

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

**PREVIOUS WEEKS= MINUTES**

The minutes for November 17, 2003 were discussed. A motion was 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 November 2003.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board reviewed the following:

1. A letter from Parsons, Smith & Stone, LLP, RE: Burley Lions Club, and Commissioner Handy's speaking to them.
2. A letter from Tim Preston and Kelly Bowen of Financial Strategies, RE: The GEM Plan.
3. E-mail from Helen Edwards of Gooding County Re: Canyonview Hospital – Voluntary Admits.
4. A letter from the BLM RE: remaining funds for 2003.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING**

**Public Defender:** Doug Whipple discussed the Public Defenders Clients Report for the month of October.

**Assessor:** Marty Holland reported on the Fall Assessors meetings, the Taxpayers Conference and the IAC Committee meetings he attended last week. He suggested that the Board have a luncheon with the Legislators and Larry Mickelsen was given the assignment to get it scheduled. Kerry McMurray reported on the problems with the County Annex building.

**Detention Center:** Dennis Dexter discussed the operations of the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center, the number of inmates and introduced Mike Fehlman as the new Executive Assistant Director of the MCCJC effective December 1, 2003.

**Sheriff=s Department:** Sheriff Jim Higen Reported on the Homeland Security grants that have been received, with the authorization to begin spending \$179,000.00. He reported that there would be additional money for grants in 2004.

**Janitorial/Maintenance:** Sharon Higgins reports that everything is going just fine and the maintenance crew is preparing for Christmas decorations around the Court House.

**Extension Office:** Richard Garrard reports that all is going well in his department. The 4H program, headed by Marla Lowder, has been recognized by the State for their outstanding program. He reported on the efforts to get powdered milk from the Federal Government that is used as a feed supplement for farm animals. The Extension Office is starting a farm management class next week and will have a full class.

**Weed Department:** Gordon Edwards reported on the Community at Risk Program that the Weed Department has just completed. They have just completed the inventory of all of the noxious weeds throughout the County. Leafy Spurge is the major noxious weed problem in the County. He reported on grants they have received to assist in controlling the noxious weeds in the Raft River area. They have requested additional funding for 2004 to continue the Communities at Risk program.

### **COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

The Board discussed the holiday schedule for 2004 with the Department Heads. The holiday schedule previously approved will stand as written.

### **SELF DEFENSE TRAINING**

Kerry McMurray discussed the potential to provide self-defense training for all Court House employees. It will be on a voluntary basis after work hours. Kerry will have the Sheriff's Office schedule the training.

### **SNOWMOBILE GROOMING ANNUAL PLAN**

Zeke Zimmerman and Chuck Larson discussed the annual Snowmobile Trail Grooming plan. He presented a contract for the Commissioners to review and sign. After discussion and review it was moved and seconded to approve and sign the contract and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **BLM**

Wendy Reynolds reported on the activities the Bureau of Land Management. Discussed the number of "wind energy" requests they have received. There is a national Environmental Impact Study being conducted by the BLM regarding "wind energy" development. She reported on the Windland project in Cassia County and indicated that it is moving forward very quickly. There is a potential study on the impact on birds and animals. The Sage Grouse may be placed on the endangered species list. The BLM will have their budget cut by a considerable margin this next year.

### **FIRST FEDERAL CHARITABLE FOUNDATION**

The Board reviewed a letter of support for the Golden Heritage Senior Center. It was moved and seconded to sign the letter of support and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **FAIR BOARD INTERVIEWS**

The Board met with Todd Powers, Paul Marchant and Shelby Hayden to be interviewed and considered for service as a member of the Cassia County Fair Board. The Board read a letter from Arden Cranney expressing his desire to serve on the Fair Board. The Fair Board will be asked to make a recommendation prior to a decision being made.

### **COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE POLICIES**

The Board reviewed the County Road and Bridge Policies regarding cattle guards, dust guard applications and construction of approaches. It was moved and seconded to approve the policies and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **REGION IV DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the request for the payment of \$2844.00 in dues to the Region IV Development Association. It was moved and seconded to approve payment of the dues and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY**

The Board discussed the requirements to conduct a public auction of surplus county property received from tax deeds. The Board tabled the issue for another week to allow Mr. Barrus to discuss it with Ms. Erekson, the Cassia County Treasurer.

### **CITY OF BURLEY COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION**

The Board reviewed the letter of support for the City of Burley application for Community Block grant to extend sewer improvements to the Grandview area. It was moved and seconded to ratify the signing of the application and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **CONFLICT PUBLIC DEFENDER CONTRACT**

The Board reviewed Clayne Zollinger's conflict public defender contract, which costs the County \$500.00 per month. It was moved and seconded to sign the Agreement for Services and voting was unanimous by the Board.

**SHERIFF'S SURPLUS PROPERTY**

The Board reviewed Sheriff Higen's proposal to transfer County property to the City of Albion. The property is a 10-year old patrol car with police radio. The issue will go before the Joint Law Enforcement Board prior to a decision being made.

**CASSIA COUNTY HISTORY**

The Board reviewed the contract with Kathleen Hedberg to write the history of Cassia County. The contract will be presented to the City of Burley for signature. It was moved and seconded to sign the contract and authorize the first payment of \$1000.00 to Ms. Hedberg and voting was unanimous by the Board.

**PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

The Board reviewed the letters of application for service on the County Planning and Zoning Commission. Randy Robinson will not submit an application to continue service. Letters were received from Joyce Ward, Bruce Beck, Brent Stoker, Rick Hawker and Leonardo A Vargas. The Board will interview all applicants with the exception of Joyce Ward and Bruce Beck on December 1, 2003.

**ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**

The Board discussed the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation for zoning ordinance amendments regarding wind farms and wind generation units. The P&Z Commission recommends that wind farms be allowed in Prime-Ag and multiple use areas and not be permitted in other zones. With regard to other wind generation units, they shall be allowed in Prime-Ag and multiple use areas and they would be allowed, upon approval of a conditional use permit, in Ag Residential, Residential Ag and outdoor recreation zones. Other wind generation units would not be permitted in buffer zones, industrial, commercial or historic presentation zones. A comprehensive plan will be developed by the P&Z Commission for presentation to the Board, and a County Resolution will be developed by Mr. Barrus and Mr. McMurray.

**COUNTY EXPENDITURE**

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated November 21, 2003.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$12,929.48
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$126.00
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$2,150.61
COUNTY ROADS (UNORG) FUND	107	\$2,850.76
WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$6.77
JR COLLEGE TUITION FUND	113	\$130,950.00
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$364.14
COUNTY SNOWMOBILE FUND	118	\$15.00
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$16,092.33
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$1,893.38
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$941.23
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$168,319.70</b>

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 12:05 p.m. 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 12:15 p.m. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session the Board signed Order of Reimbursement for Case #203097 and Case #203101. Signed Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits for Case #203152, Case #203153, and Case #203154. Signed Release of Medically Indigent Lien for Case #203081. Signed Certificate of Approval for Case #203097 and Case #203101. Signed Certificate of Denial for Case #203156. Signed Order of Dismissal for Case #203092. Signed Stipulation for Enlargement of Time Limitations for Case #203118. Signed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision for Case #203088 and Case #203109 stating that the Denial stands.

**RECESS**

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, December 1, 2003.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY=S MEETING**

Laurie Welch, SIP; Troy Adams, Times News; Bruce Bristol; Donald Danner, City of Albion; Daryl Jarman; Sam Jarman; Blaine Jarman; Claude Bryant; Zeke Zimmerman, USFS; Kelly Adams, CCPLC.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

---

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

---

Dennis Crane, Chairman