other state, local and special programs revenues decreased approximately \$.8 million and expenditures for instruction and support services decreased by \$.71 million.

In other business, the board:

-heard reports from board members, superintendent and assistant superintendent on the Oregon School Board Association convention highlights. From the sessions he attended, Miles said he would like to put an emphasis on the district's grading standards.

-viewed a presentation from Irrigon High School FFA members on

their trip to the FFA convention.

-heard a presentation from Irrigon Elementary School teacher Ellen Hendergart on the IES reading program.

-accepted a \$3,000 grant from the Muzak Heart & Soul Foundation.

-declined to cast a vote on the 2009 OSBA officers.

-voted against an issue regarding the election of OSBA officers.

-voted against adding two new OSBA board positions.

-accepted the 2008-09 audit.

-selected the following bargaining team for classified negotiations as follows: Thad Killingbeck, Bill Kuhn and Barney Lindsay, alternate.

-selected the following certified negotiating team: Barney Lindsay, Pat McNamee, Berto Hernandez and Dan Daltoso, alternate.

-approved supporting the acquisition of Umatilla Army Depot acreage for a land lab for the school district's FFA program "to provide agricultural field experience to MCSD students in the north end schools.

-approved the following employment action: resignations/retirements for Troy Morgan as Heppner High School assistant baseball coach, Judy Woody, Riverside High School special education assistant; employment for Shelly Dun, A.C. Houghton Elementary School Title I ed assistant; extra duty contracts for Jessica Lehmann, Irrigon Junior High School head girls' basketball coach, Andrew Timpy, IJH assistant boys' basketball coach, Breena Tolar, IJH assistant girls' basketball coach.

-received the following enrollment information as of December 1: ACH-265; Heppner Elementary School-195; HHS-225; IES-200; Irrigon High School-331; RHS-414; Sam Boardman Elementary School-313; Windy River Elementary, Boardman-218; Morrow Education Center-MCSD-47; MEC-Umatilla School District-23; Total 2231.

-heard the following announcements: December 17, last school day before Christmas break; Dec. 19-Jan. 3, winter break; Jan. 4, school resumes; Jan. 11, next board meeting, Heppner Elementary; Jan. 14, end of semester.

-held an executive session concerning personnel.

-BPD officer reported he was flagged down by Boardman Lock and Key where a subject reported that someone scraped off the license plate stickers on his work van.

-BPD received report of a community service worker picking up trash.

-BPD received report received report of a

**CITY COUNCIL**

Baird said the study should be completed by October, 2010 to complete and he will be meeting in a work session Jan. 19 with the city council to discuss the sewer system planning.

The council heard a report from a sheriff's deputy who said there has been a small rise in thefts in the area. The Victorian Rose reported several item missing from the store. A student at Heppner High school reported that they had \$100 stolen from a locker. Both cases are under investigation. A person also reported their iPod was stolen, but the item was recovered and the suspect was cited for theft II. A vehicle was broken into in from of the motel, and this happened during daylight hours. Several items were taken.

The deputy told the council that another person reported getting a phone

**Morrow County Court weekly meeting held**

The Morrow County Court met on December 2 in Heppner with Judge Tallman, Commissioner Grieb, and Commission Rea in attendance. Following is a summary of the meeting provided by Leann Rea.

The court reviewed and approved accounts payable in the amount of \$43,068.32 plus the \$300 that had been withheld for additional research.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes of November 25, 2009.

**Road Report:** Bombing Range Road and Highway 207 intersection - work on the Intersection Improvement Project is ramping up. Currently have an eight foot of the needed cut moved. Have defined and outlined the new intersection locations. Discovered a major fiber optics line that passes through the project on the Kilkenny Road side of the project and it is being lowered by Quest. These is also another phone line that run's parallel with the other line and it is also being lowered. It will take at least a six foot deep trench to accomplish this task. Discussed the detour that will be needed in this area and how it will impact travel from the north end of the county as well as travel toward the Hermiston area. All travelers will need to watch news outlets for information regarding detours around this work area in the near future. Miscellaneous - Have removed several unneeded cattle guards on Immigrant and Baker Lanes as well as Morgan Road. Snow plowing and sanding continues on Coal Mine Hill. Currently there is not enough snow to cause the closure of that road.

**Sheriff's Report:** Reported on an incident in the Heppner, Ione, and Lexington area where a hunter had fired across a road way endangering a passing auto. In the Irrigon area arrested a suspect in the house that he was attempting to burglarize; responded to a 911 hang-up call; assisted with a call regarding an oven fire. In the Boardman area assisted with an accident involving a car and a semi truck, with four individu-

als being transported to Good Shepherd Hospital; responded to a rollover accident; a vehicle fire incident; responded to an individual whose car was stolen while it was being warmed up. Both the vehicle and suspect were located within minutes; received a call regarding a boat stuck in the Columbia River with motor trouble; responded to an attempted suicide.

**Health Department Report:** Received a report regarding the H1N1 vaccine status as well as the status on the seasonal vaccine. It was reported that the new refrigerator/freezer for the Boardman site has arrived.

The court conducted the following business: Approved a return of duplicate payments of property taxes in a total amount of \$ 4,587.65. An extension of the warranty on the county's file server until June 28, 2012 was approved. An order for the formation of the Radio District was reviewed and signed. The Intergovernmental Agreement for the Umatilla Basin Water Commission was reviewed and signed. The financial report for the county's three parks was reviewed. Information regarding the Scenic Bikeway Management Plan was reviewed and the court offered their support for this proposal. There are two different plans being proposed, one is for an approximate loop of 106 miles, which would include using the Western Route to Ukiyah and back down Franklin Grade. The other proposal would be a one way ride to the same area. Final plans on the route are yet to be determined. Two public hearings for the Planning Department were held. One hearing was to amend language in the Hardship Ordinance and the other was some minor amendment to the Zoning Ordinance. Reviewed several correspondences an upcoming meeting notices.

Any one wishing to be placed on the list to receive county minutes, please contact Karen Wolff at (541)676-5620.

building secure.

-Heppner Ambulance received request for an ambulance for an 88-year-old female with unknown medical problems in Heppner.

-Boardman Ambulance received report of a semi-conscious male with a possible heart attack. There was no transport.

white Mustang traveling at speeds of 100-plus on I-84. BPD was unable to locate the vehicle.

-BPD received report of an audible alarm at a residence. The homeowner set off the alarm.

-BPD received report of an alarm at the shop building. BPD and MCSO responded and found the

a damaged tire. She said her husband was trying to locate a tire.

-MCSO received report that Umatilla County Sheriff's Office arrested Joseph Rogers on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Driving While Suspended. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail with \$952 bail in full.

He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-Boardman Police Department cited Victor Manuel Atilano, 25, for Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device.

-BPD officer made contact with a subject whose vehicle had a broken out window and advised it was Criminal Mischief KK.