

COMMISSIONER MINUTES

#562

May 29, 2007

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met this day with Chairman Dennis Crane, Paul Christensen and Clay Handy, Board Members; and Larry Mickelsen, Clerk of the Board were present. Alfred E. Barrus, Prosecuting Attorney and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, were excused from the meeting.

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The Minutes for May 21, 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 May/June 2007.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. An invitation to attend the Drug Court graduation on May 30, 2007 in Twin Falls.
2. A workshop for Weed Control to be held in Idaho Falls June 12-13, 2007

BLM CONTRACT/HOMELAND SECURITY

Sheriff Jim Higen met with the Board to review the Amendment of Request for Application/Modification of Assistance Agreement with the BLM. After review, it was moved and seconded to approve and sign the amended assistance agreement and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board. Sheriff Higen presented a Homeland Security award of unanticipated revenue of \$5,585.00 for the Civil Defense Budget for review and execution. Upon conclusion of the review, it was moved and seconded to amend the Civil Defense Budget to allow for the expenditure of the unanticipated revenue and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

GUARDIAN AD-LITEM REPORT

The Board reviewed the Guardian Ad-Litem Case Report from the Tuft Law Office. After review it was moved and seconded to approve the monthly payment to the Tuft Law Office for the Guardian Ad Litem cases and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

WEED CONTROL ISSUE

The Board reviewed an application for Federal Assistance for Weed Control. After review it was moved and seconded to sign and execute the application and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

JACKSON PETITION TO INCORPORATE

The Board reviewed the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and order Re: Petition for Incorporation of the City of Jackson. The Conclusions of Law were that there is no justifiable or viable reason for the formation of a City and it would create an additional layer of taxation with no added benefit. It was moved and seconded that the petition for incorporation of a City known as "Jackson" is hereby denied and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER

The Board discussed the need for office space for the newly hired Juvenile Probation Office for Cassia County. The discussion will resume after reviewing the needs of the other departments that will be effected by the needs of the Juvenile Probation Office.

PILT FUNDING

The Board reviewed a letter, prepared by Kerry McMurray, to the Federal Government regarding the critical need that the County has for continued and fully funded PILT funds. After review of the letter, it was moved and seconded to sign and execute the letter and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

OAKLEY QRU

The Board reviewed a letter of support for the Oakley QRU. After review and discussion, it was moved and seconded to sign the letter and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:30am 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 9:50am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session the Board took the matters under advisement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:51am 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 9:55am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session the Board rescinded the authorization given on May 5, 2007, for an emergency 182 day ordinance to repeal County Ordinance 9-11-10 and the authorization given to Commissioner Crane and Clerk Mickelsen to sign County Ordinance No. 2007-05-01.

DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

Detention Center: Mike Fehlman reported that everything is going well. They are now fully staffed and 2 are going to POST next week. There was a suicide attempt last week, the same individual that had previously attempted suicide. He is under suicide watch at this time and the employees are watching him very closely. The current population of the MCCJC is 142, with 37 from Minidoka County, 46 from Cassia County, 48 State of Idaho inmates, 3 from the Border Patrol and 7 from other jurisdictions. Of the 142 inmates, 119 are incarcerated for felonies.

Sheriff' Department: Sheriff Jim Higen with school out and for the upcoming events in the area, the Sheriff's Department will be very busy. His department has a very busy Memorial Day weekend with calls. There will be one officer going to the police academy this summer. He is at full staff, they just need additional training. There are now 6 full-time Idaho State Police officers in the area. Chairman Crane remarked on the additional traffic and visitors in the Elba/Almo and City of Rocks areas during the holiday weekend and the need for traffic law enforcement.

Janitorial/Maintenance: Sharon Higgins reported that things are going just fine. The flowers are planted the sprinklers are working good. Some bushes will need to be removed this year.

Weed Department: Gordon Edwards and crew are working hard in the Jackson area on the Scotch Thistle and on the Leafy Spurge in the Goose Creek area. There is Scotch Thistle in the Declo area and he has notified the property owners that they must assist with the control of the thistle. The USFS has reduced their efforts with weed control and this will cause problems for the County weed department. There are problems on the "organic farm" on the Albion grade, on the East side of the road, with Canadian Thistle and Morning Glory on the "organic" farm. There is a need to remove the organic designation and control the thistle and weeds. Then after the required waiting time, the organic designation could once again be applied.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated May 29, 2007. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES FUND	107	\$1,200.00
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$9,768.33
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$118.60
	TOTAL	\$13,158.46

CHANGE OF STATUS

The Board reviewed one (1) change of status form for the MCCJC. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:43am 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 10:55am. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

Following Executive Session the Board signed Order of Reimbursement for Case #207053; signed Release of Lien for Case #206138; signed Notice of Lien for Indigent Benefits for Cases #207056, 207057, 207058, and 207059; Approved Cases #207053 and 207015.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

At 11:00am Chairman Crane excused himself from the meeting. It was proposed by Commissioner Christensen that Commissioner Handy be appointed acting Chairman and Commissioner Handy seconded the motion with Commissioner Christensen voting yea and Commissioner Handy voting yea.

BLM

Ken Miller of the BLM met with the Board and reported that he is moving to Elko, NV as the District Manager of the Elko District. He will report to Elko on July 22, 2007 and a replacement for him will be named soon. There is still no manager for the Twin Falls District. One of the Geologists in Burley will be transferring to the Boise District, and the position will be filled very soon. There is a new Range Technician in the Burley office that transferred from the Vernal, UT office. There will be a "Press" tour for the newspapers on Thursday May 31, 2007 of the Conner Fuels Project. Mr. Miller met with the P&Z Commission last week and discussed the right-of-way project on Highway 93, South of Twin Falls. Grazing permit renewals are being worked on at this time. He stated that there is much good that can be and is being done with the City of Rocks National Reserve and Castle Rocks State.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, June 4, 2007.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Mayor Anderson, Mark Mitton and Doug Manning, City of Burley

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/Larry A. Mickelsen

/s/Dennis D. Crane

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

Dennis Crane, Chairman