

## **COMMISSIONER MINUTES**

**January 24, 2011**

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met this day with Chairman Dennis Crane, Paul Christensen and Bob Kunau, Board Members; Alfred E. Barrus, Prosecuting Attorney; Joseph W. Larsen, Clerk of the Board, and Kerry D. McMurray, County Administrator, present.

### **PREVIOUS WEEK'S MINUTES**

The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from January 18, 2010, and from January 10, 2011, which reflected changes that required re-printing. A motion to approve the January 10, 2011, reprinted minutes and the January 18, 2011, minutes was made by Commissioner Kunau, seconded by Commissioner Christensen. Roll call vote was unanimous with Commissioner Kunau, Commissioner Christensen and Chairman Crane all voting yea.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Board reviewed the following:

1. Solicitation request for additional information on portable defibrillator device from AED First Response
2. Thank you from the Commissioner Crane's family for planter for his father's funeral
3. Invitation to Lincoln Day Celebration with Dick Morris in Twin Falls starting at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 12, 2011

### **CALENDAR**

The Board reviewed the following:

1. Public Defender Meeting at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 25, 2011
2. Mini-Cassia Joint Jail meeting at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 25, 2011
3. Cassia Regional Medical Center Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2011
4. Solid Waste Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2011
5. CAT Board Meeting in Boise at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 27, 2011
6. South Central Community Action Partnership Meeting at 12:00 p.m. Thursday, January 27, 2011
7. Flag Meeting at Pomerelle at 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2011
8. Conference call with Chris Casteel from the IRS on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. regarding resolution of processing W-2C's with the Social Security Administration

### **INSURANCE MATTERS – KELLY BOWEN**

Postponed until Mr. Bowen completes the contract

### **DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING**

As this was the first Department Head Meeting since the swearing in of newly-elected officials, each department head introduced themselves and reported generally on each of their departments. The new Criminal Justice Center Director, Darwin Johnson was introduced to the group as well.

PATTY JUSTESEN – Patty indicated that this past tax collection was up by .1% from the previous collection. She has just hired a Deputy Treasurer, Sheri Bedke.

DARWIN JOHNSON – Darwin, accompanied by Deputy Director Russ Rasmussen indicated there was little change in the census at the jail. They discussed food issues and resolutions and have two employees going to POST in February. Job search for employees at the jail is still ongoing.

DWIGHT DAVIS – Dwight indicated that appraisals are ahead of schedule. Personal property notices will go out next week. He just completed training with the State Tax Commission and will be attending IAC meetings in February. He discussed the change with the Circuit Breaker being administered by the state and indicated there are 8-10 applicants a day. He also reported that the homeowner's exemption has been reduced.

GORDON EDWARDS – Gordon's crews have been out spraying and is keeping abreast of issues regarding invasive species and boat inspections. He will be meeting with road districts to discuss killing of salt grass. His department is conducting recertification for new products in the market.

JOEL PACKHAM – Joel has conducted office training for secretaries and is sending out postcards to announce the 2011 Southeast Idaho Cereal School on February 1, 2011. There will be a beginning farmer meeting in Shoshone and Twin Falls. A farm management class will be conducted in Twin Falls this year and in Burley next year.

JOSEPH LARSEN – Joe reported on the new consolidate election progress that includes a bond election coming up for the Cassia County Consolidate School District. The Jury Commissioner's office is researching under his direction the whole process including the random selections of jurors and the ongoing database update. The Auditor's office is in the final stages of the independent outside audit and he has asked each department's ongoing cooperation in requests for Auditing documentation.

AL BARRUS – Al reported that the two murder trials scheduled have pled; one has been sentenced and the other is awaiting sentencing. The County has saved a lot of costs that would have been incurred by them going to trial. Al express his appreciation for everyone's attendance to department training.

RANDY KIDD – Sheriff Kidd indicated that he is currently conducting annual employee interviews. Two deputies were injured off duty and will be out for some time. The records system is scheduled to be fully operational by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. It will be linked with the Prosecuting Attorney's office to get discovery information.

KERRY McMURRAY – Kerry indicated that the building department is issuing about 12 new permits per month and that there is an increase in concrete pours. Southern Idaho Tourism will be providing free training in customer service and ICRMP will conduct online training regarding personnel policy, vehicle use, and harassment. He strongly encouraged attendance to those trainings. Planning & Zoning issued a conditional use permit for propone storage and there were no oppositions and only a few concerns.

PAUL CHRISTENSEN – Paul indicated that CAT claims continue to go up. He attended a Drug Court seminar with judges and learned more about Mental Health Courts. They do a lot for accountability and rehabilitation.

BOB KUNAU – Bob is currently working on several projects. He is on the South Central Community Action Partnership Committee. The Economic Development Committee is meeting

tomorrow and he will learn more about that.

DENNIS CRANE – Dennis discussed the upcoming meetings in Boise. He requested that one of department heads be on each of the committees that the IAC offers. It would not be unreasonable to serve on more than one committee. He discussed each of the committees and asked each department head which committee they would prefer to serve on.

### **USFS/BLM**

Scott Nannenga, Sawtooth National Forest Ranger, introduced the new Forest Supervisor, Becky Nourse, who came to the area from Alaska. They made a presentation detailing roadway issues and the potential restriction of ATV use on some public lands. BLM Director, Mike Courtney, discussed the Cassia County Wind Resource area and the Shell Wind Energy project.

### **COUNTY EXPENDITURES**

The Board reviewed the County's Payables Approval Report dated January 21, 2011. A motion was made and seconded to approve the report and the roll call vote was unanimous with Commissioner Kunau, Commissioner Christensen and Chairman Crane all voting yea.

### **CHANGE OF STATUS**

The following Request for Change of Status forms were presented to the Board for their approval: The hiring of David N. Turner as a Deputy Patrolman and the promotion of Jarrod A. Thompson from Deputy Sr. Patrolman to Corporal Patrolman in the Sheriff's office; the hiring of Rojelio Mancias as Deputy Probation Officer in Misdemeanor Probation; and the revised appointment from full time to part time Detention Deputy for Michael Layne Dudley in the Criminal Justice Center. It was moved and seconded to approve the changes of status and roll call vote was unanimous with Commissioner Kunau, Commissioner Christensen and Chairman Crane all voting yea.

### **CSI RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS**

Thirty-four CSI Residency Applications were reviewed and a motion to approve those applications was presented by Commissioner Kunau, seconded by Commissioner Christensen, followed by a unanimous yea vote.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 11:05 a.m. it was proposed by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Kunau 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 Kunau voting yea. The purpose and general tenor of the meeting was to discuss medical indigent matters. Welfare Director, Susan Keck presented the following and the approved the following: Notice of Lien and Application for Medically Indigent Benefits approved for Case # 2011-008 and Case # 2011-009; Release of Medically Indigent Lien on Case # 2011-002; Certificate of Denial on Case # 2010-162, Case # 2010-169; Certificate of Approval on Case # 2010-068; Order of Reimbursement on Case # 2010-068. Following the discussion, the Board returned to regular session at 11:20 a.m.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 11:21 a.m. it was proposed by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Kunau 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 Kunau 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 11:33 a.m.

### **OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. The Board discussed with Treasurer, Patty Justesen, the recommended sale of 9 properties. Excess monies derived for such sales under statute must be returned to property owners. Administrator McMurray suggested that odd lot properties be looked over and discussed with Prosecuting Attorney Barrus.
2. The Janitorial Services Agreement was put on hold pending a tour and discussion with Commissioner Kunau of County buildings. Administrator McMurray discussed upkeep and maintenance of the County-owned Linda Vista apartments.
3. The Board reviewed the Cooperative Agreement for Maintenance of State Highway 77 and 77-Spur agreement between the County and the Idaho Transportation Department with Road and Bridge Supervisor Sam Adams. Mr. Adams addressed his areas of concern with the Board regarding snow removal, mowing, and signs near highway right-of-way. Prosecuting Attorney Barrus proposed that verbage could be added to the contract to allow the County to accumulate credit for hours worked and perhaps have the State sell the County used equipment in lieu of some sand and salt as currently proposed. Chairman Crane asked Administrator McMurray to put together some suggestions.
4. The Board discussed and signed a letter of support for the South Central Community Action Partnership's Homeless Prevention Program and for their application for an Emergency Shelter Grant.
5. Gateway West was discussed by the Board following review of communication with Douglas Balfour regarding eminent domain issues and a draft of proposed legislation. Administrator McMurray was asked to coordinate a meeting of the Board with Elko authorities.
6. Administrator McMurray asked Clerk Larsen on behalf of the Recorder's office to coordinate a review and approval of posted costs and content to the County website with Prosecuting Attorney Barrus.
7. The Board discussed the Mini-Cassia Drug Enforcement Task Force Memorandum of Understanding. Prosecuting Attorney Barrus indicated that Commissioners from both Cassia and Minidoka County should sign the agreement to make it valid.
8. The Board reviewed the Maintenance Agreement Addendum Quotation from L-1 Identity Solutions for the Criminal Justice Center fingerprint machine and printer that would be effective from June 1, 2011 to May 31, 2012. Commissioner Christensen made a motion to sign the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote.
9. At 10:48 a.m. Commissioner Christensen made a motion to go into session to consider Board of Equalization matters, seconded by Commissioner Kunau, followed by a unanimous yea vote. Assessor Davis presented 2011's year-to-date deleted homeowners. The Board returned to regular session at 10:55 a.m.

**LUNCH**

At 12:40 p.m. the Board departed for lunch at Canton, where they were joined by Renae Wells from The Voice. The Board discussed a memorandum from Douglas J. Balfour regarding eminent domain.

**RECESS**

Meeting was recessed until 9:00 a.m., Monday, January 31, 2011.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE AT TODAY'S MEETING**

Stacey Hughey, The News Journal; Renae Wells, The Voice; Laurie Welch, The Times News

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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Joseph W. Larsen, Clerk

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Dennis Crane, Chairman

A motion was made by Commissioner Christensen and seconded by Commissioner Handy. Commissioners Crane, Handy, and Christensen voted yea.

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Department Head Meeting

Introduced Darwin Johnson to group.

Patty tax collection better by .1% New employee Sheri Bedke, Deputy Treasurer

Darwin and Russ – no change in statistics, census about the same. Talked about food service and they meet minimum requirements. Darwin talked to cook and the staff about passing out meals. Meals are consistent and if it changes, the staff will return it to the kitchen. Corrected issues with food quality and quantity and they are addressing issues appropriately. Two going to POST in February. Updated job search avenues still short employees in jail.

Dwight Davies – Assessor Great staff doing a great job appraisals ahead of schedule. Personal property notices to be sent out the first of next week. Training with state tax commission for 3 days. Will attend IAC meetings. Busy with tax reduction formerly Circuit Breaker. 8-10 applicants a day. Send to state. \$92,040 (down) on homeowner's exemption.

Gordan – out spraying county shed done gun range more to do invasive species internet implementation to find which boats have been inspected. Box elder county salt grass problem looking to find something to kill the salt grass. Meeting with all road districts and with Oneida county. Forest service looking for stimulus money. Doing a lot of training for recertification and new product in the market.

Joel Packham – Extension Office training for secretaries (excel training) quickbooks training taught by Joel and other extension people. Cereal school for 2011 and will send out post card. Beginning farmer and value added for direct market products in Shoshone and TF. Farm management class in TF next year in Burley

Larsen – elections recording, auditors office

Barrus two murder trials pled and sentenced on one and the other is pled and will be sentenced. Costs will be saved by that. Appreciate those in attendance to department training.

Sheriff annual employee interviews currently in process. 2 deputies injured off duty and are down out for some time. Records system up and ready hooked up with prosecuting attorney's office to get discovery information fully operational by March 1<sup>st</sup> jail will be linked up at that time.

McMurray – building dept 12 new permits a month. Increase in concrete pours. Training –

Debbie day from southern Idaho tourism will provide free training 20-30 per session customer service. 2 hour block. ICRMP training on line academy by april 1<sup>st</sup> personnel policy vehicle use and harassment. Strongly encourage attendance. P&Z conditional use permit for propone storage at hobson beet dump. No opposition only a few concerns. New people and good comments and participation Interest in Poultry CAFO's and subdivision.

Legislation on CAT Board (Paul) Claims continue to go up. Drug Court seminar with judges and learned more about mental health courts. Do a lot for accountability and rehab.

Kunau – working on several projects. On Southcentral Partnership committee Economical development committee meeting tomorrow and will learn more about that.

Crane – Discussion about Boise meetings. One of us on every committee that the AIC offers. Not unreasonable to be on two committees. One of us on each of the seven committees. Larsen Health & Human Service

Chuck Larson – get items to agenda next week brought bills for payment.

Sam Adams – State Transportation Department broomed the Highway 77 Spur this past Friday getting loose chips from the road. They will keep a broom up there and will redo the road at a later date and investigate as to why there has been a problem. There were flood issues last week and the flood district was notified by one citizen. Sam has fixed the road where the problem occurred. Flood district will look to getting culvert to mitigate the problem. They will do some spot grading this next week. State will put the fog seal and discuss further the guard rail at the Big Fill.

USFS/BLM - Becky Nourse, Forest Supervisor for the Sawtooth National Forest, introduced herself . She came to the Twin Falls office from Alaska in December. Scott Nannenga presented maps of roads of concern. They desire comments and want to gather information regarding minimization of risk on those roads. Maps are posted on their website. Options are for additional signage or closure to ATV's. Scott presented a map of a proposed wind resource area where towers will be built and a proposed project area to monitor sage grouse and eagles. Mike Courtney presented to Commissioner Crane information and notes for our museum from Steve Ellis, new Idaho State Director of the BLM, who was involved with the Oakley Dam breach years ago.