

COMMISSIONER MINUTES

#559

February 26, 2007

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.

ALLIANCE LAND & LIVESTOCK APPEAL

The Board reviewed and discussed the Alliance Land & Livestock Appeal hearing that was conducted on February 23, 2007 in the District Court Room. The discussion is recorded and can be found on the county server under Alliance LLC Appeal Decision. At the conclusion of the deliberation, it was moved and seconded to uphold the decision of the County Planning & Zoning Commission and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board of County Commissioners. Blaine Cannon of the Cassia County Prosecuting Attorney's Office was asked to prepare a written decision in this regard for the Commission's review and adoption.

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The minutes for February 23, 2007 were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to approve and proceed with publication of an appropriate synopsis. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the calendar for February & March 2007.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. A letter from the Department of Commerce Re: Local Update of Census Addresses Program to the 2010 census. A meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2007 in Twin Falls.
2. A bulletin from the Idaho State Fire Plan Working Group Re: Revised Idaho Strategy that was signed on December 12, 2006 by Idaho Governor Jim Risch.
3. A thank you letter from the South Central Community Action Partnership for the annual contribution from Cassia County.

CCSO POLICY PROPOSAL

Captain Cary Bristol met with the Board to discuss the Lexipol Law Enforcement Policy Manual System. ICRMP will pay for the first year's costs, then 50% of the cost for the program for the next year. This will provide a convenient on-line method for training on policy and helping to keep policy current. The initial commitment will be for a 2 year period. Sheriff Higenes is desirous of investigating the program to see how it can benefit the CCSO. The Board of Commissioners recommended the Sheriff's Office conduct a thorough study of the proposal and return with a recommendation that could justify the expense to the county.

GUARDIAN AD-LITEM

The Board reviewed the Guardian Ad-Litem Case Report from the Tuft Law Offices.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:35am 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)(b) 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 employee matters. Following the discussion, it was proposed and seconded that the Board return to regular session at 9:45am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board took the matters under advisement.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Assessor: Marty Holland reported that things are going normal and they are sending out the property notices. There are still many issues around the state regarding personal property values. He spoke with Ex-Governor Risch while he was at IAC. Shelly Yarborough resigned about 2 weeks ago.

Detention Center: Dennis Dexter reported that there are currently 134 inmates in the detention center, with 28 from Minidoka County, 34, from Cassia County, 59 from the State and 13 from other jurisdictions. The total revenue is down about \$68,000 from last year's total at this time. Meagan Headley was hired as the Jail Tech and Bryce Nelson was hired as a Detention Center Officer. Brandon Talbert has resigned and there are 4 openings at the MCCJC at this time.

Sheriff's Department: Captain Cary Bristol reported that they are struggling because of a shortage of personnel. There have been a number of employees who are sick or have suffered injuries that have caused them to miss work. Doug Welch and Mark Merrill have recently been hired. A full-time dispatcher has resigned but they are working with her to try and keep her part time.

Janitorial/Maintenance: Sharon Higgins reported that she is still looking for a part time custodian but things are functioning as normal. The public phone has been removed from the 2nd floor by PMT because of low revenue received by them.

Weed Department: Gordon Edwards potential problems with the organic dairies Re: weed control plans. The dairies do not have plans in force at this time, but they say they will develop one when the need arises. It could develop into a problem that will need to be resolved before it becomes serious. The Jackson area has the largest problem with Scotch Thistle. The Jackson area citizens are very cooperative with Gordon with the thistle control. He has coordinated with citizens of the Almo area to assist with control of weeds on the Elba/Almo road. Ken Miller of the BLM is attempting to get a full-time weed control employee for the area rather than part-time as he currently has.

County Administrator: Kerry McMurray reported there are updated county code books in all offices. Otherwise things are quiet except for CAFO applications and appeals.

Clerk: Larry Mickelsen reported that things are normal. Barbara Mai has retired and Wendy Marr was hired to replace her.

County Attorney: Al Barrus reported that they are staying busy and there is a lot going on with the Prosecutor's Office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:29am 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 10:35am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board denied Case #207014. Signed Findings of Fact for Case #206055.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-02-7

The Board reviewed Resolution No. 2007-02-7 for destruction of Election Records. After review and discussion it was moved and seconded to approve the destruction of the Election Records and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-02-8

The Board reviewed Resolution No. 2007-02-8 for destruction of Clerk/Recorder Records. After review and discussion it was moved and seconded to approve the destruction of the Clerk/Recorder Records and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

EAST & WEST CASSIA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Kay Wells, Tia Mullins, Richard Kunau, of the West Cassia District and Ken Woodworth and Tony Wheeler of the East Cassia District met with the Board to discuss the events they have been involved with during the past year. There will be a tree sale sponsored by the districts in the April time frame. There conducted an awards banquet in 2006 when they honored some of the citizens in the county. Ken Woodworth reported on all of the report of combined events during the past year and on all of the events that will occur during 2007. They do sponsor 4H and FFA students to help keep the agriculture programs alive. They submitted packets that displayed all of the things they have accomplished during the past year. Tia Mullins introduced Kay Wells as a new board member and reported on the need that they now have to increase the funding from the County from the \$2,500 they currently receive to a larger amount. Richard Kunau explained that they receive a large amount of funding from the State, and they anticipate a large amount of funding from the State this year. Richard reported that Cassia County is a very high nitrate area, with the View area being the 3rd highest area in the entire State. Richard also explained some the projects they have scheduled for this year. It was moved and seconded to approve the budget request of \$2,500 to each District and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board. The Board requested that the Budget Officer consider increasing the budget by up to \$1,000 for FY08.

BLM

Ken Miller reported they are losing Howard Hedrick as the District Manager for the Twin Falls District. Howard is now working in the State BLM Office. Ken reported on the road closures in the South Hills. The closure will be from January 15 to March 16 and the compliance is being enforced more than in the past. This closure is to protect Mule deer and other wildlife and can be closed to protect the roads. They are working on the temporary hires for the next wildfire season. The BLM could possibly have 3 temporary employees for weed control for the summer. Old landfill leases for landfills that have been closed for a number of years are under review. BLM may soon propose termination of such leases because closure plans appear to have been successfully completed.

USFS

Scott Nannenga introduced Jane Kollmeyer, the new USFS Supervisor for the Twin Falls Forest District. Scott reported on travel planning, which will be decided no later than October 1, 2007. The USFS closed the Magpie Camping area 2 weeks ago. The announcement will be made in the newspaper so the public will know it cannot be used. The Black Pine Mine is about ready to be opened to the public, depends on the state of the vegetation, and this will probably occur this autumn. They are working on a proposed quarry plan for "Oakley Stone," which will be to certify that the stone that is mined from other parts of the County can be classified as Oakley Stone. They are still looking at the application for a power line for a proposed development area. The USFS and the BLM are discussing being co-located in Burley.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:58am 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 12:05pm. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session, the Board approved the citizen paying the County \$500 out of their income tax for Case #204151. The Board signed CAT Fund Assignments for 4 cases.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, March 5, 2007.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Renee Wells, SIP; Blaine Cannon; Don Pickett; ray Robinson, Dan Ward, Karl Nelson, Bob Martin and Robert Beck, interested citizens Re: the Alliance LLC Appeal Decision.

ATTEST:

/s/Larry A. Mickelsen

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

APPROVED:

/s/Dennis D. Crane

Dennis Crane, Chairman