



# Cassia County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Chambers

1459 Overland Ave.

Burley, ID 83318

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

**Board Chairman:**

Dennis Crane

**Phone:** (208) 878-7302

**Fax:** (208) 878-9109

**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)

Monday, August 27, 2012

The Board of Cassia County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, August 27, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Chambers of the Cassia County Courthouse.

<p>THOSE PRESENT:</p>	<p>County Commissioners:</p> <p>Clerk of the Board:</p> <p>Prosecuting Attorney:</p> <p>County Administrator:</p> <p>News Media:</p> <p>Others:</p> <p>David Pacioretty, BLM Pocatello Office</p> <p>Park Sorenson, Assessor Mapper</p> <p>A.J. Church, Sen. Crapo</p> <p>Rep. Mike Matthews, Rep. Risch</p> <p>Doug Pickett, Gateway Task Force</p> <p>Brent Stoker, Gateway Task Force</p>	<p>Dennis Crane, Chairman</p> <p>Paul Christensen</p> <p>Bob Kunau</p> <p>Joseph W. Larsen</p> <p>Al Barrus</p> <p>Kerry D. McMurray</p> <p>Jay Lenkersdorfer, News Journal</p> <p>Laurie Welch, The Times News</p> <p>Blaine Newman, BLM Pocatello Office</p> <p>Mart Adams, Assessor Appraiser</p> <p>Rep. Linda Culver, Rep. Simpson</p> <p>Rep. Kent Searle, Gateway Task Force</p> <p>Vaughn Gibby, Gateway Task Force</p> <p>Pat McCammon, Gateway Task Force</p>
-----------------------	--	---

- 1) 9:06 AM AMENDMENT TO AGENDA
  - a) The Budget Hearing as published for today's date was inadvertently excluded from the agenda. A proposed amended agenda included the said Budget Hearing.

**9:06 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AMENDED AGENDA TO INCLUDE THE PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED BUDGET HEARING AS PUBLISHED.**

**COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 2) 9:00 AM CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, REVIEW CALENDAR, MINUTES, CORRESPONDENCE, PERSONNEL, CSI RESIDENCIES, COUNTY EXPENDITURES, COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE, BUILDING MATTERS, REPORT ON IACRC MEETING
  - a) 9:05 AM CALENDAR
    - i) Public Defender at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2012

**CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSION**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Monday, August 27, 2012**

- ii) Joint Jail Meeting at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2012
- iii) Solid Waste Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, August 29, 2012
- iv) RC&D Meeting in Twin Falls 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 28, 2012
- v) South Central Community Action groundbreaking in Kimberly at 6:00 p.m.
- b) Attorney Jim Davis, appointed by ICRMP to represent the County in Hess vs. Cassia County, et al. will be here for depositions in that matter tomorrow.9:05 AM CORRESPONDENCE
  - i) Idaho Transportation Board Meeting and tour of District 4 on September 19-20, 2012, focusing on the Wood River Valley the first day. They will then tour the Chobani Plant and have a business meeting on September 20, 2012, at the District 4 Office in Shoshone.
  - ii) Letter from Barrus to John Horejs regarding his contact with the Assessor's Office asking for payment in opposition to the instructions from the Board of County Commissioners.
  - iii) A contract from the Tea Party with the Fairground Office regarding a political fundraiser proposed for September 11, 2012, was reviewed by the Board. That contract includes a payment of \$150.00 for use of fairgrounds for those two days.
  - iv) Letter from the Idaho Division of Veterans Services report on their annual training session for Veterans Service Officers.
  - v) Thank you note from Cassia Fair Board Member, Brice Beck and his wife Judi Beck for flowers sent for the funeral of Judi's mother.
  - vi) Wedding Invitation from Building Department Compliance Officer Melissa Price.
  - vii) Thank you note from Lori Bergsma from Balanced Rock Insurance Company for the renewal of insurance.
- c) 9:09 AM REPORT ON IACRC MEETING
  - i) Larsen reported on the Records and Clerks Meeting
    - (1) It was recommended that Board Meeting Agendas include Executive Sessions that are known to be needed and amend the agenda by motion for Executive Sessions that become necessary after that.
    - (2) Open Meeting Law was discussed by ICRMP.
    - (3) ICRMP 5% discount for employee training was addressed.
- d) 9:10 AM CHANGE OF STATUS
  - i) Administrative Judge Richard Bevan has asked that newly-appointed Magistrate Judge Blaine Cannon not continue with any further prosecutorial work.
    - (1) Prosecuting Attorney's Office – Doug Abenroth as a new hire as deputy prosecutor
    - (2) Prosecuting Attorney's Office – Dallin Cresswell as chief deputy prosecutor with an increase in rate of pay

**11:55 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE CHANGE OF STATUS REQUESTS FOR THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE INVOLVING ADJUSTMENTS OF SALARIES FOR CRESSWELL AND ABENROTH. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. CHAIRMAN CRANE WAS NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE.**

**9:22 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE SAID CHANGE OF STATUS REQUESTS. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- e) 9:27 AM PERSONNEL ISSUE
  - i) The Board received a request from the Public Defender's Office for an extension of accrued time for employee Margie Spiers to keep her from losing that time.

- ii) Christensen asked for a compelling reason for the request, and pending that information the matter was taken under advisement.
- f) 9:32 AM COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE
  - i) County GIS Mapper Todd Quast is working with the Road and Bridge Department today where they are replacing a bridge with a culvert. The Board will go there on Tuesday, Sept 4, 2012, to inspect the changes.
- g) 9:33 AM BUILDING MATTERS
  - i) McMurray indicated that a water heater in the Courthouse and an air conditioner in the server room had failed. It was necessary to purchase a new air conditioning unit which cost \$460.00, as well as a new water heater. They were replaced by County personnel.
  - ii) A meeting was held last Friday with LCA Architects and their engineers to go over mechanical and electrical matters with the new Justice Complex. They should have things completed in two weeks. The County Attorney's Office will need to develop bid documents, with assistance from LCA.
  - iii) Alternatives with a cost analysis will be looked at further regarding floor coverings, work spaces, and with seating in the courtrooms.
- h) 9:36 AM APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**9:36 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER KUNAU MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE BOARD FROM AUGUST 20, 2012. COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- i) 9:38 AM CSI RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS
  - i) The Board reviewed 21 CSI Residency applications
  - ii) It was determined that it would be advisable to pay dual credit applicants until further investigation is done regarding the County's obligation.

**9:38 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE 21 CSI RESIDENCY APPLICATIONS. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- j) 2:13 PM COUNTY EXPENDITURES

CURRENT EXPENSES	104	\$3,027.99
INDIGENT FUND	105	\$18,312.52
DISTRICT COURT FUND	106	\$3,497.51
COUNTY ROADS & BRIDGES FUND	107	\$2,397.02
WEED & PEST FUND	108	\$11,144.00
REVALUATION FUND	114	\$432.00
COUNTY BOAT LICENSE FUND	117	\$14,558.50
ASSESSOR TRUST FUND	123	\$219.50
JUSTICE FUND	130	\$23,679.95
MINI-CASSIA DRUG ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE	136	\$5,743.62
D.A.R.E TRUST	137	\$124.25
PHYSICAL FACILITIES FUND	144	\$199.75
ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	149	\$830.34
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$84,166.95</b>

**2:13 AM**

***CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION  
Monday, August 27, 2012***

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER KUNAU MOVED TO APPROVE COUNTY EXPENDITURES DATED AUGUST 24, 2012. COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 3) 9:10 AM DISCUSS MPO PROPOSED POLICY
- a) The Misdemeanor Probation Office proposed policy was tabled while McMurray works with MPO Director Amber Prewitt to dovetail that agreement with the County Policy.
- 4) 9:20 AM DISCUSS WITH PROSECUTOR AND TAX COLLECTOR THE PROCESS FOR DEALING WITH TAX NOTICES CONCERNING "SPECIALS."
- a) Board approval is needed for any fees for services with charges that are put on tax notices.
  - b) Justesen will have a good count of those that include fees for services with charges so that it can be included on the Board agenda to be considered in the Board Meeting on September 24, 2012.
  - c) Barrus indicated that IC 63-1311 details that requirement.
  - d) Special code, the entity, and the number will be included in the request for the Board's approval.
- 5) 9:29 AM DISCUSS PARCEL RPBB001045009 FROM MAY TAX DEED SALE
- a) A parcel that did not sell at a tax deed sale in May was offered at exactly for what was owed as of Friday, August 24, 2012, to Rick D. and Wendy M. Larson who desired to purchase it at that price.

**9:30 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER KUNAU MOVED TO APPROVE THE TAX DEED SALE TO RICK D. AND WENDY M. LARSON IN THE AMOUNT \$2276.80. COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 6) 9:40 AM DISCUSS PARCEL RPBSW21007003AA JORGE RODRIGUEZ
- a) Assessor's Office Appraiser, Mart Adams represented Assessor Davis who was at an IACA Meeting in McCall.
  - b) A Homeowner's Exemption for 2011 was inadvertently removed from the tax assessment or the referred to parcel. Notification was not sent and the address was not changed. It was an oversight on the part of the Assessor's Office.
  - c) The request from Assessor Davis was to remove the tax assessment from last year and this year.
  - d) Barrus asked about the number of these types of errors or oversights that have occurred. Adams indicated that a different person in the Assessor's Office is now assigned to doing this right now. Chairman Crane indicated that they will work with Davis to see what can be done to avoid this in the future and expressed appreciation with what Justesen has done to help with this.

**9:43 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO CANCEL \$1035.48 IN TAX ASSESSMENT AS PROPOSED BY TREASURER JUSTESEN FOR THE REFERRED TO ERROR ON THE SAID PROPERTY BELONGING TO JORGE RODRIGUEZ. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- 7) 9:45 AM BUDGET HEARING
- a) The Board went on the record for the FY2013 Budget Hearing with Chairman Crane asking Auditor Larsen to conduct the discussion.
    - i) The final budget was presented as published two week previous.
    - ii) Projections of remaining balances were considered in the budgeting process with department heads. A weekly accounting of expenditures throughout the remainder of FY2012 will be provided by the Auditor's Office to the Board to consider for expenditure approvals.

- iii) Larsen recommended that the Board consider doing as a number of other counties have done in imposing a spending limit leading to the end of the fiscal year of amounts above a lower designated amount.
- iv) Estimated revenues from grants, property taxes, and PILT were discussed with the Board. It was pointed out that the County's outside auditor had expressed concern over diminishing amounts of PILT reserves.
- v) Larsen recommended preserving and building PILT reserves as well as the recovery of foregone balances that will be used during FY2013 to fund the new Judicial Complex.
- vi) The Mini-Cassia Jail Trust Fund Appropriations were enumerated detailing Minidoka County's share at \$548,381 and Cassia's share at \$852,047.
- vii) Good planning was praised by Larsen with preserving Geothermal Lease payments in years past to fund the purchase of property for the Justice Complex. Appreciation was expressed to department heads to assist with conservative expectations to facilitate a \$0.50 per hour or roughly 3% increase in wages and salary as well as most of the funding of the remodeling project for the Justice Complex in just one fiscal year.
- b) Christensen inquired about the transfer of wages for the indigent director from Clerk of the Court to the Indigent budget. The increase in that move to the indigent budget without an attendant increase in percentage from the courts budget is due to a 20% increase in costs to the County for employee benefit increases.
- c) The Board discussed the \$0.50 per hour increase and approved pooling of those funds between employees in each department at the discretion of the department head for merit. Any reallocation of funding can be addressed for clarification when the budget is opened. It will not require any increase in overall budgeted amounts.
- d) Exempt employees of the County were approved to receive an increase in salary of 3%.

**10:00 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FY2013 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,658,863. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8) 10:05 AM DEPARTMENT HEAD MEETING

- a) RANDY KIDD – SHERIFF
  - i) Kidd reported that law enforcement survived fair week with only minor incidents.
  - ii) Wildfires are all currently under control.
  - iii) The new 911 generator is about complete.
- b) PATTY JUSTESEN – TREASURER
  - i) Justesen reported on the IAC Treasurer's Conference held the first of the month. She is networking with other Treasurers and indicated that it was invaluable to her.
  - ii) They are getting ready to begin the tax drive and they are keeping busy.
- c) MART ADAMS – DEPUTY ASSESSOR
  - i) Adams reported that Davis was at IAC meetings in McCall today.
  - ii) He reported that everything was working smoothly.
  - iii) The DMV is going well and they are working around employee vacations.
  - iv) The newly implemented credit card processing with Access Idaho is working well.
- d) JOE LARSEN – CLERK
  - i) The Recorder's Office is currently working with IAC in revamping the CSI Residency Application.

- ii) The Social Services Office is gearing up for implementation of parts of the Affordable Health Care Act that will change processing of applications.
- iii) The Election's Office is having a taxing district election tomorrow, August 28, 2012. It only includes the Heglar-Yale mail-in precinct and is for a supplemental levy with the Power County School District.
- iv) Changes are going to be made in the courts soon with clerking to accommodate judge assignments.
- v) The FY2013 budget was approved today. Larsen will report on remaining balances each week to the Board for each department to monitor FY2012 spending closely. He thanked department heads for the cooperation and understanding with the need to tighten spending to accommodate the new Justice Complex.
- e) AL BARRUS – PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
  - i) Doug Abenroth has been made an offer as deputy prosecutor to hopefully begin work by September 10, 2012.
  - ii) Barrus reported that there were a lot of jury trials coming up.
  - iii) Former Deputy Prosecutor Blaine Cannon will begin work full time as a judge on October 1, 2012, and will have his formal Investiture Ceremony at 3:00 p.m. September 28, 2012.
- f) KERRY MCMURRAY – ADMINISTRATOR
  - i) McMurray reviewed the July building report. There were 15 building permits totaling \$20,844.70 in fees and \$2,786,140.39 in valuations. Also included were 14 temporary placements totaling \$1,400.00 in fees.
  - ii) McMurray reported on an update to the Comprehensive Plan with Planning & Zoning.
- g) AMBER PREWITT – ADULT MISDEMEANOR PROBATION
  - i) Prewitt reported that everything was going well.
  - ii) Three of her people are proposed to go to POST in January. Prewitt asked for packets to get completed and to her by the end of August. She will be going in January as well.
- h) DARWIN JOHNSON – MINI-CASSIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER
  - i) There are currently 157 inmates; 50 are State inmates. They are trying to stay at about that number of State inmates.
  - ii) They were quiet during fair week. Things were normal during that time.
  - iii) They will be replacing a hard drive in their DVR system that will cost about \$4900.00 that will come out of the security line item in their budget.
  - iv) They are fully staffed except for the one additional person budgeted for FY2013.
  - v) Sergeant Talbert may want to come back to work at the jail.
  - vi) A State transport person from Pocatello may be interested to come here to work at the jail.
  - vii) Their last hire graduated from ISU in law enforcement and does not need POST certification.
  - viii) Two employees are currently at the POST Academy.
  - ix) Johnson reported that the Forest Service is interested in using County inmates that can be used outside the jail facility. Inmates have to be sentenced and the County has to pay Workmen's Comp to be put on the work crew. Johnson wants to work with the judges. They will only use non-violent offenders. Barrus indicated that those inmates are generally sentenced for short terms and that may present a concern.
  - x) Johnson suggested a supervisor and a 12 inmate work crew to do rehabilitation in the burned area from wildfires.
- i) GORDON EDWARDS – WEED AND PEST CONTROL

- i) Edwards is working with the Forest Service and BLM regarding noxious weed in the wildfire burn area that the Weed and Pest Department will begin work with
  - ii) He reported that not all areas are opened up where the fires had burned.
- j) CRAIG RINEHART – CORONER
  - i) Not Present
- k) JOEL PACKHAM – EXTENSION AGENT
  - i) Packham felt the Fair was a great success.
  - ii) The kids did well and the building was decorated well.
  - iii) The stock sale was up from previous years.
  - iv) Joel will submit a report for the Board.
- l) PAUL CHRISTENSEN – COMMISSIONER
  - i) Encouraged department heads to keep comp time within the specified limits of the Personnel Policy Manual of the County.
- m) BOB KUNAU – COMMISSIONER
  - i) LCA Architects are about 60% completed and the new Justice Complex should go out for bids soon with a projected completion date to be near the end of 2013.
- n) DENNIS CRANE – COMMISSIONER
  - i) The County employee picnic will be on September 11, 2012. Assignments include:
    - (1) Extension Office – Fruit salads
    - (2) Assessor’s Office – Other salads
    - (3) Clerk’s Office – water, plates, and utensils
    - (4) Prosecutor’s Office – root beer (assigned the jail to work with Barrus as he will unavailable that day)
    - (5) Sheriff’s Office – Tables, chairs, and security
    - (6) Commissioners – Grill, meat, and condiments
  - ii) The Board asked that Grounds Supervisor Craig Munoz request the City of Burley to not water the lawn that day.
- 9) 9:45 AM TREASURER’S CASH
  - a) Treasurer Justesen provided the Treasurer’s Cash Report.
- 10) 10:30 AM REVIEW STATEWIDE PARCELS PROJECT. REVIEW AND CONSIDER DATA SHARING AGREEMENT
  - a) Barrus indicated that he had reviewed the agreement and it looked ok to him and that he felt that is the direction we should go.
  - b) Assessor’s Office Mapper Park Sorenson received information regarding the Chevron gas line inquiry for online mapping availability. He reported that the County is working in that direction. He discussed costs with the Board for providing that service. Chevron was willing to pay quite a bit to obtain that information. He asked if we could charge more for out of state corporations. Barrus indicated that we could only charge what was commensurate with costs incurred by the County.
  - c) Sorenson reported that different layers of the mapping have different attendant costs to create. He asked about how to determine costs based on man hours as constant work is going on with changes to parcel layers. A discussion needs to take place about costs to gas companies, title companies, and others. Barrus suggested talking with GIS Mapper Todd Quast and McMurray to come up with costs.

- d) Barrus will take a look at the final contract and review it. We will be one of the first counties in the state to be completely on board. Anyone in the County will have access to the web based application.

11) 10:49 AM EXECUTE RESOLUTION NO. 2012-021 FOR FEE INCREASE FOR PERMIT TO USE RIGHT-OF-WAY

- a) Resolution No. 2012-021 was discussed at the last Board Meeting to increase the County Transportation Plan fees for administrative fee and deposit for applications and permits for right-of-way use.

**10:49 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER KUNAU MOVED TO APPROVE AND SIGN RESOLUTION NO. 2012-021 AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

12) 10:50 AM REVIEW AND EXECUTE CONTRACT FOR NEW COPIER AT MCCJC

- a) The Board reviewed a 60 month Rental Agreement contract between the County and Xerox for a WC3500X Workcentre 3550 copy machine for the Work Release Office of the MCCJC. A Xerox WC4118P copier was traded in. The rental is \$36.97 per month with a cost of \$0.0203 per copy.

**10:50 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE AND SIGN A CONTRACT FOR A NEW COPIER FOR THE MCCJC. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

13) 10:54 AM INDIGENT MATTERS

**10:54 AM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER KUNAU MOVED TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING MEDICAL INDIGENT MATTERS UNDER IDAHO CODE SECTION 67-2345(1)(D). COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN SECONDED THE MOTION. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS WITH CHAIRMAN CRANE VOTING YEA, COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN VOTING YEA, AND COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN VOTING YEA.**

Welfare Director Susan Keck presented the following:

- a) Case #2012082
- b) Certificate of Approval on Case #2012070
- c) Certificate of Denial on Case #2012081 and #2012070
- d) Certificate of Approval on for Additional Treatment on Case #2012074
- e) Certificate of Dismissal on Case #2012057
- f) Release of Medically Indigent Lien on Case #2012031, #2012057, #2012062, and #2012066
- g) Order of Reimbursement on Case #2012070

**11:02 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEDICAL INDIGENT ACTIONS AS PRESENTED. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE BOARD RETURNED TO REGULAR SESSION AT 11:02 AM.**

14) 11:04 AM CURLEW/DEEP CREEKS TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT – BLM

- a) McMurray, Kunau, and Crane attended a meeting in Rockland last week regarding road closure.
- b) David Pacioretty and Blaine Newman from the Pocatello BLM Office presented a Curlew/Deep Creek TMP Travel Map preliminary list of closure of roads. Roads included some old logging roads, mining roads, pipelines, and fence lines that could be considered a road.

**CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSION**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Monday, August 27, 2012**

**8 | Page**

- c) Crane asked that when a road gets proposed for closure that it should include how it affects the private landowner. Concerns were also expressed about recreationalists who have restricted usage of certain roads.
- d) Christensen asked about how a new road is instigated. Newman talked of road easements or right-of-ways for individual use, but an EIS must be done for opening other roads.
- e) Cassia County will formulate a written response to the BLM's proposed action.
- f) McMurray asked about comments regarding specific roads after the comment period and Pacioretty and Newman said that they would accept comments during the process as well as after that date.
- g) A letter proposed to be sent from the Board was read by Chairman Crane as a Scoping Comment Letter to the BLM.

**2:00 PM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED APPROVE AND SIGN A SCOPING COMMENT LETTER TO THE BLM REGARDING THE CURLEW/DEEP CREEKS SOUTH TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

15) 11:30 AM BLM/USFS

a) SCOTT NANNENGA – FOREST SERVICE RANGER

- i) Nannenga asked about a letter of support with RAC written to the Board last week.
  - (1) A letter was prepared in support of the RAC Committee's support to inventory and treat noxious weeds on Forest Service land within Cassia County.

**11:37 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE AND SIGN A LETTER TO RAC SUPPORTING FUNDING TO THE FOREST SERVICE FOR INVENTORY AND TREATMENT OF NOXIOUS WEEDS ON FOREST LAND IN CASSIA COUNTY. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- (2) A letter was prepared in support of the RAC funding for proposed fencing and plumbing to maintain wildlife structures.

**11:37 AM**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER CHRISTENSEN MOVED TO APPROVE AND SIGN A LETTER TO RAC SUPPORTING FUNDING TO THE FOREST SERVICE FOR PROJECTS TO PURCHASE FENCING AND PLUMBING TO MAINTAIN WILDLIFE STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN THE DISTRICT. COMMISSIONER KUNAU SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- ii) Most of the Cave Canyon wildfire was not high intensity.
- iii) The Forest Service looks at rehabilitation for flood effects to private property and Forest Service ground. There were only a small number of ranchers who were affected.
- iv) There will be a two years rest for grazing on the effected lands.
- v) Replacement of fences will take place with regional money.
- vi) Road openings will begin on Wednesday morning in the Cave Canyon wildfire area.
- vii) Black Pine, with the exception of Kelsaw Canyon will be opened by the end of the week.
- b) MIKE COURTNEY – BLM DIRECTOR
  - i) The preferred BLM alternative map was presented by Mike Courtney for the Gateway West Transmission Line.
  - ii) Taken into consideration was the impact to Sage Grouse.
  - iii) September 28, 2012, is when the final draft of the EIS will be submitted by BLM.

***CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR SESSION***

***Monday, August 27, 2012***

**9 | Page**

- (1) They will look at and consider responses after that.
  - (2) A final EIS will likely come forward after the beginning of 2013.
  - iv) Nannenga asked that comments include point of reference.
  - v) Tetrattech is currently looking at where power poles will be.
  - vi) Kunau indicated that it was difficult to identify the precise placement of the BLM preferred alternatives from the scale of the map.
  - vii) A number of fires started with lightning strikes yesterday.
  - viii) The total cost was approximately \$5 million to put out the Cave Canyon wildfire. Range land most affected included 900 acres ranched by Joe Tugaw, 450 by Curt Mason, and 200 by Eugene Matthews. They will partially be helped with applications for grazing in the Pierce area near the interstate.
  - ix) There were approximately 20 cattle lost. Big horn sheep were likely not affected.
  - x) Christensen asked about cooperation with the Weed and Pest for vegetation rehabilitation. Courtney indicated that there may be some participation. There is a provision for three years for noxious weed control.
  - xi) Chatburn's will be affected by a two year closure of grazing in the Albion area where that wildfire occurred.
  - xii) There are approximately 45 miles of fence to rebuild on BLM ground.
- 16) 12:00 PM WORKING LUNCH MEETING WITH GATEWAY TASK FORCE LEADERSHIP AT PERKINS RESTAURANT
- a) Chairman Crane discussed with those present the map that was presented by the BLM supporting their original proposed power line route. The deadline for the comment period before the final draft EIS is September 28, 2012. The final EIS will likely be at the first of 2013.
  - b) Gateway Task Force Chairman, Brent Stoker talked about the viability of a buried power line for long distances. A fiber optic DC line can move more power by using a 5" 500 kilowatt line that can be buried in an existing right-of-way with substantially less infringement on private agricultural property. The possibility of that alternative as a lesser expensive means is viable in that it wasn't even possible just a few years ago and could even be more viable within the ten year time frame that the power line implementation may take place. Barrus indicated that it would make good sense to consider. The further out in time, the more cost effective it could become. This method is used all over the world.
  - c) Stoker provided an article regarding the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) issuance of a major rule to encourage grid expansion.

17) 2:50 PM ADJOURNMENT

APPROVED:

---

Dennis Crane, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

---

Joseph W. Larsen, Clerk of the Board