

COMMISSIONER MINUTES

#585

May 29, 2009

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

UTILITY STRUCTURES W/IN CASSIA COUNTY

At 12:15pm, the Board met with the Power County Commissioners; Ron Funk and Vicki Meadows and Doug Balfour representing Power County; Representatives Scott Bedke and Fred Wood; Jeremy Field, representing Senator Jim Risch; and Steve Brown, representing Representative Mike Simpson. The discussion was focused on the Gateway West Powerline project of Idaho Power Co (IPC). Power County discussed an EIS from IPC they had received on May 26, 2009 that covered the entire project. IPC wants the power corridor to be mostly on private land rather than public lands because it will be less expensive and less complicated to make the agreements. Discussion ensued about having the Gateway West Powerline routed through the existing corridor that is in north Minidoka County or the possible routes south of Burley in Cassia County. The Boards of Commissioners from Cassia County, Oneida County and Power County will develop a letter to IPC that will be endorsed by all 3 Boards of Commissioners regarding their unity in routing the powerline where it will be the most advantageous to all 3 counties. The State and Federal elected officials are supportive of a unified letter to IPC from all 3 counties. Representative Woods discussed the disadvantages of forming a citizens advisory group. The Board and the BLM will meet at 11:00am Monday, June 1, 2009 at Burley City Hall to discuss the project and ensure that Cassia County's public lands policies are complied with during any powerline project. The 2:00pm meeting on Monday, June 1, 2009 was discussed and the importance of having an agenda and keeping the meeting moving forward and focused was also discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm.

ATTEST:

/s/Larry A. Mickelsen

Larry A. Mickelsen, Clerk

APPROVED:

/s/Dennis D. Crane

Dennis Crane, Chairman