

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

PRESENT: Charles Howell, Chairman
Roger Morley, Commissioner
Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

Commissioner Roemer was not present because she was out of town.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Morley reported the Tri-County Noxious Weed District had received payment from Union Pacific Railroad for spraying weeds along its tracks and was reaching out to other entities to ascertain if they would like the District to spray weeds for them; had purchased a truck; had confirmed rehabilitation of two injured employees; had helped 116 land owners through its cost share program; had received notice from the North Side Canal Company that the District could now spray the outside of its banks; had received a \$130,000 grant with a \$5,000 match; and that the District would be able to reimburse each county \$30,000 through its cost savings.

Commissioner Morley also reported that Don Utt, the fire chief for the First Segregation Fire District in Eden, was thrilled with the Rock Creek Fire Department responding to emergency calls on the east end of the County, giving an example of a six-minute response.

Commissioner Howell had attended a Jerome 20/20 meeting where it was reported that the University of Idaho believes the Highway 93 corridor in Jerome County would be a good location for its planned dairy research center. He said the economic development group recruits new members through a spring luncheon.

Commissioner Howell told the Board the Fair Board had favored purchasing property at the end of the racetrack and that the Fair manager was obtaining a property appraisal and consulting the property owner.

Commissioner Howell stated that the Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization (SIEDO) had reorganized its board and had hired another staff member to accomplish finances internally. A survey conducted by SIEDO had revealed that visitors to the area seek tourism and recreation.

ICRMP ONLINE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

The Commissioners determined to follow up on employee participation in the premium discount program offered by the County's liability insurance company (ICRMP) and to consult Deputy Sheriff George Oppedyk about offering a class required by the program.

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LAW LIBRARY

The Board determined to ask the County clerk and the prosecutor about removing books from the law library in the Courthouse.

FEBRUARY 5 MEETING

The Board determined to meet on February 5 at 9 A.M. to approve attendance records and indigent matters only so that the Commissioners could attend Idaho Association of Counties meetings in Boise.

SET DATE TO MEET WITH THE EDEN CITY COUNCIL

Planning and Zoning Assistant Administrator Nancy Marshall was present.

The Commissioners decided to respond to the Eden City Council that they could meet with the Council members and mayor on Tuesday, January 30, at 6:00 P.M. in Eden.

THANK YOU LETTER TO HIGHWAY DEPARTMENTS

The Board approved and mailed letters of appreciation to the Jerome and Twin Falls Highway Districts for their donations of gravel to establish a parking lot in the Snake River Canyons Park.

BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Board signed a Time Clock Correction for Cody Cantrell.

The Board signed a Personnel Action Form for Tanya Stitt to increase her salary upon a successful completion of her introductory period, effective January 11, 2018.

The Board signed a Personnel Action Form for Johnethan Davis as a newly hired deputy sheriff, effective January 31, 2018.

The Board signed leave requests for Brent Culbertson and Mario Umana.

The Board signed a Direct Deposit Detail with a total of \$99,313.04 and a Payroll Claims Approval by Fund with a total of \$165,834.79, both dated January 9, 2018, for the January 12, 2018, payroll.

PROCEDURE FOR REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Roemer was present by speakerphone. Also present was Treasurer Tevian Ekren-Kober.

Commissioner Howell had received a request from Jack Nelsen as chairman of the Republican Central Committee for a recommendation from the Commissioners regarding the anticipated vacancy of the sheriff's position because the Committee is charged with submitting three names to the Commissioners for appointment of a sheriff.

The Board considered three alternatives before deciding on its recommendation.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to recommend to the Republican Central Committee that all processes be done before Sheriff McFall leaves office on February 28. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

PROCEDURE FOR TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS PER IDAHO CODE 63-602NN

Commissioner Roemer was present by speakerphone. Also present was Treasurer Tevian Ekren-Kober.

The Board discussed adopting three policies regarding tax exemption applications according to Idaho Code 63-602NN. (1) The Commissioners considered not accepting an application if the project applied for was already under construction. Commissioner Roemer said the State statute outlines the project period and that she would like the Board to consult its legal counsel before adopting such a policy.

(2) The Commissioners discussed using a ranking system utilized by Twin Falls County to help determine whether to grant an exemption or how much of an exemption to grant. They agreed the form could be a good guideline.

(3) Commissioner Howell suggested instituting a 30-day limit for rendering a decision on an application. Commissioner Roemer opposed locking the Board into a timeline, and Commissioner Howell then suggested making a decision by the fifth meeting day after the Board receives an application.

The Commissioners agreed to make any application decisions only with all three present.

➤ The Board determined to address accepting applications, the rating sheet, and a timeline again on January 22.

MEETING ROOM NAME

Commissioner Roemer was present by speakerphone. Also present was Treasurer Tevian Ekren-Kober.

Commissioner Howell continued the Board's discussion of December 4 by suggesting naming the former courtroom in the Courthouse the "Jack Nelsen Conference Room" to honor Nelsen who had served as a Planning and Zoning Commission volunteer for about 20 years. He said he had consulted several parties, who all agreed that Nelsen deserved recognition.

Commissioner Roemer said she was interested in naming the room for a judge, since it was the original County courtroom as well as the meeting room for the P&Z Commission.

Commissioner Howell believed it would be more appropriate to name one of the courtrooms at the Judicial Annex Building after a judge.

Commissioner Roemer hung up.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to name the former courtroom the “Jack Nelsen Conference Room.” It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Howell reached Nelsen by phone to tell him of the Board’s decisions regarding the sheriff vacancy and the meeting room name.

APPOINT COMMERCE AUTHORITY DIRECTORS

The Board had been informed by Jeff Schroeder, the executive director of the Jerome County Intermodal Commerce Authority, that two members of the Authority’s board were willing to be reappointed.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Morley to reappoint Dale Ross and Jeff Schroeder to the Commerce Authority Board for three-year terms, expiring December 31, 2020. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

TRACEE MCKIM—TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT PURCHASES

Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim was present.

McKim told the Board the prosecutor’s office needed one of its tablets replaced and that the Planning and Zoning Office would like to have a tablet for the new conference room.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Morley to purchase two tablets for the prosecutor’s and Planning and Zoning offices, for not more than \$2,301.50. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

GEORGE PANAGIOTOU

George Panagiotou was present. Also present were Larry Hall and Kellee Traugher.

Devil’s Corral Road: Panagiotou told the Board he was going to begin building a road to his property in Devil’s Corral.

Snake River Canyons Park Signage: Panagiotou provided proposed signs for directing visitors to different locations in the Snake River Canyons Park. They included directional signs to shooting areas and for viewing the Oregon Trail and Shoshone Falls.

Commissioner Morley asked Panagiotou to bring his sign ideas to the next meeting of the Snake River Canyons Park Board. He told Panagiotou the Park Board had applied to the Bureau of Land Management for a patent to establish a shooting area in the Park on the south side of the freeway.

Meeting recessed at 11:59 A.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:30 P.M.

GARTH BAKER—AIRPORTS REPORT

Airports Manager Garth Baker was present.

Report: Baker reported that a party had approached him that was interested in establishing a barbershop in the Jerome Airport terminal building that was scheduled for demolition. He said the Federal Aviation Administration would approve of such a project.

➤ It was determined Baker would schedule the party to address the Board about his proposed business venture and that he would find out the fair market value of renting the building.

Baker asked the Board if he could keep track of the time he works over 40 hours a week and occasionally take some time off during the week.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to authorize Garth Baker to use flex scheduling for overtime considerations, not to exceed two hours per event. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Howell questioned the progress of bringing Precision Aviation to the Jerome Airport. Baker said the advisory board would be addressing the adoption of its bylaws at its next meeting and that legal contracts were being written.

Airport Advisory Board Appointments: Baker informed the Board that Ralph Kinchelo was willing to fill a vacancy on the Airport Advisory Board and asked that the Commissioners reappoint John Higley and Albert Lockwood.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Morley to appoint Ralph Kinchelo to the Airport Board and to renew the appointments of John Higley and Albert Lockwood. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Conference Table: Baker stated the airport advisory board would like a conference table and chairs for the new terminal facility at the Jerome Airport, which could cost as much as \$2,500.

➤ The Commissioners requested that Baker bring the Board pictures and prices of possible tables.

TANYA STITT AND DALE NALDER—EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Emergency Management Coordinator Tanya Stitt was present. Also present were Dale Nalder and Heidi Novich, area field officers for the Idaho Office of Emergency Management.

Stitt reported she was attempting to get information on a Green 41 antenna type in order to purchase a new one for the radio tower on Highway 93.

Stitt introduced Nalder and Novich to expand on her question to the Board on December 18 about authorizing funds for her in an emergency without pre-authorization. Nalder said Boise County had agreed to \$35,000 for each disaster.

➤ Commissioner Howell requested a copy of Boise County's agreement.

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Nalder and Novich were excused.

Stitt provided written information from the US Army Corps of Engineers including updated procedures for requesting assistance during flooding events. She also presented a draft of a Memorandum of Understanding with the South Central Public Health District.

➤ The Board determined to have legal counsel review the Memorandum, and signing it was added to the January 22 agenda.

Stitt said the February LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) meeting had been changed from the 15th to the 22nd. She also invited the Commissioners to attend a tabletop exercise for the COOP (Continuity of Operations Plan) on Tuesday, February 27, from 10 A.M. to NOON.

Stitt brought written information about The Sand Master as requested by Commissioner Roemer that could fill 4-6,000 sandbags in eight hours with only three people. She believed there were other alternatives that would cost less than \$9800 that would be sufficient for local needs. She also provided examples of emblems that could be awarded for excellence in service.

Stitt requested to purchase a water cooler for the sheriff's complex; she said employees would contribute for the water.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to authorize Tanya Stitt to spend \$250 for the purchase of water cooler base equipment. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Stitt questioned whether the County wanted to sponsor the Bike Rodeo instituted by the retiring school resource officer.

➤ The Commissioners suggested that the County cooperate with other local agencies in order to continue to offer the Rodeo.

MIKE SEIB—LEGAL COUNSEL

Attorney Mike Seib was present.

Sheriff Residency: Seib researched State Code and found that a county sheriff must have lived in the county he is to serve one year before taking office.

Zoning Map Mistake: Planning and Zoning Assistant Administrator Nancy Marshall was present. She reported that a mistake had been overlooked on the recently adopted Hazelton Area of City Impact map and that her office would make a correction.

63-602NN Tax Exemption: Seib answered the Commissioners' questions from that morning by stating that they could put restrictions on accepting a tax exemption application because granting an exemption was a Board decision, not an entitlement.

Late Time Record: It was determined an employee could submit a manual time sheet that day and receive a paycheck for the December 24 through January 6 payroll period.

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Law Library: Seib said he would have the deputy prosecutors determine which law books currently housed in the Courthouse that they would like in the prosecutor's office.

INDIGENT MATTERS

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Morley to follow staff recommendations for indigent matters. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes. Denied were Case Nos. 1718-025; 1718-022; 1718-033; and 1718-017.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Catherine M. Roemer, Commissioner

Roger M. Morley, Commissioner