

COMMISSIONER MINUTES

#582

February 9, 2009

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

PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES

The Minutes for January 26, 2009 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. Amended minutes for January 5, 2009 and January 12, 2009 were also presented. It was moved and seconded to approve the amended minutes and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

CALENDAR

The Board reviewed the calendar for February 2009.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

1. An invitation to attend an informational meeting concerning a proposed Tobacco and Alcohol program, on February 13, 2009 in Heyburn.
- 2 A letter from the Idaho Sheriff's Association Re: Annual Detention Center inspection.
- 3 The January Jackson Area Activity report.

SOUTHERN IDAHO TOURISM

Debbie Dane met with the Board to discuss the Southern Idaho Tourism Stay and Play program in the area. 10,000 of the publications will be distributed throughout the area in Visitor Centers, Hotels, etc., to advertise the tourism aspects of Magic Valley. The fees they receive for the programs are down about 6%, but the business travel is significantly lower. The requests for information are a little higher than normal, which promises increased tourism. The golf courses in the area are willing to partner with hotels to create packages to entice the tourists to visit the area. She explained how the residents can tell the Southern Idaho Tourism what they would like to see in the area to enhance tourism.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Rod Smith met with the Board to discuss the request for funding for the Historical Society. His request was for \$5,000 for the first half of FY2009. It was moved and seconded to approve the \$5,000 payment to the Historical Society and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

CHANGE OF STATUS

The Board reviewed 4 changes of status forms, 2 for the Clerk Staff, 1 for the Sheriff's Office and 1 for the Detention Center. The Sheriff's Office request was put on hold for further consideration. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

WATERWAYS GRANT

Deputy Noah Shiner met with the Board to discuss the Waterways Grant Request. The request was for the purchase of a truck to be used for waterways safety. The total cost of the vehicle will be about \$30,000 and it will be dedicated for use by the Waterways and not for patrol duty. The truck will be purchased under the State contract. It was moved and seconded to ratify Chairman Crane's previous approval to submit the grant application and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:03am 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, the Board returned to regular session at 11:05am.

Following Executive Session the Board approved the Subordination of Case # 207129; Signed Release of Lien for Cases # 208060, 208090, 208114, and 208146; Signed Notice of Lien for Cases # 2009010, 2009011, 2009013, 2009014, 2009015, 2009016, 2009017, and 2009018; Denied Cases # 208145, 2009007, 2009008, and 2009012; Assigned Cases # 207041 and 207092 to Collections.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:07am 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, the Board returned to regular session at 11:45am.

Following Executive Session the Board took the matters under advisement.

EAST & WEST CASSIA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Mark Streeter, Mark Webb, Richard Kunau and Brent Stoker representing the East & West Cassia Soil & Water Conservation Districts met with the Board and presented their Annual Report. They reported on the world wide markets that are having negative monetary impact on the dairy industry.

Mark Streeter and Mark Webb discussed the business of the East Cassia District and reported on the farming business, procedures and contracts. They reported that the "terracing efforts" in the Albion area significantly improved flood control. They reported on the loss of trees to fire along Interstate highways in the county. They inquired if there were places where they could provide assistance for the county to promote soil and water conservation. They presented a paper that showed how much impact funding has on their operations. Some of the larger population counties dominate the funding and smaller population counties do not have the revenues they need.

Brent Stoker and Richard Kunau reported on the activities of the West Cassia District. They reported on the nitrate contamination in the county. They discussed the Springdale urban development and the impact the septic tanks have on the ground water. Tests they have conducted have not been conclusive, but further testing is ongoing. They are getting further evidence of some of the contaminants in the area prior to suggesting positive steps to reduce them prior to urban expansion.

Both of the Soil & Water Conservation Districts presented requests for letters of intent for \$2,500 of funding to carry out active conservation programs for July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010, which is their next fiscal year. It was moved and seconded to approve the requests for funding and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT TO THE BOARD/LUNCH

At 12:00pm the Board departed for Al's Restaurant where Kerry McMurray, Cassia County Administrator presented his report regarding Planning & Zoning functions and the upcoming hearing to consider zoning and subdivision ordinance amendments to the Board during their working luncheon.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE

The Board reviewed the Grant Request for a Cassia County Liquid Deicer Trailer & Vibratory Roller for FY2009, with a unit price of \$500,000. It was moved and seconded for Chairman Crane to sign and execute the application and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

The Board continued the review of the purchase of a Rhino Roller for \$29,000 from Tri-West Equipment. Based on potential rental revenue of the machine, it was moved and seconded to authorize the purchase of the Rhino Roller and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

ALL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Rick Fawcett, representing Whisper Mountain met with the Board to discuss the Adoption of the All Hazard Mitigation Plan. He reviewed and discussed the plan and the impact it will have on the county. He discussed the projects in the Burley, Raft River, Oakley, Malta areas and in the Narrows. There are plans to drill new injection wells to recharge the aquifers. The projects are ready for grant application, but Mr. Fawcett opined that application should not be made until after the funding cycle begins on June 1, so that work done on the application will be considered as match funding. Should stimulus money become available, the projects are at a state that they can be moved forward quickly. The sites for the projects are mainly on Public Lands so private property rights are not violated. It was moved and seconded to sign and execute the All Hazard Mitigation Plan for Cassia County and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

At 1:55pm it was proposed and seconded to convene as the County Board of Equalization. Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

It was proposed and seconded to delete the Home Owners exemptions on the following parcels: (See attached list). Roll call vote was unanimous by the Board. Notices will be sent to the property owners.

COUNTY AUDIT

Jeff Poulson of Evans and Poulson, CPAs met with the Board and presented the results of the Annual County Audit for FY 2008. He reported that there were no significant findings of a negative nature. There were some findings that were repeat findings, but none of a serious nature. It was moved and seconded to accept the external audit as presented and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

IDAHO JBAG FUNDS

The Board discussed the Idaho JBAG grant fund request by the Mini-Cassia Juvenile Probation Department for the Cassia County allocation of \$4,400. After review and discussion it was moved and seconded to approve the request and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

LOCAL OPTIONS TAX ISSUE

The Board discussed the local options tax issues. Kay Darrington Cameron has written a letter to the Board requesting support of the local option taxes. The Board had Mr. McMurray prepare a response to her letter.

BLM REQUEST ON MILNER WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE PROJECT

The Board reviewed the BLM request for public comment on the Milner Wildland Urban Interface Project. Kerry McMurray will send a letter and inform them that Cassia County is generally supportive of the proposal and would like to be kept informed regarding the project.

SNOWMOBILE ADVISORY BOARD

The Board discussed the Snowmobile Advisory Board membership at the Raft River Electrical Coop's annual meeting. Chuck Larson was appointed by the Board to be the duly authorized representative for Cassia County Snowmobile Advisory Board at the annual meeting.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

The Board and County Treasurer Gayle Erekson discussed special assessments issues for the Eastern Snake Aquifer. The Water Board wants to have the Legislature to approve the assessment for a irrigated acre water charge and have 100% of the revenue go to the Water Board, as presented by Leonard Beck.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:03pm 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, the Board returned to regular session at 3:15pm.

Following Executive Session the Board Assigned Case # 207069 to Collections; Signed Findings of Fact for Case # 208115; Signed Order of Reimbursement for Case # 208115 and 2009009; Approved Case # 208115 and 2009009; Presented Cases # 2009000, 2009001, 2009009, 2009010, 2009011, and 2009016.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:16pm 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, the Board returned to regular session at 3:20pm.

Following Executive Session the Board it was moved and seconded for Chairman Crane to sign the stipulation and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

COUNTY EXPENDITURE

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated 02/09/2009. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report and roll call vote was unanimous by the Board.

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$35,391.14
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$35,002.70
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$1,026.56
COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES FUND	107	\$5,043.82
WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$2,139.56
JR COLLEGE TUITION FUND	113	\$75,100.00
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$625.99
911 COMMUNICATIONS FUND	115	\$3,969.08
COUNTY SNOWMOBILE FUND	118	\$641.75
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$74,929.26
NARCOTICS SIEZED ASSETS	134	\$89.13
MINI-CASSIA DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE	136	\$454.50
D.A.R.E TRUST	137	\$2,545.73
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$1,007.43
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$1,050.35
	TOTAL	\$239,017.00

FEE CHANGES

Dee Yeaman and Susan Keck met with the Board to discuss some proposed fee changes for Planning & Zoning and Building fees. The current costs to the county and proposed costs were presented and discussed. They will determine the City of Burley's and Minidoka County's building permit valuation basis and fees in comparison with Cassia County's fee calculation

basis. The County Administrator was authorized to move forward with public hearing on proposed planning and zoning fees, building permit fees and sheriff's fees. The matter of building permit valuation tables will be further researched and discussed by the Board.

RECESS

Meeting was recessed until 12:00 p.m., Thursday, February 12, 2009 for department head training and building security walk through and review with Sheriff Kidd.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING

Margi Owens, Weekly News Journal; Cara Petterson, Donna Bush, Cassia County Auditors Office; Gayle Ereksen, Cassia County Treasurer; Damon Hunzeker, Times News;

ATTEST:

/s/ Larry A. Mickelsen

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

APPROVED:

/s/Dennis D. Crane

Dennis Crane, Chairman