

COMMISSIONER MINUTES

#571

January 28, 2008

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met this day with Chairman Dennis Crane, Paul Christensen and Clay D. Handy, Board Members; Alfred E. Barrus, Prosecuting Attorney; Larry Mickelsen, Clerk of the Board, and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, present.

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The Minutes for January 22, 2008 were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve and proceed with publication of an appropriate synopsis. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the calendar for January & February 2008.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. Requests for Public Records from Stan Buckley of the Jackson area

COURTHOUSE SECURITY MATTERS

District Judge Michael Crabtree met with the Board to discuss Courthouse Security Matters. He explained the potential security problems during trial. He explained that there may be a need for additional bailiffs during a trial for controversial matters. The citizens who are serving as jurors may possibly need protection in a trial that can be very emotional. Discussion ensued regarding the responsibilities of the bailiff and the security officer with the defendants and jurors. A committee, including the existing bailiff, the Sheriff, the Clerk, some of the Judges, a representative from the Prosecutor's office, and possibly a Commissioner will meet, Tuesday January 29, 2008 at 1:30pm in the Sheriff's classroom, to discuss the situation and make a recommendation to the Board.

ALBION HISTORICAL BUILDING

Don Danner met with the Board to review and execute Resolution No. 2008-01-3 and discuss the application for funding from the Department of Transportation for the renovation of the former Cassia County Courthouse. After discussion and review, it was moved and seconded to sign and execute Resolution No. 2008-01-3 and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board. The Application for Transportation Enhancement Program funds was presented to the Board. The Funds requested totaled \$500,000.00 with a Matching Fund amount of \$39,607.00, which amount will be paid by the Albion Historical Society. It was moved and seconded to sign and execute the application and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Sheriff Jim Higen met with the Board to discuss Homeland Security & Waterways matters. On January 25, 2008 it was moved by Chairman Crane and seconded by Commissioner Christensen to approve the grant request for a new boat for the Sheriff's Waterways Department and for Commissioner Christensen to sign the grant request, and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board. Sheriff Higen presented a request to the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security for an extension of Grant 2005-GE-T5-0044, from 10/01/04 to 3/31/08. It was moved and seconded to sign and execute the request for the extension and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Assessor: Marty Holland reported that the Personal Property proposals with the Legislature are not moving forward because of the financial obligations that the Counties would incur. The office is very busy at this time with the property values and the circuit breaker issues. Full disclosure of the sale price of properties sold is still under consideration and could be very helpful when establishing property values. Marty will get information with other counties that have implemented full disclosure.

Detention Center: Dennis Dexter reported the current inmate population is 167, with 45 from Cassia, 50 from Minidoka, 6 from the US Marshal, 55 from the State and 11 from other jurisdiction. He also reported the retirement of Linda Mullinex and that Denise Hamilton has replaced her on a temporary basis and she is doing very well. Changes with the operations will result as she gains experience.

Sheriff' Department: Sheriff Jim Higen reported that he will have a representative from the IDOC at the Jail Committee meeting on February 26, 2008 to discuss contracting for inmates. There is still one officer on light duty status. The Sheriff is not happy with the Workman's Comp and he has expressed his concerns with their efforts and the problems of the employee. There is one deputy at the academy and it is anticipated that he will graduate in a month or so. The Sheriff and Kent Searle had some information regarding the Jackson area, outlining the 8 or 9 law enforcement calls and 1 medical call during the period of December 29, 2007 to the present date. Captain Cary Bristol is taking all of the Deputies and dispatchers out to the Jackson area for familiarization. Kent explained the conflict with the data bases that the county uses and those used by PMT. The problem is that the updates from Quest have either not been received or implemented by PMT. Kent discussed the difficulties that both Cassia and Minidoka counties experience with the incoming 911 calls.

Commissioner Handy discussed there may be a need for the new City Council member needs to be trained and brought up to date with the law enforcement agreement and the budgeting matters for the past few years. This will also be helpful historical information for new council persons or county commissioners in the future.

Treasurer: Gayle Erekson reported that the Minidoka County property value over assessment has required Cassia County to publicize the tax hearing. The publication will be for 2 weeks and a public hearing will be scheduled by Kerry McMurray.

Janitorial/Maintenance: Sharon Higgins reported that the annual fire inspection from the City Fire Department is due within the next week or two. All other activities are going normal.

Extension Office: Richard Garrard reported that all is going well with his department. The classes they are conducting have been well attended, to include the after school classes. The 4-H programs are going very well.

County Administrator: Kerry McMurray reported that Dee Yeaman completed his annual training last week. Sara is developing the list of roads, including private driveways, for public safety purposes. Melissa has some issues that the Board needs to discuss regarding potential litigation.

Clerk: Larry Mickelsen reported that the external audit of the county was completed and invited all Department Heads to the audit report by Evans & Poulson on the 11th of February.

Prosecuting Attorney: Al Barrus reported that all is going well. They are as busy as normal.

JACKSON ISSUE

The Board reviewed a letter from some citizens of the Jackson area where they chose not to be members of the proposed committee to discuss and resolve any issues regarding the Jackson area. The Board will consider inviting other citizens of the Jackson area to meet with them to discuss issues and to witness the functions of the dispatch office. Discussion ensued regarding the operations related to the Jackson area in the future and some potential solutions.

HERD DISTRICT MATTERS

Mr. Barrus reviewed the response from the Attorney General's Office regarding herd district matters. The Board instructed Mr. Barrus to prepare a letter to the Herd District Committee informing them of the AG's decision.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

At 10:47am it was proposed and seconded to convene as the County Board of Equalization. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

It was proposed and seconded to delete the Home Owners exemptions on the following parcels: (See attached list), and to correct the spelling of some names, and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board. Notices will be sent to the property owners.

At 10:45am it was proposed and seconded to return to regular session. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:16am it was proposed by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Christensen 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 Handy voting yea. The purpose and general tenor of the meeting was to discuss medical indigent matters. Following the discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the Board return to regular session at 11:23am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session the Board approved Case # 207104; Presented Cases # 208003 and 208004; Stipulated Cases # 207112, 207113, 207114, 207115, and 207116 ; Signed Notice of Lien for Cases 208005, 208006, 208007, and 208008; Signed Order of Reimbursement for Cases # 207091 and 207104.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:23am it was proposed by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Handy 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 Handy voting yea. The purpose and general tenor of the meeting was to discuss pending litigation. Following the discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the Board return to regular session at 11:30am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session the Board took the matter under advisement.

BLM

Jenifer Arnold BLM Associate District Manager and Lynn Burkett BLM Acting Field Manager met with the Board and discussed the BLM activities. Ms. Burkett reported on the Cottrell Mountain wind project. She reported that the contract is in the works and Windland Inc needs to take action very soon. If they wait too long, the environmental impact statement will to "stale" and they will have to begin all over again. She reported on the road closures in the South Hills from January 16, to March 15, 2008. She discussed the need to have notice of fire training for all who will be concerned with the danger of windland fires. She reported that the reseeding process for the areas impacted by the 2007 fires will be done in stages that is driven by the lack of available funding.

USFS

Scott Nannenga discussed the Howell Canyon Project and reported there is a meeting scheduled with the USFS Fire Chief to discuss fire evacuation routes. He discussed the Thompson Flats subdivision and the evacuation options for them. He reported on the status of the Big Horn sheep controversy and the letters he receives from John Marvel. The USFS will wait until they receive more information from the State before they know what actions to take. The Regional Forester will be in Twin Falls on April 1, 2008 and Scott would like to schedule a meeting with all of the concerned parties/individuals on April 2, 2008 in Twin Falls.

VETERANS QUARTERLY REPORT

The Board reviewed the Veteran's Quarterly Activity Report.

SNAKE RIVER TRAIL RIDERS ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed a request from the Snake River Trail Machine Riders Association to have volunteers install cattle guards to assist with relations between trail riders and ranchers. They requested the support of the Board via funding for the cattle guards. There is funding that could be

available through the State and the Trail Riders Association will be encouraged to apply for the funding and the Board would be willing to support the application.

RECORDS DESTRUCTION

The Board reviewed requests from the MCCJC and the Auditor's Office for the destruction of semi-permanent records. It was moved and seconded to sign and execute Resolution No. 2008-01-4 for the MCCJC and Resolution No. 2008-01-5 for the Auditor's Office and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE MATTER

Mr. McMurray presented a Rental Agreement with Xerox and Cassia County for a Work Center print/copy/fax/scanner. It was moved and seconded to sign and execute the Rental Agreement and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated 1-25-2008. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$11,871.97
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$4,150.00
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$2,684.65
COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES FUND	107	\$3,118.72
CASSIA FAIR FUND	111	\$40,000.00
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$222.04
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$289.25
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$14,658.58
	TOTAL	\$76,995.21

CHANGE OF STATUS

The Board reviewed 2 change of status forms for the District Court. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The Board reviewed the receipt of Sales Tax revenue for Qtr 12/31/2007. The proposal is to amend the Indigent Budget with the \$27,911.58 of Sales Tax revenue. After review of the proposed amendment, a motion was made and seconded by the Board to amend the Budget as listed above. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, February 11, 2008.

ATTEST:

/s/Larry A. Mickelsen

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

APPROVED:

/s/Dennis D. Crane

Dennis Crane, Chairman