

Public  
Comment  
or  
added to meeting  
1/24

HR  
mayor

Mayor and Councilors

This is the text on the Change.org online petition that was created on January 13 for those wanting to support Shannon Adair's appointment to the vacant city council position. The 102 names of those that signed are attached.

*"Residents of John Day, and those who care about our community, you can have a critical role in helping your city! Sign this petition to show that you support Shannon Adair's appointment to the vacant seat on John Day City Council. Your name will be added to many others who have already spoken in person, written letters or commented online in support of Shannon.*

*Shannon Adair is by far the most qualified candidate and will bring stability and experience to the John Day city council. Her knowledge and experience is needed now more than ever with the loss of the city manager, interim city manager and a number of city staff, leaving chaos and dysfunction.*

*Despite overwhelming support for Shannon at the January 10 council meeting, the council is deadlocked in a 3-3 tie and no one will be appointed until the tie is broken. At that meeting, the mayor asked for more people from the community to come forward and share their choice of applicant. **Let's give them numbers that cannot be ignored.** Time is short. The next council meeting is January 24 and the vacancy will be voted on again at that meeting. Please sign this petition of support for Shannon Adair and **SHARE, SHARE, SHARE!!!**"*

Judy Schutte



To: John Day City Council and Mayor Rookstool  
From: Nick Ducote, Ducote Consulting CEO  
Date: January 24, 2023  
Re: Initial Proposal for On-Going Grant Administration and Project Management Support

I apologize for the succinct format of this proposal. Since January 12, 2023, my firm has put approximately 40 hours into John Day's projects. I am a believer in the City of John Day and have always been impressed with the capital projects on-going. I have worked on your WWTF CDBG project since early-2019 when I was procured as the CDBG Grant Administrator and Environmental Reviewer. I'll attach some brief information on my firm's experience administering federal funds and managing projects. Since 2016, Ducote Consulting has administered federal funds for Seneca, Mt. Vernon, Dayville, Monument, North Powder, Sumpter, Elgin, Haines, Umatilla, Irrigon, and Ontario.

I was procured as a part of the Professional Services On-Call Roster and have a contract with the City to provide support. The task at-hand – taking over for Nick Green *in the middle* of all of these projects is a monumental task. While I have familiarity with some projects, getting up to speed on all of them takes a lot of time.

**Background:**

- The only contracts I currently have are the general On-Call contract and the WWTF contract.
- I do not need any changes to the WWTF rates or contract terms. My work on CDBG/USDA sewer projects usually look more like what Nick Green did for JD, so I can just take on my more typical role there.

**Request for Additional Scopes of Work:**

- I would need Scopes of Work for each of these projects I'm working on and many of them may need to be reviewed by the funding agencies if the City wants my fees reimbursed through grants.
  - My thought is a general scope of work that covers my tasks with task codes assigned to each different project.
  - The CDBG/USDA work at least will be reimbursed through federal grants.
- For projects other than the WWTF project, I am asking for a rate increase to \$150/hour. The reasons for this request are as follows:
  - I'm going to be working nights and weekends to fit your work into my schedule.
  - This is not my strategy or my grants, I will have to spend a lot of time and energy just to understand what is going on. There's also a lot of risk in that proposition, but I'm willing to take it on.
  - The work is already behind schedule and needs a lot of work in the first few weeks in January and February to get caught up. There are many pressing deadlines.
  - Rate increase retroactive to January 12th when I started working on these issues in earnest. I've dropped a lot and said no to quite at least three new projects in the last two weeks to stay focused on this work in John Day.



- I am happy to provide training to your Staff on how to take over some of my roles. I do not want to be providing full-time service of every City role. I also have capacity to send Judy Vicek, who was previously the accountant for GEODC (now works for me) to come and provide some hands-on training. I feel with the gaps you guys have in accounting and organization, this could be very valuable.
- I'm open to re-negotiating these terms in June once there is City Staff on-boarded to a level where you want Ducote Consulting to step back from some of the projects. This proposal is intended to be a stop-gap measure for you, not a long-term replacement.
- I am conflicted on your Urban Renewal Agency projects. I am recommending you speak with Brock Eckstein about that work. Brock is an experienced City Administrator in Elgin and Joseph and is currently a consultant working with his wife's law firm – Laura Eckstein Law. I sent the City his flier earlier.

Nicholas Ducote  
Ducote Consulting  
[Nick@DucoteConsulting.com](mailto:Nick@DucoteConsulting.com)  
541-805-5543

<b>Ducote Consulting Grants Written and Projects Managed (2017-2022)</b>				
<i>Project</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Program</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Loan</i>
Haines Water Compliance Project	2017	CDBG	\$1,899,862	
	2017	SDWRLF	\$961,827	\$856,439
Irrigon Septic Conversion Project	2017	CDBG	\$2,500,000	
	2017	CWRLF	\$500,000	\$2,015,060
Irrigon WWTP Project	2018	CWRLF	\$500,000	\$500,000
Dayville Community Hall	2018	CDBG	\$1,500,000	
Dayville Community Hall	2020	USDA	\$472,000	
Elgin Sewer PER	2017	USDA	\$20,000	
	2017	IFA W/W	\$30,000	
Elgin Sewer Final Design	2018	CDBG	\$476,400	
Monument TA for Water Project	2018	IFA W/W	\$20,000	
Monument Construction of Water Project	2019	CDBG	\$1,790,000	
Monument Construction of Water Project	2020	IFA W/W	\$200,000	\$200,000
Umatilla Power City/Brownell Water Final Des.	2020	CDBG	\$593,500	
Umatilla Power City/Brownell Sewer Final Des.	2020	CDBG	\$363,000	
John Day Wastewater System Procurement	2021	CDBG	\$2,264,500	
Dayville Community Hall	2021	USDA-CF	\$170,000	
Dayville Fire Hall	2021	USDA-CF	\$79,898	
Dayville Fire Hall	2021	Ford Family	\$134,884	
Haines Water Distribution Project - Phase 3A	2021	CDBG-CV2	\$750,000	
Haines Water Distribution Project - Phase 3B	2021	CDBG-PW	\$591,888	\$
Haines Water Distribution Project - Phase 3B	2021	DWSRF	\$600,000	\$600,000
Haines Water Distribution Project - Phase 3B	2021	USFG Lobbying	\$1,015,000	
North Powder Sewer Compliance Project	2021	CDBG-PW	\$1,991,500	
Elgin Sewer Compliance Project	2021	CDBG-PW	\$1,533,761	
Elgin Sewer Compliance Project	2021	State Lobbying	\$2,640,125	
Elgin Ambulance	2021	USFG Lobbying	\$199,000	
Sumpter Water Tank Final Design	2022	CDBG-CV2	\$468,696	
Elgin Water System Generator Procurement	2022	CDBG-CV2	\$152,150	
Dayville Fire Hall	2022	USDA-RD	\$39,000	
Liberty Theater	2022	EDA	\$538,000	
Umatilla Business Center	2022	EDA	\$1,330,000	
Sumpter Water Tank Construction	2022	CDBG-PW	\$2,500,000	
Umatilla Power City/Brownell Water Construct.	2022	CDBG-PW	\$1,900,000	
Umatilla Power City/Brownell Water Construct.	2022	DWSRF-BIL	\$3,180,000	\$2,820,000
		<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>Total Loans</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$30,496,490</b>	<b>\$26,324,991</b>	<b>\$4,171,499</b>

**John Day Open Grants & Projects**

WWTF Project											
Award Title	Award #	Agency	Effective Date	Deadline	Award \$	Status	Last Disb?	Report?	Tech contacts	Agency contact	Notes
WW Facility Const.	P18001	OBDD	4/15/2019	3/16/2024	\$ 2,500,000	Waiting for the BA, which is waiting for Sisul to do SWMP	3/1/2022		Flagline, MBS, Sisul	Shanna, Shelby, Feather (OBDD)	
Wastewater Treatment Plant	CSFRF-8154	DAS	2/3/2022	6/30/2024	\$ 1,500,000			2/15/2023		Jacqueline.S.KCMP@das.oregon.gov	Using this to pay for site improvements
Water Reclamation Facility (Grant)	Y12006	OBDD	10/19/2021	10/19/2023	\$ 750,000						
Water Reclamation Facility (Loan)	Y12006	OBDD	10/19/2021	10/19/2023	\$ 1,750,000						
Road Projects											
April 2019 Flooding/Street Repair	4452-DR-OR	OEM	10/17/2019	6/30/2023	\$ 1,153,157			1/25/2023	Sisul		
April 2019 Flooding/Street Repair	33832	ODOT	1/16/2020	12/30/2022	\$ 50,000				Sisul		
John Day SW 4th Avenue Rd Repair	L22005	OBDD	11/3/2021	11/2/2024	\$ 439,970	85% done, Spring start			Sisul		
Other Misc Projects											
Iron Triangle Property Acq and Cleanup	N21005	OBDD						Need another	MFA, Mike Springer		
Kam Wah Chung Interpretive Center	107-2021-5006-19	DAS	10/20/2021	6/30/2023	\$ 1,000,000			2/15/2023			
Innovation Gateway Trail System- Phase 2	RTP-21-008	OPRD	4/27/2022	6/30/2024	\$ 147,991			1/31/2023		Jodi.BELLEFEUILLE@oprdr.oregon.gov	
Innovation Gateway Adaptive Water Reuse	WFG-0034-21	OWRD	8/25/2022	12/31/2023	\$ 2,981,200	Eng procurement		1/31/2023		Adair.MUTH@water.oregon.gov	
Growing Rural Oregon-Year Two	20223623	Ford	12/1/2022	11/30/2023	\$ 100,000						
DLCD Grant Young Planning Grant	GY-23-067		7/12/2021	4/30/23 closeout						Angela Williamson, Angela.WILLIAMSON@dlcd.oregon.gov	Code amendments for the Airport Industrial Park and Downtown areas to allow for a broader range of land uses. It was for AMD-21-04 and AMD-22-01. Both files are in the CityPlanner folder.
Brock Eckstein Projects											
URA Loan - Housing Development	L22013										
3D Rural Housing for Regional Equity in Recovery	HA-23-172	DLCD	11/2/2021	5/21/2023	\$ 60,000						
Oregon Main Street Report				Due 12/31/22						Cam Amabile, Cam.AMABILE@oprdr.oregon.gov	

Nick Green still Handling									
Award Title	Award #	Agency	Effective Date	Deadline	Award Amount	Status	Last Disb?	Report?	
HB5006 Broadband	2017HB5006	DAS	11/8/2017		\$ 1,836,000				
John Day Community Broadband	07-79-07789	EDA	4/20/2022	4/19/2025	\$ 1,804,475				
<b>Projects and Account #s</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Account #</b>							
GIS/Innovation Gateway	8154 Grant 66250-03- 075								
Iron Triangle Phase 1	N20012	B.O	4/16/2020	4/15/2023	\$ 38,930.00				HOMDLAC Karen * BIZ <Karen.HOMOLAC@biz.ore gon.gov>

## ACTION ITEMS

- 4. Fill Vacant council spot
- 5. Nick Ducote contract
- ✓ 6. Work Session (Dates)
- ✓ 7. Public records request (wave fee)
- 8. Airport Property *Industrial*
- 9. *ODOT CURB*

## 9. OTHER BUSINESS & UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Other Business:

- a) Interim City Manager Recruitment
- b) Position Vacancies Current Planning has 2 spots and Budget has 4
- c) Council Executive Session on SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Contract (date)
- d) Supplemental Budget (waiting for Solutions)
- e) City Handbook Revisions for Adoption (Admin team?)
- f) Council Rules for Adoption
- g) Other Business

Next Council Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 14th, 2023 7pm

*15 6pm*



Re: City of John Day - Qualified Consultant List

**To:** City of John Day  
**From:** Ducote Consulting, LLC  
**Re:** City of John Day - Qualified Consultant List  
**Date:** June 28, 2021

**Introduction:** Thank you for the opportunity to propose our services to your community. Ducote Consulting is committed to the local agency project and looks forward to the opportunity to help advance your City's projects and priorities. We take the time to understand your concerns, your priorities for the project, and maximize the skills and value of all project partners for the benefit of the agency and its constituency. Ducote Consulting specializes in the CDBG program and interpreting federal and state funding rules. We will succinctly communicate how these rules impact the project, grantee, and other invested parties. As the City's local advisor, we will track the project, keep project partners on task, and provide insight to the City could there be any negative impacts to the project or ratepayers.

Ducote Consulting proposes to continue serving the City of John Day in many of the same ways:

- Funding strategy and funding agency coordination
- Grant-writing and grant management
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews
- Labor Standards compliance (Davis-Bacon and BOLI)
- Economic Feasibility studies, stakeholder engagement and facilitation

And new areas:

- Environmental Project Management and
- Environmental Technical and Professional Services

Ducote Consulting believes that a team approach to environmental work that begins with funding strategy and project scoping will better serve the City's on-going project needs. Through a partnership with J-U-B Engineers (J-U-B) and Blue Mountain Consulting: Public History and Archaeology (BMC), can provide a full suite of environmental services to the City through a partnership. Ducote Consulting has an excellent working relationship with J-U-B and BMC. We believe Ducote Consulting can expand our offering of services to the City to include all needed environmental studies and permitting for the City's many projects. The only exception would be soil science and contamination clean up plans. Knowing some of the obstacles and difficulties faced by the City in the past, Ducote Consulting approached BMC and J-U-B about making a one-stop suite of environmental services that would fit under the Ducote Consulting's overall environmental project management, scoping, and NEPA reports.

#### **Contact Information**

**Primary Contact:** Nicholas Ducote, President | Ducote Consulting LLC  
PO Box 596 | La Grande, Oregon 97850  
541-805-5543 | [DucoteConsulting@gmail.com](mailto:DucoteConsulting@gmail.com)



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J-U-B Contact: Shae Talley, P.E., La Grande Area Manager | J-U-B Engineers, Inc.  
1201 Adams Ave., La Grande, OR 97850  
[stalley@jub.com](mailto:stalley@jub.com) | 541-963-7100

Blue Mountain Consulting contact: Linda Jerofke, Lead Archaeologist  
60500 Bushnell Rd., La Grande, OR 97850  
541-786-8892 | [ljerofke@gmail.com](mailto:ljerofke@gmail.com)

### **Ducote Consulting History**

After working with J-U-B Engineers as a funding Specialist and technical writer, Nicholas Ducote started Ducote Consulting LLC in 2016 to expand grant and funding-related services outside of a single engineering firm. We operate one location in La Grande, Oregon and work in Umatilla, Morrow, Baker, Union, and Grant counties. Ducote Consulting's specialty is Community Development Block Grant application development, grant administration, environmental reviews, and labor standards. We also work with Eastern Oregon non-profits on a variety of community projects in La Grande, Elgin, Union, and Umatilla.

Our primary focus is the Oregon Community Development Block Grant program and we are highly engaged statewide on CDBG issues. We also deal with many different federal funding sources and requirements. We frequently interact with Business Oregon at various levels, including IFA Board Meetings and Annual Action Development Committee meetings that determine the *Method of Distribution* rules and CDBG scoring for the state. We are familiar, and work often with, IFA Staff at all levels and are well-versed in the agency's operation. We commit time to researching not only the guidelines, rules, and published manuals like the *Grant Management Handbook*, but the primary sources of those rules – the Code of Federal Regulations, HUD policy and technical memos, Executive Orders, etc. Our team regularly works with technical manuals like the CDBG *Grant Management Handbook*, including but not limited to *Oregon State Environmental Review Process*, the *Method of Distribution*, HUD's *Notice CPD-14-013*, *Corps of Engineers' Wetland Delineation Manual*, *Army Corps of Engineers easement procedures*. We are familiar with the grant rules of Community Development Block Grant, Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund, the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, Water Resources Department's grants, Economic Development Administration, and Business Oregon's Special Public Works Fund.

Ducote Consulting LLC's work revolves around municipal-level public works, community facilities, infrastructure, and federal funding programs. We excel in shepherding projects from development through implementation, including project scoping, grant-writing, environmental review documents, procurement/bidding assistance, and labor standards compliance during construction.

Owning and operating a small business dedicated to CDBG work means we do not spend working time to some of the activities that consume time in larger organizations. Instead, our time focuses on completing project tasks and communicating with clients and project staff. We dedicate more than 40 hours a week to making your project successful when deadlines demand it. We pride ourselves on meeting deadlines in a professional and organized manner.



Re: City of John Day - Qualified Consultant List

Our recent and active clients include Community Counseling Solutions and the cities of Dayville, Irrigon, John Day, Seneca, Ontario, Mount Vernon, Umatilla, Haines, Elgin, North Powder, and Monument. Ducote Consulting works with these agencies on Oregon CDBG projects, other public works/infrastructure grants and loans, infrastructure, and community facility projects. Interfacing with funding agencies, especially those that administer federal infrastructure funds, brings additional layers of complexity to City projects, and Ducote Consulting will help the City navigate them. Some projects can take years and Ducote Consulting works for your agency and the project, not another company. When engineers, agency staff, or City staff turnover, Ducote Consulting will keep advancing the project. The figure below illustrates our varied and broad experience with federal infrastructure funding, and the associated requirements, in Eastern Oregon since 2015:

	CDBG Grant Admin	CDBG Env Rev	SRF Proj. Mang	SRF Grant/Loan Writing	CDBG Grant- Writing	Davis-Bacon/BOLI Compliance	Other Env Rev (USDA and DEQ)
City of Elgin	X	X		X			
City of Haines	X	X	X	X	X	X	
City of Irrigon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
City of Mount Vernon	X	X				X	
City of Monument	X	X			X	X	
City of Seneca	X	X				X	X
City of John Day	X	X			X		X
City of Umatilla	X	X		X	X		X
City of North Powder	X	X			X		
City of Ontario	X					X	
City of Dayville	X	X			X	X	X

**Available Resources and Team**

We are available immediately to work on your projects. Our Team is prepared to commit long-term to the success of your project, and we will be available to perform all project tasks. Because we have many active CDBG projects, our understanding of the program is vast and broad. Each additional CDBG project that our firm takes on adds to our streamlined project management approach and library of experience. Three of our CDBG projects – Mt Vernon, Haines, and Seneca – wrapped up in 2020. An additional four CDBG projects – Irrigon, Elgin, Monument, and North Powder – will closeout throughout 2021. Our firm’s 2021-2022 schedule has opened up after an extremely busy 2020 closing out projects. We are ready to begin work on your project as soon as the procurement process is completed.

Ducote Consulting will require no sub-contractors to fulfill the tasks of: Funding strategy and funding agency coordination, grant-writing and grant management, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews, Labor Standards compliance (Davis-Bacon and BOLI), and Economic Feasibility studies, stakeholder engagement and facilitation. Your day-to-day contact will be Nicholas Ducote. As illustrated previously, we have no difficulties managing multiple CDBG projects simultaneously. In fact,



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our regular interaction with program rules on a wide variety of projects has given us a comprehensive picture of the many possible complications and precedents.

We work alongside engineering, architecture, and construction project partners and we will be a third-party check and balance on the process. We are fluent in technical “engineer-speak” and sometimes work as copy editors for engineers to help communicate complex ideas in a simple and understandable fashion. We will represent the City and project interests first. Our President, Nicholas Ducote, will be your primary point of contact and your project will not be relegated to junior staff members. Our experience on large and complex CDBG projects will enable our firm to help you complete regulatory hurdles without burdening City staff.

For more technical and detailed environmental field work and permitting, Ducote Consulting will oversee and integrate a team of J-U-B’s wetland and environmental specialists and BMC’s archaeologist, allowing our team to complete all aspects of environmental work for the City. This will enable closer integration of the NEPA report and overarching state or federal requirements with specific aspects of the environmental and technical field work. J-U-B and BMC would sub-contract directly to Ducote Consulting for this environmental work. Ducote Consulting will be able to see all project-related environmental tasks accomplished from initial scoping to final permitting. The sub-contractor relationship will also establish more regular oversight and management of all tasks.

J-U-B’s responsibilities would include: Wetland Delineation, Biological Assessments, Joint Permit Application, State Removal/Fill Permit, Environmental Scans and Feasibility Studies, Air Quality and Noise Analysis, Habitat and Natural Systems Restoration, Invasive Species Management Plans, and Habitat Replacement Plans.

BMC’s responsibilities would include: Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 Archaeological Surveys, including Sub-Surface Archaeological Studies, State Historic Preservation Office permitting, Above-Ground 106 Building Surveys and Consultations, and archaeological desk audits (no site visit, but instead a review of all archaeological surveys within a mile of a project).

Nicholas Ducote of Ducote Consulting has worked closely with J-U-B for almost seven years and continues to work closely with the La Grande, Boise, and Kennewick offices. As the City Engineer in Irrigon, Umatilla, Elgin (formerly), and Haines, we worked closely with J-U-B on many projects. Shae Talley, the La Grande Area Manager, would be the primary J-U-B contact, although the individual doing most of the wetlands work will be Tyler Schade. Tyler’s resume is included after this memo. We have also worked with BMC on a variety of archaeological projects in Haines, Seneca, Mount Vernon, Irrigon, Elgin, and John Day over the last six years.

Blue Mountain Consulting has been in business since 2005, is woman and veteran owned, and are Oregon SHPO Directory-qualified archaeologists with ODOT archaeological certification and Federal Law Enforcement Training for Archaeology for Jerofke and Harvey. BMC’s Business Resume is attached at the end of this document.



Re: City of John Day - Qualified Consultant List

**Prices Sheet**

**Ducote Consulting Price List:**

- \$100/hr
- Negotiated lump sums for funding applications
- Travel expenses included

**J-U-B Prices**

- \$90/hour for Environmental Scientist
- \$128/hour for Environmental Specialist - Lead
- \$170/hour for Environmental Specialist – Discipline Lead
- \$172/hour for Project Manager
- Use federal per diem rates for hotel and mileage
- Rates provided are for the year 2021 and are subject to change on a yearly basis.

**BMC Prices**

- \$70/hour for Principal Investigator
- \$70/hour for Archaeologist I
- \$25/hour for Archaeological Technician
- \$1400 for SHPO Permit
- Use federal per diem rates for hotel and mileage

**References**

Name	Organization / Position	Address	Email	Phone #	Exp.
Valerie Russell	City of Haines City Administrator	819 Front Street Haines, Oregon 97833	<a href="mailto:haines@cascadeaccess.com">haines@cascadeaccess.com</a>	(541) 856-3366	6 yrs
Aaron Palmquist	City of Irrigon City Manager	500 NE Main Avenue Irrigon, OR 97844	<a href="mailto:aaron.palmquist@ci.irrigon.or.us">aaron.palmquist@ci.irrigon.or.us</a>	(541) 922-3047	6 yrs

**Insurance Information**

Ducote Consulting LLC possess Professional Liability insurance (\$2m) and general liability (\$2m/1m). We also hold a Worker's Compensation policy. A Certificate of Insurance attached to this proposal.

Signed: 

Date: 6/29/21

Nicholas Ducote / President and CEO, Ducote Consulting LLC



Name	City	State	Postal Cod	Country	Signed On
Judy Schuette	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Jesse Schaefer	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Ryan McKnab	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Kay Steele	RITTER	OR	97856	US	1/13/2023
Lisa Weigum	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Lynn Burton	John day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Hannah Grist	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Sarah Brown	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Jeremy Mothershead	CANYON CITY	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Russell Comer	John day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Linda Gingrich	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Julie Rhodes	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Rhiannon Bauman	Prairie City	OR	97869	US	1/13/2023
Haley Hueckman	Baker City	OR	97814	US	1/13/2023
Morgan Green	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Thomas Haney	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Nick Green	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Ethan Haney	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Barbara Williams	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Doug Smith	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Mindy Walker	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Jessi Brunson	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/13/2023
Vicki Lundbom	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/13/2023
Susan Church	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Hannah Hinman	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Lauren Romstad	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Katie Hughes	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Chris Cronin	John Day	OR	97820	US	1/14/2023
Ashley Stevick	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Andrea Comer	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/14/2023
Matthew Franklin	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Kevin Green	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Elaine Mezzo	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Angie jones	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Scott McDonald	Mount Vernon	OR	97865	US	1/14/2023
Patti Powell	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Kim Smith	Canyon City	Or	97820	US	1/14/2023
Laci Wheeler	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/14/2023
Anne Schneider	Canyon City	OR	97820	US	1/14/2023
Sierra Hutchison	Seneca	OR	97873	US	1/14/2023
Carli Bremner	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Chris Labhart	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Amy Charette	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
Lisa Valade	La Grande	OR	97850	US	1/14/2023
Leslie Stillwater	John Day	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023
PAM JOHNSON	JOHN DAY	OR	97845	US	1/14/2023

Adam Hofpar	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/14/2023
Teri Stewart-Bowden	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/14/2023
Steve Schuette	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/14/2023
Jim Spell	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/14/2023
Pamela Durr	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/14/2023
Charol Smith	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/14/2023
Tanya Hunt	Pendleton	OR	97801 US	1/15/2023
Cynthia Kranich	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/15/2023
Sina Schoenlein	Mount Vernon	OR	97865 US	1/15/2023
Ginger Haney	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/15/2023
Patricia Ross	Mount Vernon	OR	97865 US	1/15/2023
Leslie Walker	John day	OR	97845 US	1/15/2023
Jeanette Wilson	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/15/2023
Beth Spell	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/15/2023
Ashleigh Romero	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/16/2023
Dan Cronin	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
Tami Kowing	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/16/2023
Don Hann	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/16/2023
Rebecca Carey	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
Stephan Charette	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
Brianna Majors	Mount Vernon	OR	97865 US	1/16/2023
Adele Cerny	Canyon city	OR	97820 US	1/16/2023
Mark Cerny	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/16/2023
Kyra Weaver	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
John Van Gundy	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
Tracy Clark	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
Valerie Bennett	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/16/2023
Nancy Collins	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/16/2023
Vicki Thompson	Mt Vernon	OR	97865 US	1/16/2023
Jeff Meyerholz	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/17/2023
Pam Minster	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Rick Minster	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Dan Becker	Prairie City	OR	97869 US	1/17/2023
Shelley Wyllie	Dayville	OR	97825 US	1/17/2023
Ron Lundbom	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Jennifer Brown	Bend	OR	97703 US	1/17/2023
Sandra Murray	Prairie City	OR	97869 US	1/17/2023
Carlene Johnston	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Teresa Raaf	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/17/2023
Nanette Walker	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Stephanie Parsons	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Oran Wyatt	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/17/2023
Sherri Lundbom	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Makenna Adair	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/17/2023
Shannon Adair	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/17/2023
Charles Wilson	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/18/2023
RC Huerta	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/18/2023

Jessie Huerta	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/18/2023
Jeannine Sibley	Prairie City	OR	97869 US	1/18/2023
Vanessa Houpt	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/18/2023
Austin Weaver	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/19/2023
Asya Long	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/20/2023
Susan Sintay	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/21/2023
Tamera Holland	John Day	OR	97845 US	1/22/2023
logan casteel	Canyon City	OR	97820 US	1/23/2023



January 17, 2024

Memo to: Mayor Rookstool and the John Day City Councilors

Re: Open position on City Council

I was in attendance at the January 10 Council meeting when it was requested that members of the public send in their thoughts concerning the selection of a new councilor for the open position. Here are my thoughts:

I listened to each of the applicants introduce themselves and describe why they thought they would be qualified to be appointed to the council. When it came time to vote, I was surprised that John Meiling received 3 votes. At that point the only thing I knew about him was his brief verbal presentation to the Council. I do not know John Meiling and have not read his application. In later discussion, Mayor Rookstool read us a portion of his application that did explain more of his thoughts about being on City Council. But, according to further input from council and the audience, it appears that John Meiling does not have a history of doing the things he says he believes in. We heard that he has not run for or held an elective office, has not served on a volunteer board, and has not been a business person or public servant in this community. In other words, John Meiling has not shown himself to be a leader.

When questioned as to why the Mayor and Councilors had voted for Mr. Meiling, the primary reason seemed to be that "change" had been requested by the voters. I believe that the voters were asking for more than change. I believe the voters (myself included) were asking for a leader who could help create change.

To be a good leader in the City of John Day, councilors need to make decisions that they believe are the best for the city. The mayor and councilors need to listen to staff, mentors and outside experts before making decisions. They need to make sure that the information they receive is factual and complete. They need to be sure, to the best of their ability, that the actions they take follow city policy plus state and federal law. It is a hard job, requiring time and commitment.

As was evident at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, the mayor and council members need assistance from those who have had experience in council meetings and city issues. For example, the former mayor has been appointed to help with issues previously handled by the city managers. Also, we heard from Ms Bass of Solutions that there had been a "mass exodus" of city employees with knowledge and experience.

Since, the appointment of a new councilor would be a short-term position (less than 2 years), I believe it would be helpful to have an individual familiar with public meeting law and current city projects, as well as the city budget. Both Shannon Adair and Chris Labhardt have that experience and proven leadership.

Thank you for your time.

Tracie Unterwegner  
226 Franke Drive  
John Day  
541-620-8124

Eric Bush  
304 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
John Day, OR 97845

January 12, 2023

Mayor Rookstool and Council,

I am writing to express my support for Jon Meiling as a candidate for John Day City Council. I was recently informed that Jon applied for and is a finalist in this process.

I have known Jon since May of 2022, when I purchased a home on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, directly across from his. Jon was quick to introduce himself and it was obvious from meeting him that he is community minded and interested in his neighborhood and City. From time to time Jon has volunteered to help both my wife and I on small projects around our new house and keeps a close eye on our place when we're not home.

We trade produce from his garden for eggs and beef we raise and he truly is a common sense, down to earth individual and good neighbor. Jon, in my opinion, is committed to our community, is gracious and thoughtful. He would make a great member of the John Day City Council.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Eric Bush', with a large loop at the end.

Eric Bush

## City of John Day

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**From:** Elaine Mezzo <elainemezzo@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 10:49 AM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Letter of support/Adair

January 9, 2023

To: John Day City Council

I am in favor of choosing Shannon Adair to the John Day City Council. Shannon is an excellent person to be on the council as she is and has been involved in the betterment of John Day in many capacities for many years. Shannon has foresight and history with our community. She is knowledgeable and dedicated. I've experienced her gifts and qualities when she was a dance instructor many years ago and my daughter was involved w the dance team. She has a well run and respected business and I believe she has only the best interests of our community in mind.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Elaine Mezzo  
907 E Main Street  
John Day, OR  
97845

Sent from my iPhone

To the John Day City council,

I want to submit my letter of support for Shannon Adair to be on the city council. I have known Shannon for approximately 18 years, and during that time, I have seen her drive and passion for improving our community. Not only have I seen her help the youth in our community I have seen her create thriving businesses. Believe that with her vision and passion, she would make an excellent addition to the city council and move our wonderful community in great directions.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sheilah Mezzo  
907 East Main st  
John Day, OR 97845

## City of John Day

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**From:** Jim and Beth Spell <jimandbethspell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 12:36 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Council appointment

We are out of town and may not be back in time for tonight's council meeting. We would like to offer our support for Shannon Adair to fill the seat on the council vacated by the current mayor.

We have known Shannon for many years and have observed her dedication to serving the community in many different capacities.

Her experience on city council will aid in providing continuity to city programs as well as offering institutional knowledge that will give a sound understanding that will be used in decision making for the future needs of our community. .

Thank you,,

Jim and Beth Spell

314 E Main St, John Day, OR 97845.

Residents of John Day since August 1972.

Letter to the Editor (submitted Jan. 13, 2023)

Title: Vote will affect economic health of City

In order to hire the best person for a job, you look for the most qualified, experienced and skilled person to fill a position. At the January 10<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, Shannon Adair, was that person. As a former City Council member, she is knowledgeable and experienced in city issues and current projects. She earned the confidence of 376 voters in the November election, only 19 votes less than her opponent. Three councilors chose to vote for a person with absolutely no experience or background in City issues. The vote was a 3-3 tie, so the position was left vacant at a crucial time with the loss of the City Manager and several other staff.

The City of John Day is at a critical crossroads in its economic development. The City Council will be confronted with many important decisions in the near future, which include projects in mid-completion and hiring a new City Manager. The council needs to have as much expertise on board as possible.

The economic health of the entire county depends on the success of all of its cities. We hope that the councilors will reconsider their vote, and vote for the most qualified candidate at the next meeting.

Adele and Mark Cerny

Bear Valley, Oregon

## City of John Day

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**From:** Kay Scheurer Steele <scheurersteele.kay@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 16, 2023 4:12 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Be inclusive - the only path forward

Dear John Day City Council Members,

Respectfully, for you to consider and record, I am providing you a copy of this Letter to the Editor submitted to the Blue Mountain Eagle.

Sincerely,

Kay Scheurer Steele

Ritter

TITLE: Be inclusive – the only path forward

Here is a case of “half a dozen this and six of another.” Last November, nearly half of the John Day voters gave their vote of confidence to Shannon Adair (narrowly defeated by only 17 votes) to represent their views on the city council. At the first meeting of the new city council January 10th, half of the council members continued to give their support to Shannon Adair as an applicant to fill the seat vacated by the current mayor. It did not appear that votes for Adair were in any way merely an anti-vote against her opponent. It was overwhelmingly apparent by so many testimonials that Adair holds high respect through her record of giving and competence, benefitting John Day residents. So why didn't the others, the mayor and newly elected council members, recognize her status in the community and act to be inclusive of her (and nearly half the voters)?

If they had supported someone who had an established record of community service and skills required for the position, one could understand their introduction of an unknown applicant. Instead, siding against Adair left 376 voters discounted in favor of an inexperienced person with no proven credits to his name.

There is only one path forward for John Day, and in fact, for the entire county, the country, the world – make a commitment to be inclusive.

This means stop demonizing the “other.” Don't give into social cynicism by those who impulsively defame and blame anyone who disagrees with them while never offering real solutions. The only hope is to be certain that all key actors are represented at the table, to be inclusive of ALL the voters' interests. Listen to one another. Then engage in good-faith negotiations. Install Shannon Adair. Thereby, newly elected, you prove your wish to be transparent and independent of any politicized group. If you can do this, there is hope for the city and, therefore, the county to flourish. As goes John Day, so goes Grant County. (Hence, county residents watch your actions with a vested interest.)

Kay Scheurer Steele

Ritter

SUBMITTED TO THE BLUE MOUNTAIN EAGLE, 1/13/2023

## City of John Day

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**From:** John Van Gundy <jvangundy53@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 5:19 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** City Council Vote

Dear City Council Members,

How many letters does it take for the City Council to realize a majority of residents want someone who is qualified to fill the vacant City Council seat. Shannon Adair is the best-qualified person. Gridlock isn't good for anybody who lives in John Day.

John H. Van Gundy



## City of John Day

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**From:** Leslie Stillwater <lstillwater@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2023 2:58 AM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Support for Shannon Adair

Shannon is experienced, qualified and dedicated to improvement for the City of John Day. I would like her to continue on our City Council.

Leslie Stillwater

## City of John Day

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**From:** Adele Cerny <cernyadele512@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 9, 2023 4:44 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Support for Shannon Adair appointment

John Day Mayor Rookstool and City Councilors

Dear Mayor Rookstool and Councilors,  
We urge you to appoint Shannon Adair to fill the vacant position on City Council. We have been impressed by her dedication and commitment to public service as a member of the City Council. Ms. Adair is experienced in the operations and procedures of the City. She has shown positive leadership in her relationships with the community and staff. She is very knowledgeable about the current projects and the city's overall vision for the future. These skills are all important to team building and effectiveness in a governing body.

Although we live in Bear Valley, we know that decisions made by the City of John Day will affect the rest of the county. The City has been on a positive trajectory and we would like to see that continue in order to ensure an economically viable future for our county.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Adele and Mark Cerny

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*Adele and Mark Cerny*  
541.542.2633  
[cernyadele512@gmail.com](mailto:cernyadele512@gmail.com)

**Stephenie Allen**

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**From:** Pam Minster <pamminster@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 11, 2023 3:29 PM  
**To:** City of John Day

John Day Mayor Rookstool and City Councilors

Dear Mayor Rookstool and Councilors,

We urge you to appoint Shannon Adair to fill the vacant position on City Council. Her experience on the council and knowledge of current projects is valuable. Shannon has the background and knowledge to hit the ground running. We admire her commitment to public service in our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Rick and Pam Minster

234 NW Charolais Hts. John Day

To: John Day City Council members,

This letter is about Jon Meiling. When Jon first moved to John Day (Dec 2019) he and his wife lived in my rental house on West highway. I rented my house to Jon over the phone. I asked him to call me when they arrived at my house so we could meet and he pay the rent/security deposit. He didn't do that. I had to drive by and see he was there. In my house, U-haul truck unloaded. Been there for hours he said. He was very disrespectful and just didn't care. I felt I made a mistake by renting to him without meeting him first.

He wasn't a good neighbor either. There were complaints of his dog unleashed outside my fenced in yard. He lived their 6 months.

As a landlord for 25 years, if you were to ask me if I would rent to him again, my answer would be NO.

My vote is for Shannon, whom I've never met but have heard lots of good things about her. I believe she would be the better choice for our community.

Thank you for listening and for all your hard work you do for the City of John City.

Vicki Lundbom – John Day, Oregon  
1-16-2023

*Vicki Lundbom*

RECEIVED  
JAN 17 2023  
CITY OF JOHN DAY

Jesse Schaefer  
204 N Scenic Dr  
Canyon City, OR 97820

January 18, 2022  
John Day City Council  
450 E Main St  
John Day, OR 97845

Dear council members:

At the January 10 council meeting, when asked how the council would break the deadlocked vote for appointing a council member to the vacant seat, Mayor Rookstool advised the community to come forward with their opinions. I am following that request.

I urge you to appoint Shannon Adair to the vacant city council position. Shannon lost her seat in the September election by only 18 votes. Clearly, she has the support of a large segment of the community. The City of John Day has a serious need for stability and experienced leadership. For the mayor and other councilors to reject Shannon in favor of a candidate with little experience in local government shows poor judgement and a disregard of their constituents.

Please acknowledge the many community members who have clearly voiced their support for Shannon Adair and cast your vote accordingly.

Thank you,

Jesse Schaefer

2022 JAN 18 10:00 AM  
CANYON CITY, OR

To: John Day City Council

I am in favor of choosing Shannon Adair to the John Day City Council. Shannon is an excellent person to be on the council as she is and has been involved in the betterment of John Day in many capacities for many years. Shannon has foresight and history with our community. She is knowledgeable and dedicated.

Zola Pike  
27658 Blue Heron Rd  
John Day, OR 97845

## City of John Day

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**From:** Kay Scheurer Steele <scheurersteele.kay@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 10, 2023 2:37 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Appoint Shannon Adair

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023

John Day Mayor, Heather Rookstool

John Day City Council Members

Dear John Day City Council Members, and Mayor Rookstool,

We hear that some residents are leaving the city to escape the current turmoil between opposing representatives. If true, it is a meaningless move because those of us living remotely outside of the town know how deeply the entire county depends upon the successful management of this economic and social hub of Grant County. It's a fact, as goes John Day so goes the county.

New members are now in place with one seat to be filled by appointment. If you genuinely hope to bring the entire community together, please appoint someone who has breadth and depth (experience!) to provide a balance at the table. Without full representation of all positions within your council, your policy choices will carry little weight in convincing a large number of voters that you are genuinely working in everyone's interests. Appointing Shannon Adair would go a long way to giving your current city council credibility and balance in the eyes of all who are watching you today.

Thank you for your attention, wishing you a positive start to 2023.

Kay Scheurer Steele

Ritter resident, and economic supporter of John Day businesses.

## City of John Day

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**From:** Kay Scheurer Steele <scheurersteele.kay@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 16, 2023 4:12 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Be inclusive - the only path forward

Dear John Day City Council Members,

Respectfully, for you to consider and record, I am providing you a copy of this Letter to the Editor submitted to the Blue Mountain Eagle.

Sincerely,

Kay Scheurer Steele

Ritter

**TITLE: Be inclusive – the only path forward**

Here is a case of “half a dozen this and six of another.” Last November, nearly half of the John Day voters gave their vote of confidence to Shannon Adair (narrowly defeated by only 17 votes) to represent their views on the city council. At the first meeting of the new city council January 10th, half of the council members continued to give their support to Shannon Adair as an applicant to fill the seat vacated by the current mayor. It did not appear that votes for Adair were in any way merely an anti-vote against her opponent. It was overwhelmingly apparent by so many testimonials that Adair holds high respect through her record of giving and competence, benefitting John Day residents. So why didn't the others, the mayor and newly elected council members, recognize her status in the community and act to be inclusive of her (and nearly half the voters)?

If they had supported someone who had an established record of community service and skills required for the position, one could understand their introduction of an unknown applicant. Instead, siding against Adair left 376 voters discounted in favor of an inexperienced person with no proven credits to his name.

There is only one path forward for John Day, and in fact, for the entire county, the country, the world – make a commitment to be inclusive.

This means stop demonizing the “other.” Don't give into social cynicism by those who impulsively defame and blame anyone who disagrees with them while never offering real solutions. The only hope is to be certain that all key actors are represented at the table, to be inclusive of ALL the voters' interests. Listen to one another. Then engage in good-faith negotiations. Install Shannon Adair. Thereby, newly elected, you prove your wish to be transparent and independent of any politicized group. If you can do this, there is hope for the city and, therefore, the county to flourish. As goes John Day, so goes Grant County. (Hence, county residents watch your actions with a vested interest.)

Kay Scheurer Steele

Ritter

SUBMITTED TO THE BLUE MOUNTAIN EAGLE, 1/13/2023



January 14, 2023

Dear John Day Council Members,

This letter is in support of Shannon Adair's expressed interest in continuing her position on the John Day City Council. Her dedication, knowledge, vision, and long-term commitment to Grant County's citizens are a few of the many reasons why I fully support her.

First, her dedication to John Day and the extended community is substantial. Knowing Shannon for over 20 years, I have witnessed her commitment to providing opportunities for community members of all ages. From establishing Body Fitness and Dance to opening 1188, one of the most successful establishments in town, she understands local business owners' challenges. She also understands the importance of thinking through how community decisions impact all individuals, from our youth, stay-at-home parents, and retirees to prospective business owners and entrepreneurs.

Secondly, growing up in John Day, Shannon has an in-depth knowledge of the history of Grant County and understands the impact that John Day's decisions have not only on John Day, but all of the outlying communities as well. Dayville, Monument, Long Creek, Prairie City, Mt. Vernon, Canyon City, and Seneca are all impacted by the vitality or lack-there-of of John Day. Grant County depends on John Day, the central hub for most local necessary supplies. Some outlying area citizens also work in John Day or run businesses there. All contribute in one way or another to John Day's economy. Shannon knows the importance of thinking of the big picture and how it impacts the entire county.

Finally, I point out the importance of the necessary vision to fully grasp the complexity of ensuring continuity on the John Day City Council by having Shannon Adair continue. She is the bridge between old and new members and can assist with the completion of current imperative unfinished grant projects that are vital to our citizens and ultimately impact everyone. Her extensive background in business and visionary leadership to think and act upon decisions for future generations is what the city council needs to be highly effective.

In conclusion, I hope the council will listen to all of the community members regardless of their differences of opinion. You must take a big-picture look at the strengths of your council members and see that you still need one significant key individual that Shannon Adair can fill.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Smith  
Canyon City Resident

To John Day City Council

This letter is to say that I lived next door to Jon Meiling for the 6 mos. + never had a problem.

He was a very good neighbor.

As for the complaints about his dog Rocky. They came from John McNeely as he is the only other house on this street.

I think that Jon would make a very good member of the Council.

Sandra S. Hawks

1/23/23

## City of John Day

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**From:** Kay Scheurer Steele <scheurersteele.kay@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 9:24 AM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** Address to New Council from Kay Steele

1/23/2023

To Heather Rookstool, Sherrie Rininger and Ron Phillips:

As the new mayor of John Day, Heather Rookstool, and as new city councilor members, Sherrie Rininger and Ron Phillips, you are now in a position to make positive changes away from the recent political culture of division. Individually or collectively, you have stated your desire to build trust in local leadership through "respect."

I must be candid and transparent with you. Those who did not vote for you (and county residents who follow the functionality of John Day leaders with vested interest) are challenged to accept the sincerity of your words because several loud voices campaigning for your candidacies publicly direct personal attacks against the character of individuals you opposed on the ballot. Without publicly denouncing such personal attacks, people were left to wonder if you were sanctioning their divisive behavior. So, there is work to be done to clarify where your loyalties are aligned now that you are obligated to represent all the voices of your constituency. That said, there is a path forward that can work for each of you, as well as for the entire city (and county) community.

You have already taken the first step by assessing the budget work of your predecessors. The recent very positive audit report made it clear that you are standing on the shoulders of competent, economically stable, former managers. Former accusations about city representatives being guilty of manipulation of money were just not true. The numbers prove that. You have a lot of good ground to build upon.

You are not obligated to any group or person who resorts to bad behaviors in order to undermine reconciliation with those who oppose your views. Reconciliation is how to begin building respect and dignity in the public forum. People want leaders who understand that *we actually need each other as critics*. We all make assumptions that support our biases. "The others" see those assumptions better than us. Pointing out the common ground along with points of differences about issues (without personal attacks) brings clarity about paths forward in the form of creative policies. A resulting good policy is strengthened, not weakened, by respectful counter arguments. The community wins; and opposing leaders can walk down Main Street and proudly greet one another. Again, more than just being civil, leaders at the table need to realize that opposing minds truly need each other for the well-being of their community. The goal should not be to load the council with all like-minded representatives. Rather, appoint the most competent, experienced, honest, open-minded applicants to ensure a balance of power that will produce policies based on the best ideas. This would represent a true political victory for the whole community.

Some ideas for rules for engagement:

- Acknowledge a common "good will" with "the others" who also deeply care about the community; don't target perceived failures. Neither side has been perfect, and people deserve opportunities to learn.
- When needing to counter an opinion, target the specifics of an idea (not the person), but then, always offer alternate solutions. In other words, offer "policy" - do not attack character as a means to weaken opposing ideas.
- A diet of contempt and hateful voices will poison your heads and hearts. Make a commitment to avoid sources of demonizing podcasts, vitriolic social media platforms, news outlets lacking broad representation of voices. Speak to people face-to-face to find "that pulse" of your community.

- “Damning views dams discussion.” Upon making your case based on your biases, make a commitment to remain open-minded until all arguments are completed. In other words, *see yourself in “the other”* to encourage discussion. Suppress the emotional thought, “I’m above you” to avoid a failure to listen. To check yourself, repeat to your opponent what you heard them say.
- Everyone in the room (from the mayor and all councilors to commenters) would help bring needed change by consideration of these (and similar) ideas.

You ran for office because you strongly want to see John Day and, consequently, Grant County economically stable, safe, sustainable, prosperous for our small businesses, and thriving for families. Hopefully, you recognize that being inclusive of all who share these mutual goals is how to bring needed changes in our political environment. To begin this process, appointing Shannon Adair to the remaining council seat would be a wise step in providing continuity (experience), competence and expertise to the council. In doing so, you would be making a statement of loyalty and obligation to the entire community.

Thank you for your consideration of these thoughts.

Kay Steele

Ritter

## City of John Day

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**From:** Jessi Brunson <jessibru@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 9:40 PM  
**To:** City of John Day  
**Subject:** in favor of Shannon Adair for open city council seat

Dear Mayor Rookstool and John Day City Councillors,

Please vote for Shannon Adair for the open city council seat. At the last council meeting, Mayor Rookstool stated that “voters wanted change.” In reality, the 2022 election was a near tie—Rookstool won by only about 50 votes. The highest vote getter for city council was an incumbent (Kristina Randleas), and Ms. Adair fell short of a seat by only about 20 votes, or less than 1% of the total votes. These close margins are hardly a mandate for change; rather, the 2022 election endorses a more temperate and balanced government, not a complete 180-degree-turn from current policy. The council now has an opportunity to repair relationships between the county and other communities—thus why I, a Canyon City resident, am writing to you, the John Day City Council. Don’t squander this opportunity for repair by voting for someone who will fuel discord. Jon Meiling has encouraged harassment of city employees on social media. This conduct is unbecoming of a city councillor.

Mayor Rookstool, there will be times when we agree—a year ago you and I were both in favor of a community pool—and there will be times when we disagree. Either way, I want you and the council to succeed, as your success is our community’s success. You stated that you wanted to “convince those whose votes she [Rookstool] did not receive that she [Rookstool] is the right person for the job at this time (Davis 2022).” Show us you are the right person who can build bridges, literally and metaphorically, and that you will put the well-being of your city and your community above petty partisanship. Show us that you care about the stability and experience the city needs to continue to have clean audits in the future, especially with the plethora of ongoing complex projects. Ms. Adair can provide that stability and experience to help ensure a successful term for all of you.

Sincerely,  
Jessi Brunson  
301 Edgewood Drive  
Canyon City, Oregon 97820

Davis, Justin. (2022, November 8). “Rookstool unseats Lundbom in John Day Mayoral Race.” *Blue Mountain Eagle*. Updated Nov. 14, 2022. [https://www.bluemountaineagle.com/news/elections/rookstool-unseats-lundbom-in-john-day-mayoral-race/article\\_be874c94-5c97-11ed-872a-8fb04fa21612.html](https://www.bluemountaineagle.com/news/elections/rookstool-unseats-lundbom-in-john-day-mayoral-race/article_be874c94-5c97-11ed-872a-8fb04fa21612.html)

**sacrifice the safety of its citizens? Go ahead and ask Shannon if she also would also put safety of our community as a concern of her's.**

The city needs a full council to govern. Someone will need to change their vote. Here is where some strength of character can be demonstrated. Show us that you can change your vote to reflect the voices of the community. Those voices have been most numerous for Shannon Adair. Truly the most capable, competent applicant is Shannon Adair. Shannon Adair honors the work performed by the city employees and will not use them as a tool to create a more divided Grant County. Please use tonight's vote to help build a working relationship with your fellow councilors. Let's come together.

Ryan McKnab  
301 Edgewood, Dr  
Canyon City

Hello City Council Members,

This is Vicki Lundbom. I submitted

A letter to you on 1-16-23. Please

share my letter @ the next City

Council meeting on 1-24-23.

Thank you,

Vicki Lundbom

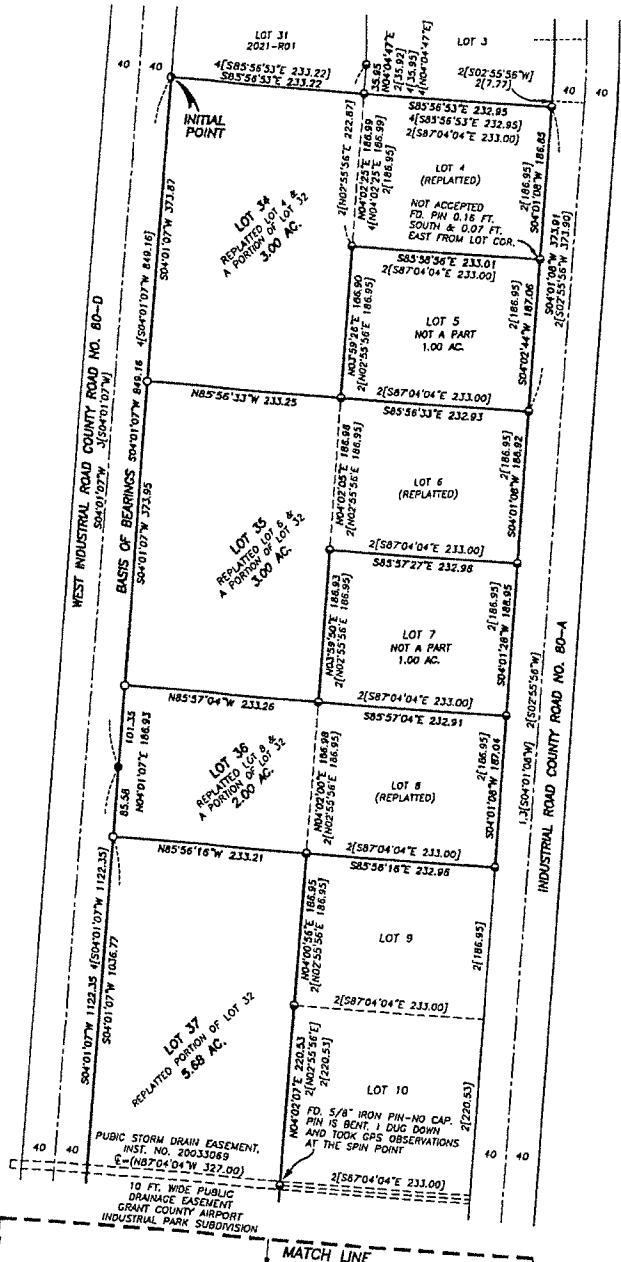
John Day

1-20-23

1-20-23  
1-20-23  
1-20-23

# REPLAT NO. 2022-R 01

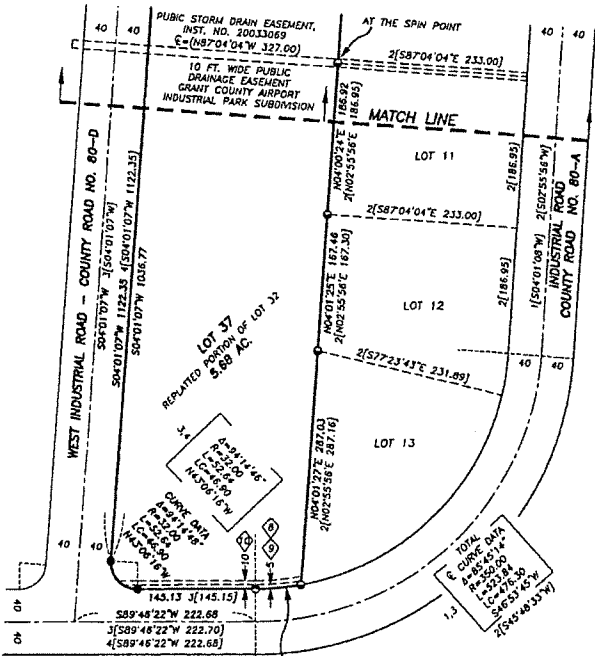
A REPLAT OF LOTS 4, 6 AND 8 OF GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION AND LOT 32 OF REPLAT NO. 2021-R01, GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION SITUATED IN THE SE1/4 SECTION 27, T.13S, R.31E, W.M., CITY OF JOHN DAY, GRANT COUNTY, OREGON



## BASIS OF BEARINGS

RECORD MAP OF SURVEY NO. 2167 AS SHOWN

- EASEMENT REFERENCE INFORMATION**
- 5 FT. WIDE PUBLIC EASEMENT: INSTRUMENT NO. 20053017
  - 5 FT. WIDE PRIVATE EASEMENT: INSTRUMENT NO. 20053019
  - 10 FT. WIDE PRIVATE EASEMENT: INSTRUMENT NO. 20053239
- EASEMENTS 8, 9 & 10 ARE PARALLEL TO THE SOUTH OF LOT 37



## LEGEND

- FOUND 5/8" IRON PIN WITH ATTACHED ALUMINUM CAP MARKED BCG SURVEY MARKER FROM SURVEY NO. 1659
- FOUND 5/8" IRON PIN WITH ATTACHED YELLOW PLASTIC CAP MARKED AFA FROM GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION PLAT - UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
- FOUND 5/8" IRON PIN WITH ATTACHED ALUMINUM CAP MARKED BCG SURVEY MARKER FROM SURVEY NO. 1715
- FOUND 5/8" IRON PIN WITH ATTACHED YELLOW PLASTIC CAP MARKED BCG SURVEY MARKER FROM SURVEY NO. 2167 (REPLAT NO. 2021-R01)
- SET 5/8"x30" IRON PIN WITH ATTACHED YELLOW PLASTIC CAP MARKED BENCHMARK SURVEYING
- [ ] RECORD BEARING AND DISTANCE FROM SURVEY NO. 1659
- [ ] RECORD BEARING AND DISTANCE FROM GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION PLAT
- [ ] RECORD BEARING AND DISTANCE FROM SURVEY NO. 1715
- [ ] RECORD BEARING AND DISTANCE FROM SURVEY NO. 2167 (REPLAT NO. 2021-R01)
- ◇ EASEMENT NUMBER CORRESPONDS EASEMENT LISTED ON SHEET 2

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL PLAT.

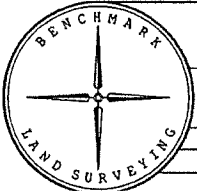
*[Signature]*  
BENCHMARK LAND SURVEYING

CURVE DATA  
 $\Delta = 10^{\circ}08'10''$   
 $R = 310.00$   
 $L = 54.84$   
 $LC = 54.77$   
 $SC = 42'17''$

$\Delta = 10^{\circ}08'10''$   
 $R = 310.00$   
 $L = 54.84$   
 $LC = 54.77$   
 $SC = 42'17''$

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR

*[Signature]*  
 OREGON  
 MAY 8, 2014  
 MICHAEL G. SPRINGER  
 #70918  
 EXPIRES: 8/30/2022



BENCHMARK LAND SURVEYING  
 217 N. CANYON BLVD. JOHN DAY, OREGON  
 541-375-1251 - benchmark131.com

A REPLAT IN GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION SITUATED IN THE SE1/4 SECTION 27, T.13S, R.31E, W.M., CITY OF JOHN DAY, GRANT COUNTY, OREGON

SURVEYED FOR	THE CITY OF JOHN DAY
SURVEYED BY	MCS
SCALE: 1"=100'	DRAWN BY: MCS
	1/4/2022
	SHEET 1 OF 2



Jim Spell  
314 E. Main  
John Day

Thank you for the opportunity to address council tonight.

Tonight, is another attempt to fill the vacant council position created when Heather became mayor. The last council voting resulted in a tie.

I am here to ask council to select Shannon Adair for the vacant position. I do not know John Meiling. In the last election he was not on the ballot seeking this position. What I do know about John was found on face book. It was stated he lives in Seaside, Oregon. He has been a truck driver but his present employment status is unknown to me. Exercising his right to have an opinion and free speech, John has posts on Facebook openly being critical regarding the local sheriff and chief deputy. He has been critical regarding Nick Green and council members. He wrote a letter in the BME against the aquatic center. I know nothing about his education, work experience or what he could contribute to council. Do two council members and the mayor know something about John that the public does not know? I was in a local business recently and saw grab bags for \$5 and \$10. Wow, put down some money and not know what you get. If you vote for Shannon you know what you get.

Heather served two years on council and must have an awareness of how Shannon functioned. I don't recall ever in council Heather strongly opposing Shannon's position nor have I heard Heather report any reason why Shannon should not be on council. An attribute of a good leader is the ability to make difficult decisions to support the operation of the organization. This council has major issues ahead of it and this position must be filled. I ask the mayor tonight to show leadership, do the right thing and bring this matter to a close.

## City of John Day

---

**From:** Heather Rookstool  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 8:45 PM  
**To:** GCPlan; City of John Day  
**Cc:** GCPlan  
**Subject:** Re: land use application fees

I can add this comment to our next meeting I'm trying to wk with the attorney office to see what can be done!

Heather Rookstool

---

**From:** GCPlan <gcplan@grantcounty-or.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 12, 2023 2:27:24 PM  
**To:** City of John Day <cityofjohnday@grantcounty-or.gov>  
**Cc:** Heather Rookstool <rookstoolh@grantcsd.k12.or.us>; GCPlan <gcplan@grantcounty-or.gov>  
**Subject:** land use application fees

Heather – Sorry to send this to your school email-

Mayor and City Councilors:

These comments may be best directed to the entire city council.

At the city council meeting Tuesday night I was shocked to hear Councilor Holland state that the cost for the city attorney would be passed on to city property owners seeking land use decisions on their property. I understand that you are short-handed, but that seems like a counter intuitive measure to accomplish growth and development within the city.

Is it possible to re-direct some funds that would have been spent on city manager salary or consultant fees towards covering cost to get land use applications processed? This would keep development within the city moving along and avoid a backlog for when you do get staff in place.

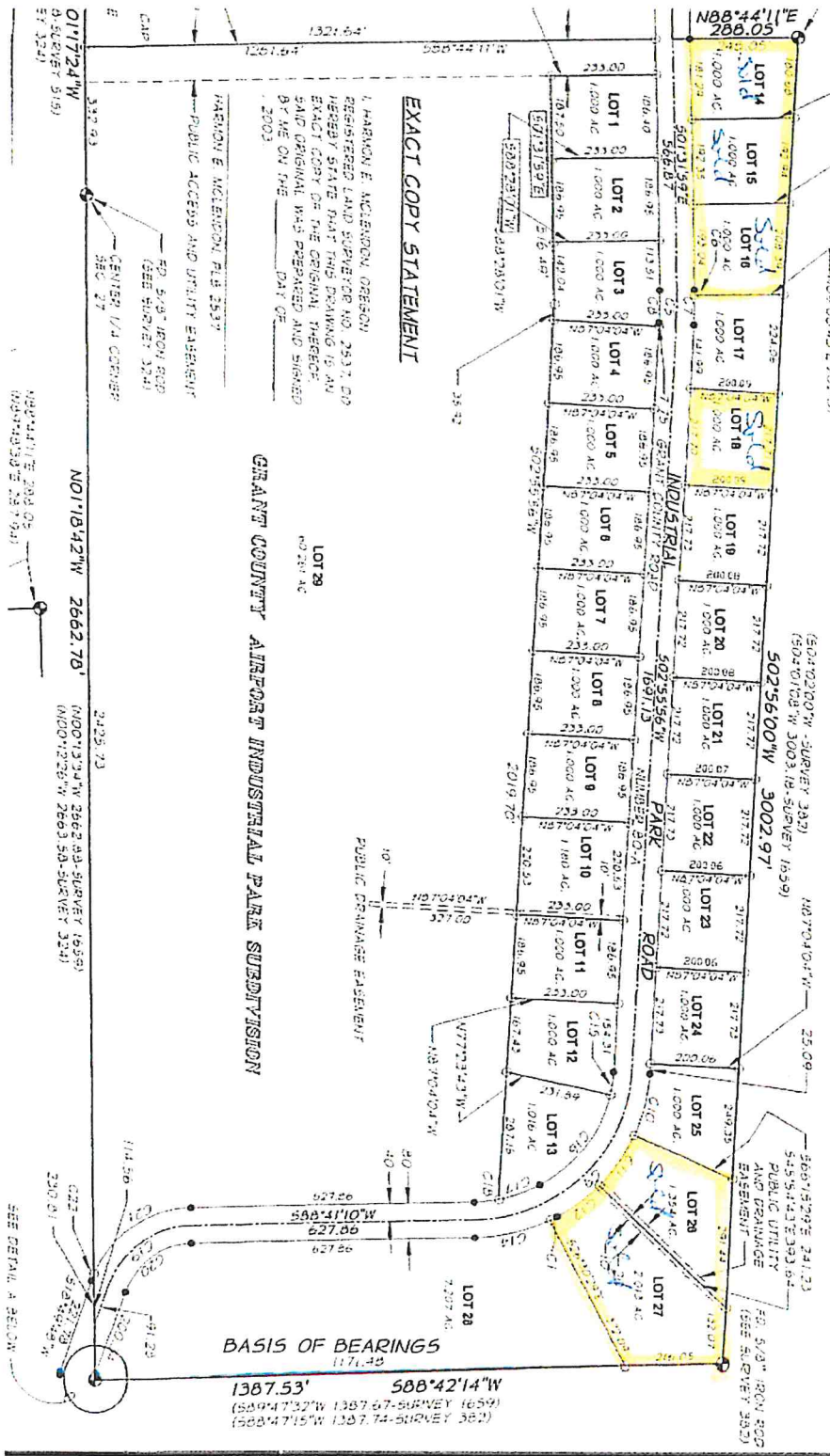
Afterall, it is not the property owners fault that city staffing is limited.

Please consider a more flexible approach that does not penalize property owners within the city.

*Shannon Springer*

Planning Director  
**Grant County Planning Department**  
201 S. Humbolt, Suite 170  
Canyon City, OR 97820  
Phone 541-575-1519

**GRANT COUNTY SEWERAL AIRPORT**



**EXACT COPY STATEMENT**

**GRANT COUNTY AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SUBDIVISION**

**BASIS OF BEARINGS**  
 1387.53' 588' 42' 14" W  
 (S89° 47' 32" W 1387.67-SURVEY 1659)  
 (S88° 47' 15" W 1387.74-SURVEY 382)

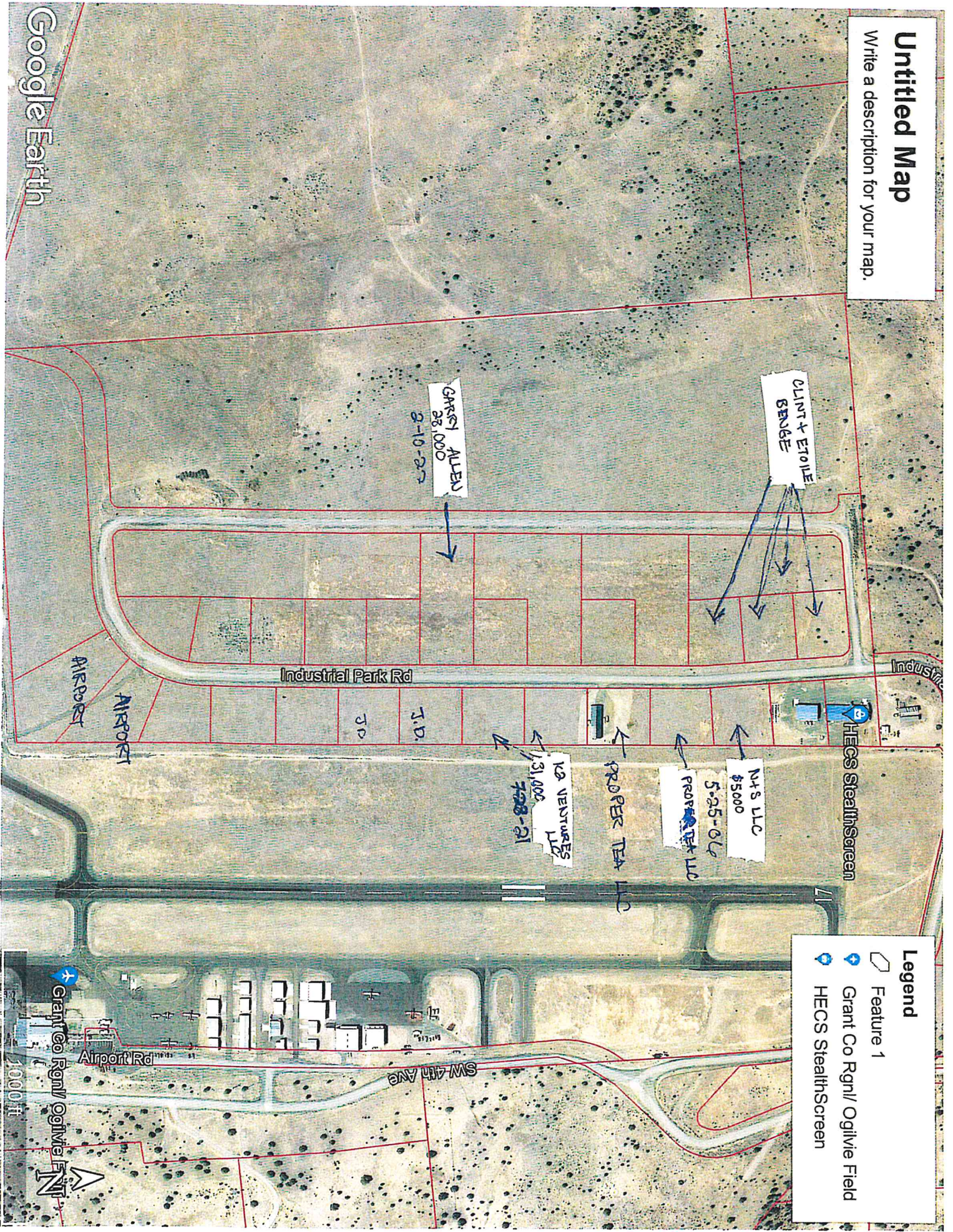
01° 17' 24" W  
 333' 93"  
 57' 32 1/2"

NO1° 18' 42" W 2662.70'  
 2425.73'  
 100° 13' 34" W 2662.43-SURVEY 1659  
 (N00° 12' 26" W 2663.50-SURVEY 334)

114.50'  
 230.21'  
 491.28'  
 527.00'  
 627.00'  
 7207 AC  
 SEE DETAIL A BELOW

# Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.



## Legend

- Feature 1
- Grant Co Rgnl/Ogilvie Field
- HECS StealthScreen

## Pricing Structure:

- Numbered lots are \$15,500 per acre. *See attached map.*
- To buy all land up to the gravel road behind applicable lots is an additional \$12,500
- Limit two parcels per buyer. John Day City Council may vote to authorize larger purchases.
- Lots still available are
  - Numbered lots 9-12 and 21-24 (each one acre),
  - Lot 28 (7 acres),
  - Lot 29 (60 acres), and
  - Lot 37 (5.68 acres).

For information on allowable land uses, consult the John Day Development Code: [Chapter 5-2.4 Industrial \(I\) Districts](#)

City of John Day, Oregon  
Attn: Heather Rookstool, Mayor and City Councilors  
450 East Main Street  
John Day. OR 97845

January 25, 2023

RE: City Councilor's Vacancy

RECEIVED  
JAN 25 2023  
CITY OF JOHN DAY

Dear Mayor Heather Rookstool and City Councilors,

During the January 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 council meetings regarding the filling of the vacant council position it was implied that the people had already made their choice to fill this position during the 2022 November election. This being the candidate with the 4<sup>th</sup> highest number of votes for the three (3) positions being voted on should fill the now vacant position.

I agree that the people did make their choice. That choice being they wanted a change of council members. This was reflected with the number of votes for the candidate receiving the highest number of votes and the number of votes for the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes out of the five (5) candidates running. Most of us know based on past elections the candidate with the lowest number of votes didn't have a realistic chance of being voted in however, received several votes. We should give all candidates our thanks and credit for running. There is a reason these candidates received the number of votes they got. People had only three (3) votes some who only voted for Two (2) candidates while other voted for three (3) candidates in a way to ensure certain candidates didn't win. Of course, there is always those that didn't vote at all. Think about it as it wasn't for stability in the council as some would like us to believe. The message being sent was the status quo must change. The stability the city is in need of will come with the filling of the vacant city's staff positions and council guidance.

Now that there are five (5) applicants for the now vacant councilor position it wouldn't be fair nor appropriate to just select the candidate from the November election with the 4<sup>th</sup> highest number of votes. All five (5) of the applicants should be considered. It is now time for current council members to make their decision and I hope that each member received the people's message. The quantity of written and voiced comments being received for individual applicants during this open period shouldn't be the deciding factors as there was no ballot sent out to all of the City of John Day's voting residents. Each candidate I am sure have their supporters.

I don't know or have the background on all the applicants as the council should have. Therefore, I am not recommending any of the applicants at this time.

Sincerely,



Louis E Provencher  
PO Box 25  
211 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, John Day, OR 97845  
Tel:541-575-2543

David motion  
Ronald 2nd  
6-0

## John Day City Council Meeting Minutes

Date 1-24-23

### Location John Day City Fire Hall

Meeting opened by Mayor Rookstool at 7:00pm

**Council Present** all council present in building

**In house guest** See attached sign in sheet

**Online Guest (31)**

Lance Woodcock, K Steele, Zach Denney, HW, Viv, Adam Hofpar, Ann, JS, J. Brown, Mackenzie W, Caller 1, Judy Vicek, Caller 2, Caller 3, Caller 4, Brock Eckstein, Nick Ducote, Angie, Ann, Caller 5, Caller 6, Caller 7, Caller 8, Dawn, Lisa Holland, Morris, Savannah, AA, HL, Lindy B, Phil Degrande, Dawn, Nick Green

#### Public Comment.

Josh Walker- Wanted to know questions about the Ridge, He gave documents to add to the record, wants to know who is the person that he needs to know who he needs to contact with questions and invoices, Mayor Rookstool asked him to send his questions to the city of john email. 2<sup>nd</sup> question needs a planning documents signed. He handed the paper to need to be signed to Heather and she will send to attorney for review

**Min Approved** NONE

#### Action Items

4. **Fill Vacant spot.** Started at 7:07 ended at 8:57

The public started with public comment at 7:07-8:24, the council then discussed their pros and cons of each candidate. Vote was still a tie between Shannon and John. The council will check with Attorney on a couple different ideas on where to take this next step

Dave asked for any further vote to Never take a vote if not all 6 current council can be present and vote. Council agreed and so we would like that added to the record

**5. Nick Ducote Contract Started at 8:57pm ended at 9:18pm**

Nick invited council to ask any questions and he discussed what he will be doing for us, he has a current contract. He also introduced Brock Eckstein who would be available to help with URA, Planning, and other things, Brock will provide his proposal to Mayor and it will be forward to city attorney. City Attorney will write the professional service agreement. Per David Holland conversation with Jeremy Green.

Elliott Sky motion made Sherrie Rininger 2<sup>nd</sup>

Passed 6-0

Motion made- I make a motion to give Heather Rookstool and David Holland authorization to work on contract and negotiate what is needed for either Brock Eckstein and Nick Ducote to complete and Finalize them as they need.

**6. Work Session dates Started at 9:18pm ended at 9:24pm**

Work Sessions will be Feb 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to go over the status and get up to date on some big projects, Exective session will happen before hand for the 4<sup>th</sup> street at 6pm.

*We took a 3min break so people could go move their cars if needed as ODOT was clearing the Snow off the sides of the road*

**7. Airport Property started at 9:29pm ended at 9:49pm**

David Holland has completed the purchase and sale agreement with Cody Williams, he gave a update on what is needed to get this complete. A plot line will take place for this transaction to take place.

Motion made by Elliott Sky 2<sup>nd</sup> Ronald Phillips Passed 6-0

I make a motion to give Heather Rookstool and David Holland authority to complete all needed process and documents for land sale at the industrial park, the council will still need to approve a sale larger then 2 lots.

**8. ODOT Curb Easement Started at 9:50pm ended at 9:58pm**

Mayor Rookstool and David Holland wanted to bring the easement curb for ODOT and the pit stop, This has been in the process since Sept 2022 and ODOT is trying to get this finalized soon, they have offered the city \$750 to go towards the process, Dave and Heather has spoke as to what they would like those funds to go to and they would like the Senior thank you that was brought the council in the past to get those funds.

Motion made by Elliott Sky 2<sup>nd</sup> by Katrina Randleas Passed 6-0

I make a motion to approve ODOT curb easement as presented tonight and authorize the \$750.00 to be put in the Community Development fund to be earmarked for the Senior Thank you project.

Meeting to Ajourn at 9:59pm Sherrie Rininger made the motion Ronald Phillips 2<sup>nd</sup> passed 6-0