

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Monday, February 3, 2020

PRESENT: Charles Howell, Chairman
Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman
John Crozier, Commissioner
Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Howell reported from four meetings he had attended as follows.

(1) SIED (Southern Idaho Economic Development). Commissioner Howell had attended a Cassia County Commissioners' meeting where Connie Stopher, as executive director of SIED, had presented a quarterly report of the organization.

(2) Commissioner Howell reported from two SIRCOMM (Southern Idaho Regional Communications) meetings. He stated the business meeting was less strained and that the new deputy director had made some improvements in the agency. Directors had also interviewed White Cloud Communications as a vendor for radio communications.

(3) Southern Idaho Regional Solid Waste District. Commissioner Howell brought the District's annual audit report, which he said he would give to the County clerk.

(4) Middle Snake Resource & Conservation District (RC&D). Commissioner Howell stated directors had set their yearly agenda and had helped financially support a non-till farming seminar.

Commissioner Howell had also discussed with a resident the bylaws of the Snake River Canyons Park Managing Board and replacing directors on the Board.

LOMBARD CONRAD ARCHITECTS CLAIM

The Commissioners discussed some concerns they had about a claim from Lombard Conrad Architects for services in developing plans for an addition to the County jail. Sheriff George Oppedyk had commented on the charges, and the Commissioners determined they would consult the company about their questions.

USE OF MEETING ROOM

Deputy Clerk/Elections Specialist Cy Lootens was present.

The Commissioners approved a citizen request to use the Jack Nelsen Meeting Room just once on February 5 for a 4-H meeting.

Cy Lootens advised that election personnel use the room on Mondays and Tuesdays when elections are scheduled.

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EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE SEMINAR

The Board approved having a report from a seminar at the next department heads meeting in April.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to authorize Jane White to attend an “Emotional Intelligence” seminar on behalf of the County Commissioners. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

SIGN TIME RECORDS

The Board signed Time Records for Cody Cantrell, Brent Culbertson, Deserae Jones, Nancy Marshall, and Mario Umana.

INDIGENT MATTERS

These matters were delayed until later in the day.

READ AND APPROVE MINUTES

Approval was continued until later in the day.

BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Commissioner Howell signed a Catering Permit for Soran Restaurants, Inc., Twin Falls, to be used April 15, 2020, from 5-10 P.M.

The Board signed a Claims Approval Report dated January 30, 2020, for the Insurance Deductible Trust Fund, with a total of \$66.58.

The Board signed an Employee Wage Change for Georgia Meyer as a newly hired reserve deputy sheriff.

The Board signed a contract with the Jones Law Office, Colby L. Jones, managing member, for conflict public defender cases.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

MARIO UMANA

Juvenile Probation Administrator Mario Umana was present.

Mario Umana presented a contract to lease a color copier, saying it was a new model with the same company but at a lesser rate.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve the contract with Business Techs for a Toshiba Studio printer for the juvenile probation office. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

TRACEE McKIM—SIGN WATERWAYS YEARLY REPORT

Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim had reported that the County clerk could sign the Waterways yearly report.

JAMIE RUPERT—FAIR MATTERS

Fair Manager Jamie Rupert was present.

Outside Audit: Jamie Rupert commented on the payroll budget line exceeding the budgeted amount in FY 2018-19, as noted by the outside auditor. She said she would work with the chief deputy clerk (Tracee McKim) to insure that it did not happen again.

Capital Improvement Projects: Rupert reported she needed to pay \$80 per load to dispose of used straw and sawdust from the Fairgrounds.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to authorize Jamie Rupert, on behalf of the Fairgrounds, to dispose of the sawdust from the Fair and the horse stalls, not to exceed \$4800. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Rupert told the Board that the Fairgrounds needed a new commercial grade lawnmower with a zero turn radius. She said the Recreation District would sell its lawnmower for almost half the cost of a new one so it could purchase a diesel mower.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the purchase of the lawnmower by the Fair Board from the Recreation District for \$3500. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Rupert asked the Commissioners how to proceed with other improvement projects for the Fairgrounds. (1) She said a cover was needed for the horse stalls with an estimated cost of \$200,000. Commissioner Howell suggested the possibility of a loan rolled together with the current loan for the beef barn. (2) Rupert said replacing the current grandstands would be approximately \$250,000, with another \$50,000 for an additional VIP section. Those present determined purchasing new bleachers would not be possible for two or three more years. (3) Rupert presented a footprint map of the Fairgrounds and suggested erecting a Fair/Extension Office at the former location of the canning kitchen. She said she was in the process of obtaining an estimate of the cost. Discussion was held about the desirability of the proposed location.

➤ The Board requested that Rupert consult the Fair Board about its priorities for Fairgrounds projects.

STEVE HINES—EXTENSION OFFICE REPORT

Extension Educator Steve Hines was present.

Report: Steve Hines began reviewing his monthly written report of University of Idaho Extension Office activities.

10:17 A.M. - Commissioner Howell was excused.

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Hines continued recounting January projects he had completed, including classes he had taught and was planning for February and March. He also told of endeavors of Extension Educator Gretchen Manker, Community Nutrition Advisor Celia Villacana, and 4-H Coordinator Tina Miller.

Copier Lease: Hines presented prices to renew a copier lease for his office. He said his office had a need to upgrade to a color copier that would cost about \$30 more per month for cartridges.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to approve the extension office color copier/printer replacement for \$179.95 per month. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Howell was present.

GEORGE OPPEDYK—HOUSING BILL FOR LINCOLN COUNTY

Present were Sheriff George Oppedyk, Jail Administrator Marisela Ibarra, Chief Deputy Sheriff Gary Taylor, Deputy Sheriff Troy Tolman, Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim, Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall, Zoning Clerk Kacie Buhler, and Prosecutor Mike Seib. Also present was Gary Slette.

Sheriff Oppedyk referred to Detention Center Housing Agreements with both Twin Falls and Lincoln Counties. He said each county pays \$68 per day to house inmates but that Lincoln County was not willing to pay a full day's rate if a prisoner is not incarcerated 24 hours. He said the paperwork and man hours for decreased payments was causing a nightmare and that a payment policy should be universal for all entities renting jail space from Jerome County.

The Commissioners expressed the opinion that a prisoner check-in should be charged for a full-day's rate.

Seib advised that a termination of contract would require a 60-day written notice.

➤ Marisela Ibarra said she would confer with Lincoln County and advise the Commissioners of the outcome.

MIKE SEIB—WORKSHOP REGARDING PROPOSED REZONING

Present were Attorney Mike Seib, Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall, and Zoning Clerk Kacie Buhler. Also present was Gary Slette.

Nancy Marshall presented a five-page staff report and maps regarding the hearing held on January 21 regarding a zoning application for areas around Eden. The proposed zoning application seeks to amend existing ordinances that establish Agriculture only (A1) zones to establish instead Agriculture Limited (AL) or Commercial Corridor zones.

Commissioner Howell verified with Marshall that after public testimony and further review, the staff was in support of modifying the application to relocate heavy industrial zones. He also

verified that the staff recommended changing the proposed zoning map so that the Jones feedlot would all be in the A1 zone rather than in three separate zones.

Commissioner Howell asked about the Eden city impact area. Marshall said it did not have zones. Her report stated that a great many residents from the east side of the County expected a rezone of areas surrounding Eden and Hazelton as soon as the County's Comprehensive Plan was updated in 2018. It said a moratorium had been enacted to insure future development would be in accordance with the Plan and its corresponding ordinances.

The Commissioners considered the size of an AL zone. Marshall advised that an AL zone should be large enough not to restrict future developers.

Commissioner Crouch questioned why the Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended denial of the zoning application. Marshall said the denial was with a recommendation for further review.

Seib said the rezoning was necessary to follow the Comprehensive Plan. He explained that the process of updating the Comprehensive Plan was not completed until the Jerome County Zoning Ordinance (JCZO) does not conflict with the Plan.

Seib added that the County staff was to help the Commissioners understand the legislative process and that currently the Jerome County Zoning Ordinance allows a livestock confinement operation (LCO) to locate near the Valley School.

➤ The Commissioners determined to hold another workshop on the proposed zoning map amendment on February 10.

Meeting recessed at 12:05 P.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:15 P.M. with Commissioners Howell and Crozier present.

INDIGENT MATTERS, Continued

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve indigent matters as presented. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes. Dismissed were Case Nos. 1819-140 and 1920-003.

READ AND APPROVE MINUTES, Continued

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the minutes of January 27. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

1:20 P.M. - Commissioner Crouch was present.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

John Crozier, Commissioner