

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 A. Mickelsen, Clerk of the Board, and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, present.

#### **PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES**

The minutes for December 12, 2005 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 December 2005.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board reviewed the following:

1. The minutes of the Mid-Snake regional Water Resource Commission meeting on November 16, 2005.
2. Clay handy discussed the various cheese companies' status in regards to locating in the Mini-Cassia area.
3. A letter to Representative John A. Stevenson RE: advertising for the lottery. It was moved and seconded to sign and execute the letter and voting was unanimous by the Board.
5. An Intergovernmental Review Comment Sheet for the Oakley Fire Protection District and Region IV Development Association, Inc for a new fire station.

#### **EXTENSION OFFICE MATTERS**

Grace Wittman discussed the programs conducted by the University of Idaho Extension Office during the past year and those planned for the upcoming year. These included food preparation, nutrition and sanitation.

Rosie Davids discussed the 4-H programs and how they attempt to involve the youth of the community in positive programs. There are youth involved in working with the elderly citizens of the community and making some very positive contributions. She reported that the community youth did very well at the regional competition following the Cassia County Fair. She reported that the Spanish speaking youth are getting involved in the 4-H programs and enjoying some success.

#### **E-911 MATTERS**

Kent Searle met with the Board to discuss equipment interoperability difficulties in different frequency ranges, 450 MHz and 700 MHz. He proposes that the County install new "cards" in the transmitters and receivers to be able to communicate within the frequency ranges that will be used.

It was moved and seconded to appoint Kent Searle, Cary Bristol and Deann Taylor as members of the Advisory Committee for Computer Aided Dispatch for Cassia and Minidoka Counties and voting was unanimous by the Board.

It was moved and seconded to approve the expenditure of \$1,650.00 for a Model 4020/4048 16 Patch Card and \$1,500.00 for 5 copies of Dual Channel Universal Firmware and voting was unanimous by the Board. This will enable the E-911 services to patch the first 10 channels in the Zetron Common Controller together.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING**

**Assessor:** Marty Holland reported that they are conducting normal business and things are going very well at this time.

**Detention Center:** Dennis Dexter reported that the Minidoka and Cassia County Commissioners will conduct their quarterly inspection of the MCCJC at 11:30 today. Reported on the numbers of inmates from the different jurisdictions, totaling 146 inmates.

**Sheriff's Department:** Sheriff Jim Higen reported on the dangerous driving conditions that exist this morning because of the icy roads. Still investigating the break-ins at the Pella and Unity LDS church buildings. He presented an amended award for the 2004 State Homeland Security Program, extending the performance period of the grant through May 31, 2006. The Sub Grant Amount totaled \$352,981.29.

**Janitorial/Maintenance:** Sharon Higgins that the problems right now is related to ice on the walkways. There is a broken pipe going to an outside faucet in the county owned house. She has inspected the Court House and is prepared for the fire inspection next month.

**Extension Office:** Grace Wittman reported that things are going normal at the Extension Office.

**Weed Department:** Gordon Edwards reported that the weed boards are being formed for Goose Creek, Oakley and Almo districts. They serve as a "steering committee" and help provide advice and assistance to the County Weed Department. Gordon will get the names of the committee members to the County Clerk.

**Clerk:** Larry Mickelsen handed out the list of hotels in the different cities in the State where we have direct billing to the county established, to save payment of the excise and sales taxes.

**County Attorney:** Al Barrus reported that there are trials scheduled for next week. Discussed the new Contractor Registration law that goes into effect on January 1, 2006 and the impact it could have on County business.

**County Administrator:** Kerry McMurray reported that the new Contractor Registration is also to provide consumer protection. Reported that 2 apartments in the Linda Vista apartments have old inoperative gas furnaces and parts are no longer available. The furnaces will need to be replaced. He discussed the emergency evacuation plans for each department that need to be turned into his office next week.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 10:45am 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 10:53am. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board Signed Certificate of Denial for Case #205129 and Case #205130. Signed Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits for Case #205140, Case 205141, Case #205143, Case #205145, Case #205146, and Case #205147.

### **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

Ken Miller, the new Field Office Manager for Burley, reported that the State BLM Director K Lynn Bennett is retiring with no replacement identified at this time. The Windland issues are at the Federal level and will continue to be for the time being. Responses to the comments are being finalized at this time and will be out soon. A draft EIS will be in the hands of the impacted State agencies prior to the final EIS being released in April, followed by a 30 day protest period and a 60 day Governor's review period. If approved, construction could begin in June or July 2006. He reported that the BLM is moving forward on the "typical stuff," such as grazing permits, and commented on the impact of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court on the business of the BLM. The Sempra coal fired power plant is still in the early stages, but the application has been submitted.

### **US FOREST SERVICE**

Scott Nannenga questioned the status of Cassia County on the roadless areas in the county. A meeting with the Forest Service to discuss these matters in detail is scheduled for 11:00 am on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January, 2006. Zeke Zimmerman presented a map of the Rock Creek Canyon road that shows that most of the road is in Cassia County. Regardless of the cost to Twin Falls and Cassia Counties, this is a real benefit to the citizens that use the roads and parking lots. The cost is between \$8,000 and \$18,000 annually for snow removal for the road and parking lot. The matters were taken under advisement to give all matters further research and consideration.

### **PUBLIC LANDS**

Kelly Adams presented a letter to the Board regarding the Public Lands Committee's membership. It was moved and seconded to re-appoint Kelly Adams, Carl Austin and Gene Wickel as members of the Public Lands Committee and voting was unanimous by the Board. Dale Pierce's term has also expired and he does not desire to continue serving on the committee. A plaque will be prepared for Mr. Pierce to recognize and thank him for his service.

### **QUARTERLY JAIL REVIEW**

The Board conducted the quarterly review of the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center. There were no significant weaknesses or deficiencies noted in security, sickness, or sanitation. It was moved and seconded to sign the jail inspection report and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **TORT CLAIMS**

Kerry McMurray discussed two (2) pending tort claims against the county. The Board's decision was to not respond, resulting in a denial of action.

### **ALMO ORU AMBULANCE**

The Board discussed the proceeds of the sale for the Almo QRU ambulance. The vehicle sold for \$2,747.16, with \$130.82 in taxes, resulting in \$2,616.34 credited to the Sale of County Equipment line item. It was moved and seconded to credit the total amount received to the EMS fund and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **MINI-CASSIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

The Board discussed a requested investment contribution of \$15,000.00 to the Mini-Cassia Economic Development Commission. It was moved and seconded to approve the requested contribution and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **MINI-CASSIA TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

The Board discussed a request from the Mini-Cassia Transportation Committee for a \$500.00 contribution. It was moved and seconded to approve the agreement and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **BOOKMOBILE LIBRARY AGREEMENT**

The Board discussed and reviewed the Cassia County Bookmobile Library Agreement for Fiscal Year 2006. The request will be held until the grant monies are collected from WalMart and others, then execution of the agreement will be considered by the Board.

### **CHANGE OF STATUS**

The Board reviewed one (1) Change of Status form for the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center. It was moved and seconded to approve the change of status and voting was unanimous by the Board.

### **BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR LICENSES**

The Board ratified the following applications for Beer, Wine and/or Liquor Licenses:

<u>County #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Doing Business As</u>
2006-058	Byron Barrett	Morey's Steakhouse

**RECESS**

Meeting was recessed until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 27, 2005.

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

Renee Wells, SIP

**ATTEST:**

/s/Larry A. Mickelsen

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Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

**APPROVED:**

/s/Dennis Crane

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Dennis Crane, Chairman