

COMMISSIONER MINUTES

#551

June 26, 2006

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.

ALL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Sheriff Jim Higen introduced Rick and Shana Fawcett of Whisper Mountain to the Board and they presented a potential County All Hazard Mitigation Plan Project Strategy for Cassia County. They have identified the potential hazard and flooding problems throughout the County and have developed a 100 year flood plan. They will invite the involved citizens to participate on the committee and in the committee meetings. There are potential grants available for funding through various agencies with the development and implementation of the plan. They will advertise the steps of the plan to have public involvement. The plan must be adopted by April 15, 2007 to receive FY 2008 funding from the federal agencies. They will include all potential problems with any existing or potential development of sub-divisions in the analysis of the County. Commissioner Christensen will represent the Board of Commissioners on the committee that will be developed.

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The minutes for June 12, 2006 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 June/July 2006.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. An announcement of the University of Idaho Twilight Tour on July 6, 2006 at the Kimberly Research Center.
2. An EPA Environmental Bulletin for June 2006.
3. An invitation to the U.S. Geothermal Inc. groundbreaking in Malta on July 29, 2006.
4. An invitation to participate in the FFA Golf Scramble on July 13, 2006 at the Burley Golf Course.

OREGON TRAIL RECREATION DISTRICT MATTERS

County Attorney Al Barrus presented the proposed Oregon Trail Recreation District Order to the Board. It was moved and seconded to approve the Order Forming the Oregon Trail Recreation District, record the Order, and forward it to the Governor of the State of Idaho, and voting was unanimous by the Board. Larry Mickelsen will include a letter to the Governor explaining that the names of interested parties will be sent next week.

COUNTY INSURANCE MATTERS

Kelly Bowen presented a report on the County insurance matters year to date. The claims have been fairly consistent and there has not been any large claims submitted. He reported that with the insurance rates, there is a potential for a very small increase or no increase at all. There are some medical professionals that do not participate in the plan and this increases the cost to the employees if their Doctor is not enrolled in the plan. There will be no changes in the plan until the end of the year review is completed by the Employee Benefits Committee.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Assessor: Marty Holland reported that the property values were up about 15% throughout the County by the State comparisons on sales of comparable properties. The property values are up throughout the State. The Homeowners exemption of 50% of improvements or \$75,000.00 will help to alleviate the increase in assessed value. School M&O receive about 60% of the total taxes collected. Kootenai County has questioned the perceived unfairness of the property value increases throughout their area.

Detention Center: Dennis Dexter reported that things are still very busy in the MCCJC. There are 158 inmates, 58 State, 55 Cassia County, 34 Minidoka County, 2 Federal holds, 9 from various Counties. There are 43 female prisoners and 115 male prisoners. There are 3 officers at POST and still 1 vacancy on the staff. The Friday Night Movie has been successful in reducing behavior problems. Inmates seem to have more money to pay medical costs now that they need money on the books to participate in the movie & pizza night. One inmate in the hospital for drug & alcohol treatment, the inmate is under guard.

Sheriff's Department: Sheriff Jim Higen reported that they are very busy because of all of the activities in the County. There have not been any serious problems to report.

Treasurer: Gayle Erekson reported that they have completed the tax collections and the collections are up about 1 1/2%. She reported that they did not have any major problems during the property tax collections. Just the normal complaints about the amount of taxes they have to pay. She reported that the PILT payment is down about \$12,000 and would try to find out why.

Janitorial/Maintenance: Sharon Higgins reported that everything is fine.

County Administrator: Comprehensive plan hearing on Thursday night with the P&Z Board. He discussed the apartments, including the 2 apartments used by the Adult Misdemeanor Probations Office and 1 for Elections Storage.

Clerk: Larry Mickelsen requested the budget requests need to be completed and sent to the Auditor's office and the annual inventories need to be completed and returned no later than August 1, 2006.

County Attorney: Al Barrus has an opening to fill in the Prosecuting Attorney's office.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

At 10:42am 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 exemptions on the following parcels: (See the attached lists). Voting was unanimous by the Board. Notices will be sent to the property owners

At 10:50am it was proposed and seconded to return to regular session. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated June 26, 2006. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$997.21
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$4,473.01
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$3,602.60
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$285.96
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$18,742.27
	TOTAL	\$28,101.05

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 11:35am. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board sent a letter for hand-delivery by the wife of the applicant in Case #206010. Approved Cases #206050, 206058, and 206051. Denied Cases #206055, 206041. Signed Stipulation for Enlargement of Time Limitations for Cases #206019, 206034, and 206052. Signed Release of Medically Indigent Lien for Case #201065. Signed Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits for Cases #206063, 206064, and 206065. Signed Order of Dismissal for Cases #205119, 205121, and 205130.

COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Fred Darrington, presented a letter from the Cassia County Farm Bureau to the Board Re: County Comprehensive Plan revised 2006. He requested additional time for the public comment period. Commissioner Christensen indicated that the letter could possibly be presented to the P&Z Board meeting this week, for consideration prior to a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners for formal decision and implementation.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Scott Nannenga suggested a meeting with the Twin Falls Commissioners Re: Rock Creek on a Monday afternoon in July. The date will be coordinated between the Cassia County Administrator and the Twin Falls Board of Commissioners. There has been some extensive damage to some camp areas by some of the public, using large 4-wheel vehicles to make new roads/paths where none previously existed and where existing roads are in the near vicinity. There has been logging permits issued in the Sawtooth National Forest for the first time in 5 years. Pomerelle camping area (Lake Cleveland) is still closed but the public removes the locks and uses the facilities anyway. Other camping areas, lower in elevation, are open at this time.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE MATTERS

The County Road & Bridge Department's new employee will be brought to the Auditor's office for processing. Kloepfer Concrete wants to donate equipment and/or asphalt to the County Road & Bridge Dept. to use as determined by the County. They have requested the use of county electrical power to crush gravel from the BLM gravel pit, to be used in the City of Rocks and Kloepfer Concrete will pay the County for the use of the electricity.

PUBLIC DEFENDER REPORT

The Board reviewed the Public Defender report and the Conflict Public defender report for May 2006.

MINI CASSIA JUVENILE PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Minidoka County has requested that Cassia County turn over the County JABG funds in the amount of \$4,500.00 for use by the Juvenile Probation Department, as has been done for the past 5 years. It was moved and seconded to waive the Cassia County JABG funds for 2006 to Minidoka County and voting was unanimous by the Board.

CHANGE OF STATUS

The Board reviewed one (1) Change of Status form for the Cassia County Sheriff's Dispatch Center and one (1) Change of Status form for the Cassia County Prosecuting Attorney's office. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and voting was unanimous by the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:55am 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)(f) 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 pending litigation. Following the discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the Board return to regular session at 12:20pm. Voting was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board approved interviews of individuals by the County Prosecuting Attorney.

SNOWMOBILE FUND COMMUNICATIONS BILL

The Board reviewed the monthly bills to Globalstar Communications and Raft River Electric for the Cassia County Snowmobile organization. It was moved and seconded to prepay the communications bill to Globalstar Communications and the electrical bill to Raft River Electric in 6 month increments and voting was unanimous by the Board.

PROPERTY

Property owned by Donna Olsen, located on the South side of the Assessor's Office has been offered to Cassia County to be purchased at the assessed value. The Commissioners looked at the property and asked Mr. McMurray to determine what the assessed value is prior to a decision being made.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, July 3, 2006.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Renee Wells, SIP

ATTEST:

/s/Larry A. Mickelsen

APPROVED:

/s/Dennis Crane

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

Dennis Crane, Chairman