

The Board of Commissioners met this day with Chairman Dennis Crane, Paul Christensen and Clay Handy, Board Members; Tim Schneider, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney; Larry Mickelsen, County Clerk and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, present.

COMMISSIONERS= MINUTES

The minutes for March 17, 2003 were discussed. The motion was then made and seconded to approve and proceed with publication of an appropriate synopsis. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the calendar for March 2003.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. The Board reviewed a letter from the US Fish and Wildlife: A Summary of the Final Rule to Reclassify the Gray Wolf, March 2003.
2. The Board reviewed a letter from the District IV Right of Way reference the Recorded Warranty Deeds for City of Rocks Project.
3. The Board reviewed the SIP article about the interview with Larry Mickelsen, County Clerk reference the voting machines.
4. The Board reviewed the article in the American Legion magazine entitled "The Poverty Sharks," about payday lenders.
5. The Board reviewed a letter from the USDA regarding the 2003 Idaho Rangeland Grasshopper and Mormon Cricket Suppression Program.

BLM CERTIFICATION RE: COMMUNITIES AT RISK

As a follow up to last week's action entering an Agreement with the Bureau of Land Management for the Communities at Risk Program, the Board reviewed the Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters, Drug-Free workplace Requirements and Lobbying. This form was to have been part of the agreement packet, but was inadvertently omitted, Commissioner Crane signed the Certification per the previous motion by the Board.

2002 JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLOCK GRANT MONIES

The Board reviewed the letter from the MiniCassia Juvenile Department requesting that Cassia County waive their allotted Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant monies to Minidoka County, as has been done for the past three (3) years. It was moved and seconded to sign the waiver and voting was unanimous by the Board.

USFS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT – RED TREE FUELS REDUCTION

Commissioner Crane will review the packet and since no reply is required, the packet is being kept on file.

REGION IV LETTER RE: FAIR HOUSING MONTH

The Board reviewed a letter from Region IV, dated March 18, 2003 giving notification that April is Fair Housing Month. Kerry McMurray will prepare the required notices for the Board's review and eventual publication.

RAQUETEERS FITNESS CENTER

The Board reviewed the notice from the Fitness Center of the costs for a membership option for Cassia County. It was the recommendation of the Board that it be an individual decision as to membership in the Center.

STAIRCASE CARPET/RUBBER TREAD

Sharon Higgins presented estimates from Skaggs Furniture to replace the stairway carpets with rubber tread. The carpet is worn and stained and needs replaced. It is a potential safety hazard. It was moved and seconded to proceed with replacing the carpet with the rubber tread

from the basement to the landing to the outside door. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CASSIA COUNTY EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

Sheriff Higens met with Judge Burdick, Fifth District Trial Administrative Judge concerning the Cassia County Courthouse evacuation plan. Judge Burdick has placed the responsibility for clearing the District and Magistrate Courts with the Sheriff's Office. The County Administrator will rewrite portions of the plan, with input from the County Elected Officials, and we will then meet and review the updated new plan.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Public Defender: Doug Whipple, Public Defender gave the Cassia County Public Defender Clients Report. He reported felonies and misdemeanors are up, but juvenile cases are down.

Assessor: Marty Holland reported business is as normal, just waiting for the legislation to pass to see how it will affect county business. Commissioner Clay Handy questioned city water and sewer installation for the Grandview area. Mayor Jon Anderson reported the city is evaluating the annexation of all housing areas near the city limits and the cost to provide city water and sewer and the change in assessed value for the homeowners.

Treasurer: Gayle Erekson reported all things are going well in the Treasurers Office. She said the City Library wants the county to have a display for their 81st birthday.

Sheriff's Department: Sheriff Jim Higens presented the Cassia County Sheriff's Office 2002 Crime Report and reported on the overall crime rate for Cassia County, stating that it is up 3.6% from last year.

Janitorial/Maintenance: Sharon Higgens reported all things are normal and going well.

Weed Department: Gordon Edwards presented an agreement for Noxious Weed Control between Cassia County and the State of Idaho for the Commissioners to sign. Mr. Edwards also presented an agreement between Cassia County and the State of Idaho Noxious Weed Free Forage and Straw Program. It was moved and seconded to sign both agreements and voting was unanimous by the Board.

Mr. Edwards reported the requirement for certified materials to be used for highway construction. He reported efforts by numerous agencies to clear brush and weeds along unorganized road districts. He reported the county shed in Almo is completed and many efforts to control noxious weeds are underway.

CASSIA COUNTY FAIR AND RODEO

The Board reviewed several Special Event Contracts for various events at the Fair/Rodeo Grounds. It was moved and seconded to sign the contracts and voting was unanimous by the Board. Commissioner Crane signed all of the contracts.

NOTICE OF LIEN AND DENIAL OF BENEFITS

The Board reviewed a Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits, Case #203031. It was moved and seconded to sign the Notice of Lien and voting was unanimous by the Board. The Board reviewed four (4) Certificates of Denial for Indigent Case #203016, Case #203017, Case #203018, and Case #203023. It was moved and seconded to sign the Certificates of Denial and voting was unanimous by the Board.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Bernie Jansen of the BLM reported nominations for the Resource Advisory Council are due by mid-April.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Scott Nannenga of the USFS reported a contract has been let to grind up dead wood and residue and will leave the output of the ground, but it will not be as flammable. Concern was expressed for the Oakley Water shortage and that the citizens are being asked to take a reduction for the grazing allotments. Doug Ward of the Elba Cattlemen's Association reported the willingness for the cattlemen to take a reduction, but the percentage should be determined by the

ranchers, not assigned a flat 20% reduction by the USFS. Brent Jones and Jay Black both commented the 20% reduction was a shock to the ranchers and such a large reduction was not warranted because it also included a shorter grazing season. The ranchers agreed to work with the USFS to resolve the issue in a manner agreeable to all concerned.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County=s Payables Approval Report March 21 2003. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$13,957.90
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$984.75
COUNTY ROADS (UNORG) FUND	107	\$1,237.10
WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$157.23
JR COLLEGE TUITION FUND	113	\$96,100.00
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$507.51
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$2,046.63
COUNTY SNOWMOBILE FUND	118	\$15.00
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$26,819.31
MINI-CASSIA DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE	136	\$7,032.30
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$1,912.88
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$216.80
	TOTAL	\$150,987.41

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was proposed by Commissioner Handy and seconded by Commissioner Christensen that the Board go into 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. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, Case #202144 was taken under advisement.

HOMEOWNER’S EXEMPTION

The Board reviewed a list of homeowners who longer qualify for the homeowner’s exemption on their home. It was moved and seconded that the names be removed from the list qualifying for homeowner’s exemption and voting was unanimous by the Board.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, March 31, 2003.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY=S MEETING

Laurie Welch, SIP; Nate Johnson, Times News

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/
Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

/s/
Dennis Crane, Chairman