

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 WEEKS' MINUTES

The minutes for February 4, 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 February 2005.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. A letter from the Cassia County Republican Central Committee announcing a luncheon for February 25, 2005 at the Burley Inn.
2. An invitation to a U.S. Forest Service celebration of their 100th anniversary at 7:00pm on February 25, 2005 at CSI in Twin Falls.
3. An invitation from Senator Craig's office Re: A Town Hall meeting for an informal discussion regarding anaerobic digestion technology and Idaho's dairy industry.
4. A letter from the County Administrator to all three Commissioners Re: the Declo Impact Area

CHANGE OF STATUS

The Board reviewed two (2) changes of status forms from the MCCJC. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and voting was unanimous by the Board.

CENTENNIAL PARK

Dennis Dexter presented the artist's concept of the Centennial Park to the Board. Cassia County previously allowed a 20-foot easement to assist in facilitating the park. He also discussed the Idaho Folk Dancers that will be in Burley later this year.

LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANTS

Randy Kidd presented information to the Board regarding the law enforcement grants for the upcoming year. They are being reduced and will be less than we anticipated.

COMMUNICATIONS

Sheriff Jim Higen and Sheriff Kevin Halverson discussed the dispatch center and the need to have a backup plan in the event the center became inoperable. The proposal will be to have Minidoka County dispatch center to backup the Cassia County dispatch center and Cassia County dispatch center would do the same for Minidoka County. He also requested that both counties work together on a Computer Aided Dispatch System, a Mapping System and an Emergency backup system.

Kent Searle discussed the enhanced 911 system, cell phone usage, and the same communications systems that Sheriff Higen and Sheriff Halverson discussed.

Sheriff Higen requested permission to sign a memorandum of agreement to have officers work with a DEA drug task force to help prevent the drugs from coming into, or traveling through the County. Any pay will be overtime pay and will be reimbursed by a grant from the federal government. It was moved and seconded to sign the contract joining the task force and voting was unanimous by the Board.

ELECTION POLLING PLACES

The Board discussed the agreements for use of facilities for polling places. There is a concern for liability in the event of personal injury when a citizen goes to the polls to cast their ballot.

BUILDING MATTERS

Kerry McMurray discussed the building budget and the uses for the money budgeted.

WEED CONTROL

The Board reviewed a letter from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Burley Field Office of a meeting they had with Gordon Edwards regarding noxious weed control work in Cassia County. Per the provisions of the Settlement Agreement and Release (Elba fire agreement), dated October 15, 1998, BLM's portion of the settlement (\$3,000.00) during 2005 should be used to control scotch thistle and rush skeleton weed in the area of the Cotterel Mountains. They reported that their office continues to have an excellent working relationship with Cassia County, and Gordon Edwards is extremely helpful to their office and Cassia County does have excellent coordination with the BLM staff. Gordon has been selected as the "Idaho Weed Worker of the Year" for the work he has done in the Goose Creek area during this past year.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

It was proposed and seconded to convene as the County Board of Equalization. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

The Board reviewed the Deleted Homeowners list. It was proposed and seconded to accept the Assessor's recommendation and delete the Home Owners exemptions on the following parcels: MH#09S25E307799, RP#BSW010020010, RP#10S23E290396, RP#10S23E324801, MH#BEZ060000060, RP#00010003008A, RP#BB0010380030, RP#BMV010040070, MH#10S22R200930, RP#11S22E150155, RP#BHL010010030, RP#BSW210070190, RP#00010002001A, RP#10S22E340100, RP#BMV21001009A, RP#DD003009001A, RP#BHM01001008A, RP#BB0010230160, RP#15S24E153600, RP#03S26E125400, MH#BDM010000120, RP#10S24E323201, RP#DD003007006A, RP#DD0030030120, RP#BB0010430040, MH#10S23E266400, RP#BB001051005A, RP#10S22E295249, PP#15136, RP#BSG01003018A, MH#DD003012005B, RP#000300010020, RP#11S21E249501, RP#BB0011260160, RP#10S22E253452, RP#BB0010390140, RP#000150020100, MH#BGR06000025A, RP#10S23E363850, MH#13S22E276325, RP#13S25E231001, RP#BOV010020010, RP#OK002020006A, RP#BML010060040, RP#BSG01007004A, RP#13S26E123780, RP#BSW210080090, RP#11S23E190755, RP#14S22E080796, RP#BB0010360160, RP#BSW010010060, RR#BB0010420030, RP#10S23E318805, RP#OK002018001A, RP#12S19E023000, RP#DMV030000170, RP#BB0011550150, RP#10S24E315575, RP#12S22E117000, and RP#BB0011410120. Voting was unanimous by the Board and notices will be sent to the property owners

It was proposed and seconded to return to regular session. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Bob Shepard presented an Economic Development update to the Board. He feels that the Intermodal Authority is the best way to improve the economics in the Mini-Cassia area. He is

actively recruiting businesses into the area and there are some positive indicators of success.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated February 11, 2005. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$27,834.56
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$4,172.22
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$2,563.18
COUNTY ROADS AND BRIDGE FUND	107	\$20,403.48
WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$1,147.18
AMBULANCE SERVICE	110	\$12,500.00
COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION FUND	113	\$10,725.00
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$773.80
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$6,578.89
COUNTY SNOWMOBILE FUND	118	\$2,198.39
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$324,686.36
D.A.R.E. TRUST FUND	137	\$108.00
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$772.45
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$1,461.77
	TOTAL	\$415,925.28

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:50am 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 11:15am and voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board approved Case #204149. Signed Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits for Case #205002 and Case #205024. Signed Certificate of Denial for Case #205003, Case #205005, Case #205006, Case #205007, Case #205010, and Case #205019.

EXTENSION OFFICE

Richard and Tom Garrard made a presentation to the Board regarding sugar beet growth and production as it is related to the economic importance of agriculture to the Magic Valley. Sugar beet production has played a major economic role in Idaho's economy. Richard discussed the alfalfa and dairy industries and the impact of an acre-foot of water has on these industries. Reported that this same relationship holds true for all agriculture products grown in the area. Richard also discussed the impact that sugar beets and agriculture in general have on the creation of jobs. He stated that for every forty (40) acres of agriculture, there is one (1) job created. Tom Garrard led a discussion regarding the closure of the Nyssa, OR sugar beet factory. He also discussed the surplus of sugar because of importation of sugar from other countries and the impact this has on the prices farmers receive for their crops.

MARSH CREEK RIDGE SUBDIVISION PLAT APPROVAL

George and Gwen Montgomery appeared before the Board for the Plat Approval of the Marsh Creek Ridge Subdivision. They presented the plat drawing and description of the

subdivision, with the restrictive covenants of the subdivision. Upon receiving the notarized signature of one (1) more person, the plat will be brought to the County Administration office for approval and signature of the Board.

GEM COMMUNITY PROGRAM

The Board reviewed the City of Albion's Gem Community Program 2005 Action Plan update. This plan includes the entire rural area surrounding Albion.

VETERAN'S MATTERS

The Board reviewed the Mini-Cassia Veteran's Advisory Board Report.

AMBULANCE REPORTS

The Board reviewed the Cassia Regional Medical Center ambulance reports for September, October, November and December 2004.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 22, 2005.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Renee Wells, SIP; Bob Shepard, Economic Development; Dennis Dexter, MCCJC; Randy Kidd, CCSD; Cassia Sheriff Jim Higen; Minidoka Sheriff Kevin Halverson; Kent Searle, 911 Communications; Richard Garrard, Extension Office; Tom Garrard, Amalgamated Sugar; George Montgomery and Gwen Montgomery, Marsh Creek Ridge Subdivision

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

Dennis Crane, Chairman