

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met this day with 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. Chairman Dennis Crane was absent.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

Commissioner Crane was unable to attend the meeting. It was proposed by Commissioner Christensen that Commissioner Handy be appointed acting Chairman. Commissioner Handy seconded the motion, with Commissioner Christensen voting yea and Commissioner Handy voting yea.

NOXIOUS WEED APPEAL

Myrna and Aaron Andreason appeared before the Board to appeal an order prohibiting the movement of hay containing Russian Knapweed registered by Cassia County Weed and Pest Supervisor Gordon Edwards. (Appeal recorded on tape labeled Noxious Weed Appeal – 23 May 05). It was moved and seconded to ask Mr. Barrus to prepare findings of fact and conclusion of law for presentation at the meeting on May 25, 2005 and voting was unanimous by the Board.

PROPOSED PLUTONIUM FACILITY @INL

Esther Ceja, representing the Snake River Alliance, appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed Plutonium Facility at the Idaho Nuclear Laboratory. Government agencies have expressed concern with keeping the pollutants contained. Storage in other sites is not being conducted in the proper manner. This will endanger the health of the employees of the plutonium storage facilities. The draft environmental impact statements will be out in June in preparation for the public hearings.

SHERIFF'S MATTERS

Sheriff Jim Higen discussed Homeland Security Grants with the Board. He presented a grant request to the Board for \$230,366.58 for homeland security and explained the uses of the monies that are available. It was moved and seconded to approve and sign the grant application and voting was unanimous by the Board. Commissioner Handy, serving as the acting Chairman, signed the grant application in the absence of Chairman Crane.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Public Defender: Doug Whipple presented the Cassia County Public Defender Clients Commissioner Report for April 2005. The totals in all categories are up a little.

Assessor: Marty Holland reported that there are Corporations protesting their established market values and reported that the assessment rolls will be completed in June. The entire staff is very busy getting all assessor business in order. He reported that if there were homes damaged during the floods, the market value could be reduced to compensate for the flood damage.

Detention Center: Dennis Dexter reported that the revenue appears to be up a bit for the year. There are currently 125 inmates, with 30 from Minidoka County and 33 from Cassia County. There are 35 State sentenced inmates. There are 8 from the Federal Marshall, and 16 from other jurisdictions. The State inmate numbers are down and it appears that they will remain that way for a while.

Sheriff's Department: Sheriff Jim Higen reported on the current water and flooding situation. Raft River looks good, Declo and Marsh Creek is down considerably at Albion. Marsh Creek is fast but the level is down considerably. In Oakley, Birch Creek and Goose Creek still high, but the water is under control. The flood threat throughout the County is down at this time. The clean up process is now underway. Sheriff Higen was very impressed with the public support and assistance in helping others during the flood emergency. He was impressed with the accuracy of the National Weather forecasting, helping the Sheriff's Department to be ready for any additional rains.

Commissioner Christensen reported on the Capital Crimes Defense Fund meeting. He reported that they

have received claims of approximately \$100,000.00 more than their budget and therefore have increased each participating counties share. The Cassia County assessment will be about \$1000.00 higher for this year.

Treasurer: Gayle Erekson reported that the tax reminders would be out this week. She said that there was another utility that we will have to send a reimbursement to, the Northwest Pipeline Corporation. Another bankruptcy is pending for Cable One, which will cause further tax problems. The county will have to return some taxes collected because the State established incorrect property values.

Janitorial/Maintenance: Sharon Higgins reported that there was a drain plugged on the roof, and there had been about 24 inches of water on the roof. The problem was resolved with no apparent damage. The old Assessor's office was completed with painting and carpeting being completed.

County Administrator: Kerry McMurray discussed the tobacco cessation classes that are available through South Central District Health. Dennis Dexter reported that it has been offered to the MCCJC employees, with no interest shown in the classes. Mr. McMurray reported that the library is sponsoring a "Treasure Hunt" and we may see children around the Courthouse.

Clerk: Larry Mickelsen reminded the Department Heads that their budget requests are due today, to enable preparation of the proposed budget. He also discussed the departments that have individuals that are using personal credit cards for county business and therefore we do not receive the sales tax exemption available when charging directly to Cassia County.

CASSIA COUNTY HISTORY MATTERS

Commissioner Handy discussed the need for pictures of the previous elected officials for the Cassia County History. He requested the departments display the pictures in their offices.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

At 10:22am it was proposed and seconded to convene as the County Board of Equalization. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

It was proposed and seconded to approve the Home Owners exemptions on the LDS Church exempt properties. The list is available in the Assessor's Office and the County Administration Office after June 1, 2005. Voting was unanimous by the Board. Notices will be sent to the property owners

At 10:25am it was proposed and seconded to return to regular session. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the calendar for May 2005.

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The minutes for May 16, 2005 and the special Commissioner Meeting on May 17, 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.

BUILDING MATTERS

Kerry McMurray reported on the cost to replace the fluorescent lamps in the old Assessor's office and the current Magistrate office. The cost for the old Assessors area is \$1,600.00 and for the Magistrate office it is \$895.00. It was moved and seconded to approve the proposal from Ramsey Heating & Electric, with the stipulation that the ballasts be guaranteed for a period of time, and voting was unanimous by the Board.

MINI-CASSIA COMMERCE AUTHORITY MATTERS

The Commerce Authority has submitted the name of Bill Parsons as a member of the Commerce Authority Board. It was moved and seconded to ratify the recommendation and voting was unanimous by the Board.

BURLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT GRANT

The Board reviewed the letter of support for the Burley Fire Department grant application. It was moved and seconded to sign the letter of support and voting was unanimous by the Board.

CITY CLEAN-UP

The Board discussed the Burley clean-up program. The City of Burley reported that county residents outside of the city of Burley had used the dumpsters that were placed for the clean-up. It was moved and seconded that the County would pay \$500.00 to assist with the clean-up effort and voting was unanimous by the Board.

LAND SURVERYOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT MATTERS

Kerry McMurray discussed the GIS and Mapping efforts throughout the county. He explained that by reworking the service agreement with Steve Pearson and Desert West Land Surveys, we could obtain critical digital information for the county base map, with all being under the currently budgeted amount. The reworked contract will allow \$95.00 for field work, \$55.00 for office work, and the county will purchase a \$3000 module, retaining ownership of it, but allowing Desert West to use it for county work. It was moved and seconded to authorize these additional terms, with such other terms as necessary to clarify and authorize this digitized mapping work under that professional services agreement. Voting in the affirmative was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:53am 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 11:18am. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board signed Certificate of Denial for Case #205032, Case #205041, Case #205043, Case #205047 Case #205048, Case #205050, Case #205057, and Case #205060. Signed Certificate of Denial for Case #205029. Signed Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits for Case #205006 and Case #205059 and Case #205060. Signed Stipulation for Enlargement of Time Limitations for Case #205049. Signed Order on Appeal Affirming Denial of Benefits for Case #203082. Signed letter, requesting signature on appropriate payback agreements for one (1) case. Signed a letter Re: Case #98108.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:19am 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)(a) 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 personnel matters. Following the discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the Board return to regular session at 11:20am. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board will have Mr. Barrus follow-up on the matter.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated May 20, 2005. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$4,015.32
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$9.01
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$1,830.07
COUNTY ROADS AND BRIDGE FUND	107	\$552.30

WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$260.35
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$278.89
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$362.14
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$28,635.25
MINI-CASSIA DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE	136	\$469.52
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$3,052.90
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$1,159.43
	TOTAL	\$40,625.18

CASSIA COUNTY HISTORY MATTERS

Kathleen Hedberg appeared before the Board to discuss the pending Cassia County History book. She clarified the wording of the copyright for the book. She explained the ISBN, a bar coded number for scanning items, that will be used by the county and the cost will be \$250.00 for the ten (10) digit number. Having a “dust jacket” on each book will be an additional cost, depending upon the choice for the “dust jacket.” The decision on the type of hard cover for the book must be made very soon because of time constraints in having the book ready before the County Fair. Caxton Printers is willing to assist in the design of the hard cover. Commissioner Handy is going to the Boise area on business and will stop in to Caxton Printers and view the other hard cover options that are available.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Scott Nannenga reported that the roads in the Almo area are totally saturated. The road around the Sublett Reservoir had a landslide and is closed. The Burley Highway District has been notified. The Forest Service campground fees will be raised by a small amount, to be comparable with other campgrounds in the area.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 25, 2005.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Renee Wells, SIP; Myrna Andreason; Aaron Andreason; Gordon Edwards; Cary Bristol; Doug Whipple; Sheriff Jim Higen; Kathleen Hedberg; Scott Nannenga; Sharon Higgins; Gayle Erekson; Marty Holland; Dennis Dexter; Mike Fehlman

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

Dennis Crane, Chairman