



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

January 3, 2012

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met this day with Chairman Dennis Crane, Paul Christensen and Bob Kunau, Board Members; Alfred E. Barrus, Prosecuting Attorney; Joseph W. Larsen, Clerk of the Board, and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

A contract from Desert West Land Survey was presented to the Board for signing after the posting of the agenda. Commissioner Christensen made a motion to add discussion of said contract to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote.

A contract with Desert West Land Survey has been worked through. Following review, Commissioner Christensen made a motion to accept and sign said contract, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote.

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The Board of County Commissioner Minutes for December 19, 2011, were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve. Roll call vote was unanimous with Commissioner Kunau, Commissioner Christensen and Chairman Crane all voting yea.

CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the calendar.

1. Regional IV Development Association Meeting in Twin Falls on Thursday, January 5, 2012, at 11:30 a.m.
2. Law Enforcement Meeting in Rupert Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 8:00 a.m.
3. Special magistrates meeting for Chairman Crane on Friday, January 6, 2012.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. Trademark America Foundation sponsorship request
2. Thank you from Brent and Cara Petterson for Christmas gift
3. Thank you from Debbie Rogers and family for flowers for the funeral of her mother and mother-in-law
4. Thank you from Viki Osterhout and Theresa Forthun for Christmas gift
5. Bonneville Power Association December 2011 Journal
6. A letter from the Idaho Community Association with a grant fund check in the amount of \$2000 for the Raft River Bookmobile in the amount of \$2000
7. A letter and dividend check from the Idaho State Insurance Fund for workman's compensation in the amount of \$15,561.00

COUNTY EXPENDITURES

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated December 30, 2011.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the report and the roll call vote was unanimous with Commissioner Kunau, Commissioner Christensen and Chairman Crane all voting yea.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$14,668.78
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$15,432.14
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$293.82
COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES FUND	107	\$1,712.35
WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$1.92
SOLID WASTE FUND	109	\$362,335.50
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$356.77
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$4,090.17
COUNTY ELECTION FUND	116	\$87.50
ASSESSOR TRUST FUND	123	\$159.63
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$40,996.59
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$167.98
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$12,099.93
	TOTAL	\$452,403.08

CHANGE OF STATUS

The Board reviewed one (1) Request for Change of Status form from the Clerk’s office for Noemi Alanis for increase in wages as Certified Court Interpreter. A Temporary Employee Personnel Action Form was presented by Road and Bridge for Lyle Harrop as a heavy equipment operator. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and roll call vote was unanimous with Commissioner Kunau, Commissioner Christensen and Chairman Crane all voting yea.

CANCELLATION OF CITY OF BURLEY TAX – TREASURER

Treasurer Patty Justesen presented to the Board that she felt following discussion and research that taxes shouldn’t have been forgiven on the Kings property that was turned back to the City of Burley. Barrus recited cases including the State of Idaho vs. Minidoka County from years ago that exempts government entities from liability from taxes on municipality-owned property. The Board discussed other property owned by the City of Burley that is tax exempt. If municipal-owned property is in an urban renewal district, it is taxable. Justesen expressed that she should be made aware of anything regarding taxation. Chairman Crane indicated that he didn’t bother her because she had expressed that she was busy with tax collections at last Board meeting. He apologized and said they would make sure she was aware of tax collection issues in the future.

**DISCUSSION OF HOMEOWNERS EXEMPTION AND TAX REDUCTION
(CIRCUIT BREAKER) FOR 2012 – ASSESSOR**

Assessor Dwight Davis presented that it is time for people to apply or renew (Circuit Breaker) for tax reduction for 2012. Because they were approved last year does not qualify them for this year. Prospective recipients need to be aware that the need to re-apply.

Homeowner’s exemption does carry over but Davis encouraged tax payers to verify their homeowner exemption status. Values have been reduced for exemption qualification for 2012.

Both programs have to be signed up for by April 15, 2012. The press were provided with information regarding both programs.

ANNUAL FAIR BOARD REPORT

Cassia County Fair Board Members met with the Board at 11:45 a.m. Those in attendance included Brice Beck, Chairman of the Board; Corey Parish, Fairgrounds Maintenance Supervisor; and Board Members Sam Yoshida, Bruce Bowen, Don Knopp, Ted Higley, and Todd Powers. Beck reported on finances from this year's fair and rodeo. They experienced a loss in the amount of \$2598.10. They had a number of one-time expenditures for repairs, equipment, and buildings and were pleased that the losses were as slight as they were. Current needs include repairs to one horse barn, the rest of the unfinished fence, and some roof improvements. Auditor Larsen was asked to check to see what budget monies might be available to make needed repairs.

Ted Higley and Paul Marchant have completed their appointment with the Fair Board. Higley has expressed desire to retire and was presented with a certificate from the Board for his service. Todd Powers was presented by the Board to serve as a Board member. A motion was made to appoint Todd Powers as a Board Member by Commissioner Christensen, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote. A motion was also made to reinstate Paul Marchant as a Board Member by Commissioner Christensen, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote.

Higley commented on his twenty (20) years of service on the Fair Board and the changes that have taken place during that time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:09 a.m. it was proposed by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Kunau that the Board convene in Executive Session under Idaho Code Section 67-2345(1)(d) with Commissioner Christensen voting yea, Commissioner Crane voting yea, and Commissioner Kunau voting yea. The purpose and general tenor of the meeting was to discuss medical indigent matters. Welfare Director Susan Keck presented the following to the Board: Case # 2011-142, # 2011-131, # 2011-130, # 2011-127, and # 2011-132. The Board reviewed and approved the following: Notice of Continuance of Hearing on Case # 2011-077, # 2011-057, and # 2011-026; Order of Dismissal on Case # 2011-068 and # 2011-084; Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits on Case # 2011-142 and # 2011-143; Release of Medically Indigent Lien on Case # 2011-084, # 2011-086, # 2011-100, # 2011-086, and # 204131; Assignment on Case # 203131; Certificate of Denial on Case # 2011-131; Certificate of Approval on Case # 2011-130, # 2011-127, and Case # 2011-132; Order of Reimbursement on Case # 2011-130, # 2011-127, and # 2011-132. Following the discussion, the Board returned to regular session at 11:25 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:20 a.m. it was proposed by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Kunau that the Board convene in Executive Session under Idaho Code Section 67-2345(1)(f) with Commissioner Crane voting yea, Commissioner Christensen voting yea, and Commissioner Kunau voting yea. The purpose and general tenor of the meeting was to discuss pending litigation pertaining to the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center. The Board will take considerations under advisement. Following the discussion, the Board returned to regular session at 11:05 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:27 a.m. it was proposed by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Kunau that the Board convene in Executive Session under Idaho Code Section 67-2345(1)(f) with Commissioner Crane voting yea, Commissioner Christensen voting yea, and Commissioner Kunau voting yea. The purpose and general tenor of the meeting was to discuss pending litigation. Following discussion, the Board made a motion to pay a settlement on a claim. Following the discussion, the Board returned to regular session at 11:40 a.m.

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

1. The Board reviewed six (6) CSI Residency applications. A motion was made and seconded to accept and sign said applications, followed by a roll call vote with Commissioner Kunau, Chairman Crane, and Commissioner Christensen all voting yea.
2. The Board reviewed County expenditures as presented.
3. Auditor Larsen discussed the progress of the ongoing independent audit with the Board. He discussed detailed auditing regarding petty cash and credit cards issued in the County. Selected audits of random warrants for FY2011 have been followed through on with the independent auditor.
4. The Board discussed upcoming Gateway West meetings. A meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2012, for owners of affected lands. A fast track meeting with people from Washington, DC, for the full Board as well as Task Force members on Friday, January 13, 2012, at the Boise Center.
5. The Board discussed County building matters. Administrator McMurray discussed with the Board contracting for inspection for hazardous materials and the proposed Professional Services agreement with LCA Architects for the new Justice Center. LCA provided information about a company, Industrial Hygiene Resources, who they have dealt with in the past for hazardous materials inspection. IHR bid provided those inspection services for the amount of \$2785.00 and for \$625.00 for lead analysis for lead in paint that, if present, would have to be disposed of properly. That inspection can be accomplished during the month of January and must be done before work begins on the building. A motion was made by Commissioner Christensen to engage with IHR for said services, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote. Administrator McMurray indicated that there were troubles with an electronic door entry to the Courthouse.
6. The Board discussed Planning & Zoning matters. Current Board members Robert Brice and Nolan Peterson both have expressed desire to continue serving on the Board. Applicants considered includes the following: Kent Durfee from Almo, Leroy Funk from east Burley, George Kelley from Albion, Jerry Lankford from west Burley, Randy Golay from Burley, Doris Jean Gorringer from Burley, Jim Grisenti from the Jackson area, and Orin Morgan from southwest Burley. The Board expressed that Kent Durfee closely represents the geographical location for replacement of outgoing Board member Joyce Ward. Commissioner Christensen and Commissioner Kunau recommended Durfee following discussion. A motion was made to re-appoint Robert Brice and Nolan Peterson and to appoint Kent Durfee as three-year Board members by Commissioner Christensen, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote. Commissioner

Christensen also requested that Administrator McMurray write a letter of appreciation to all those who applied.

7. The Board discussed Road and Bridge matters. Administrator McMurray indicated that the Road and Bridge department had been working with exit signs, post placement, and guard rails. An audit on roads has just been concluded and they are in good shape. The Board discussed a request for providing full time employees with the Road and Bridge Department with steel-toed shoes and partial payment for those shoes for part-time employees.
8. The Board reviewed Idaho PUC Applications: Case No. IPC-E-11-25, Case No. IPC-E-11-26, and Case No. IPC-E-11-27.
9. The Board conducted further discussion of the Safe Haven Health Care Proposal as a potential County psychiatric hold facility. Prosecuting Attorney Al Barrus had discussed getting additional information from Welfare Director Susan Keck.
10. The Board reviewed and considered a request for 208 Exit Maintenance expense for 2011. Received bill for \$2034.32 for Cassia County's share. A motion was made by Commissioner Christensen to approve said payment, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yeas vote.
11. The Board reviewed and executed an agreement with Valley Office Systems for a Ricoh Copier for the Assessor's Office. Assessor Davis decided, following previous approval, to go with a five year contract with Valley Office Systems for a monthly amount of \$162.00. Commissioner Christensen made a motion to accept and sign said contract, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yeas vote.
12. The Board continued discussion for consideration of Desert West's request for parcel data. According to GIS supervisor, Todd Quast, for what they are doing for the County for GIS work it is not necessary. The Board concurred that equal treatment for everybody in providing parcel data would be required.
13. The Board discussed a request for a property tax exemption. The Board received two letters from the CFO of High Desert Milk requesting exemption from property taxes for November and December of 2011 for a casualty loss on property known as the old Simplot Processing Plant which was destroyed by a fire. The exemption amount estimated at \$647.92. Commissioner Christensen made a motion that said taxes be exempted, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yeas vote.
14. Chief Elections Officer Larsen discussed with the Board the possibilities of an Elections Grant to purchase electronic devices at polling locations or other election equipment. He provided the Board with material indicating the level of participation of the State and the matching amount that would be expected to be expended by the County for potential purchases.

LUNCH

At 12:20 p.m. the Board departed for a working lunch with the Fair Board members at Perkins Restaurant where discussion of potential projects and associated costs for the coming year. Auditor Larsen suggested that a source for requested additional funds for projects could be provided through the risk management expense fund or from PILT proceeds.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, January 9, 2012.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Stacie Hughey, Weekly News Journal; Laurie Welch, The Times News; Renee Wells, The Voice; Nathan Beutler, private property owner in Burley.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ _____

/s/ _____

Joseph W. Larsen, Clerk of the Board

Dennis Crane, Chairman of the Board