



# Cassia County Board of Commissioners

*Commissioner Chambers*

*1459 Overland Ave.*

*Burley, ID 83318*

[www.cassiacounty.org](http://www.cassiacounty.org)

**Board Chairman:**

*Dennis Crane*

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**Board Members:**

*Paul Christensen (District #1) ~ [pchristensen@cassiacounty.org](mailto:pchristensen@cassiacounty.org)*

*Bob Kunau (District #2) ~ [bob.kunau@cassiacounty.org](mailto:bob.kunau@cassiacounty.org)*

*Dennis Crane (District #3) ~ [dcrane@cassiacounty.org](mailto:dcrane@cassiacounty.org)*

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

## SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of Cassia County Commissioners met in a special meeting on Wednesday, April 18, 2012, at 7:30 a.m. at Perkin's Restaurant. The purpose of the meeting was to meet with legislators and legislative representatives regarding Sage Grouse Preferred Priority Areas.

THOSE PRESENT:	County Commissioners:	Dennis Crane, Chairman Bob Kunau
	Deputy Clerk:	Stella Sutherland
	Prosecuting Attorney:	Alfred E. Barrus
	County Administrator:	Kerry D. McMurray
	Others in Attendance:	Rep. Scott Bedke Mike Matthews Linda Culver A.J. Church Kent Searle Brent Stoker Pat McCammon Joel Packham Von Gibby

*(Excused):*

County Commissioner:	Paul Christensen
Clerk of the Board:	Joseph W. Larsen

- 1) 7:40 AM CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN CRANE
  - a) Crane introduced the meeting regarding Sage Grouse habitat and the possible effects to the Gateway Project. He indicated that it could be very serious if the Sage Grouse were listed as an endangered species as it may eliminate a lot of industry in the County.
- 2) REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT BEDKE

**CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSION**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

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- a) Bedke spoke regarding federal criteria and plans of the State of Idaho. He listed the threats to Sage Grouse:
  - i) Fire
  - ii) Noxious weeds
  - iii) West Nile Virus
  - iv) Infrastructure development
  - v) Hunting
  - vi) Livestock grazing
- 3) Mr. Bedke stated that he would like a statewide plan similar to Wyoming's but one that will accommodate Idaho. He talked that a mitigation bank has possibilities to help blend the grouse habitat and the Gateway Project and that there are scheduled meetings coming up to discuss this issue. He stated that they want to be well prepared to proceed with this project and mentioned better grazing measurements for the grouse protection.
- 4) Prosecutor Barrus asked Bedke how they came up with this particular map regarding grouse habitat.
- 5) Gateway Task Force Chairman Brent Stoker stated that nobody with the Task Force knew anything about the map. He stated that this new habitat map will interfere with the Gateway Project and if the map is adopted that that project might be in vain.
- 6) Task Force member Kent Searle stated that the BLM refuses to coordinate on issues and he felt that needs to be resolved.
- 7) Crane talked about how our current Gateway map will not work under the scenario of this Sage Grouse protected habitat map.
- 8) Senator Mike Crapo's area director A.J. Church stated that this Sage Grouse habitat map needs to move forward and the task force will decide what needs to be done and the counties will have to cooperate.
- 9) Senator Mike Simpson's area director Linda Culver stated that everyone in all communities of southern Idaho are concerned with the issue and the potential listing of Sage Grouse as an endangered species and what it can do to public lands. She stressed coordination and cooperation between the Gateway Task Force and the BLM.

10) 8:20 AM ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED:

/s/\_\_\_\_\_

Dennis Crane, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

/s/\_\_\_\_\_

Joseph W. Larsen, Clerk of the Board