

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Monday, May 4, 2020

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

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

GROUNDBREAKING FOR JAIL ADDITION

The Commissioners met at the County sheriff complex for a groundbreaking ceremony to add an additional pod on the jail.

County employees present were Sheriff George Oppedyk, Chief Deputy Sheriff Gary Taylor, Jail Administrator Marisela Ibarra, Jail Clerk Karen Van Holland, and Deputy Sheriffs Troy Tolman, Jose Lopez, Colton Crockett, and Edward Huapaya.

Others present were Ben Bernier, Lombard Conrad Architects; Mike Arrington and Jeff Russell, Starr Corporation; and Larry Hall and Joe Davidson, Jerome 20/20.

Wearing hardhats and throwing dirt with gold shovels were: Gary Taylor, Ben Bernier, Charles Howell, George Oppedyk, John Crozier, Marisela Ibarra, Ben Crouch, Troy Tolman, Mike Arrington, and Jeff Russell.

Russell commented that completion of the pod was expected in early December.

The Commissioners toured a building at the complex used for storing vehicles used by the sheriff's office.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Crozier said the tri-county weed district meeting had been cancelled but that he had been able to sign a cost-sharing grant from the Idaho Department of Agriculture. He said \$2500 of the \$25,000 grant would be used to purchase chemicals, with the remaining amount funding the bio-control program that kills weeds by the placing of insects.

Commissioner Crozier said he had discussed with Ruby a letter from the weed district to the Arroyos advising them of the treatment of noxious weeds. It stated that all policies would be applied and monitored the same for all properties within a mile radius of the Arroyo property.

Commissioner Crouch had given a radio interview, observed the pouring of a concrete pad for an arbor in the Snake River Canyons Park with Commissioner Crozier, and had listened to Governor Little's address to county commissioners regarding the spread of the coronavirus with the other two Commissioners.

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Commissioner Howell had participated in a Southern Idaho Regional Solid Waste District meeting electronically. He said directors had voted that the transfer station would accept residential waste from a resident only once a week with no charge in an endeavor to reduce contact between the staff and the public during the coronavirus outbreak.

Commissioner Howell said a Southern Idaho Economic Development (SIED) meeting had been cancelled the previous week and moved to later that day in order to include all three Commissioners.

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Commissioner Howell reported he had signed an application to apply for a grant for the Jerome Airport on April 29 because of an unforeseen deadline.

HISTORY OF COMMISSIONERS PLAQUE

The Commissioners were in receipt of a picture and a quote from Mason's Trophies for a plaque displaying the names and dates of service of Jerome County commissioners from the beginning of the County in 1919.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the purchase of a plaque from Mason's Trophies for \$224 for a history of commissioners. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Board signed an Alcoholic Beverage License for Oak Legacy, LLC, dba Twin Falls/Jerome KOA, Jerome.

The Board signed a Direct Deposit Detail dated April 29, 2020, with a grand total of \$134,422.30 for the April 12, 2020, through April 25, 2020, payroll period.

The Board signed a Payroll Claims Approval by Fund dated April 29, 2020, with a grand total of \$305,635.25 for the April 12, 2020, through April 25, 2020, payroll period.

Social Services Director Kim Drury was present. She explained a request for a partial release of a lien.

➤ The Commissioners asked for more information, and the matter was continued until indigent matters were to be considered later in the day.

SCOTT BYBEE—CROSSROADS POINT #10 MINOR FINAL PLAT AMENDMENT

Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall and Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson were present. Also present was Engineer Scott Bybee.

Scott Bybee told the Board he was submitting an application for a minor final plat amendment from ABC Agra in order to reconfigure two existing lots into three lots.

Nancy Marshall submitted a staff report regarding the amendment and said the developer had met all conditions to secure a final plat except that the road was still under construction.

Commissioner Crozier questioned whether there would be any disadvantage not to have the road finished, followed by explanations by Marshall.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the minor final plat amendment on Crossroads Point #10 without the requirement of the infrastructure being completed. It was seconded, followed by discussion that the boundaries were being changed to suit the new owner and that the road was under construction. The Motion carried, with Commissioners Crozier and Howell voting aye and Commissioner Crouch recusing himself.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PER IDAHO CODE 74-206(1)(d), records exempt from disclosure

Randy Hall, as emergency manager for Wood River St. Luke's, was not available, so no executive session was held.

FORMAL REQUEST TO THE BLM FOR THE MOUNTAIN BIKE PARKING LOT

Present were Mike Tylka and Don Zuck, representing the Snake River Canyons Park.

As president of the Snake River Canyons Park Managing Board, Mike Tylka followed up from April 27 with additional information about the Park Board's proposal to establish a parking lot in the Park. He provided a map showing the anticipated location of the parking area and said the location had been marked with flags.

Following discussion with Tylka, the Board sent an e-mail to Cody Martin and Kasey Prestwich with the Bureau of Land Management requesting to establish a graveled parking area and giving a project description and an anticipated completion date of May 22.

Mike Young was present as program manager of outdoor recreation leadership at the College of Southern Idaho and agreed with establishing the parking lot.

TAX EXEMPTION FOR LUTHERAN CARE SUBDIVISION

Present by speakerphone was Jackie Metzger of Wolverton Homes.

Jackie Metzger explained the Application for Property Tax Exemption according to Idaho Code 63-602W that she had submitted. She said the exemption would excuse developers from paying for site improvements on property that was not yet developed.

➤ The Commissioners delayed making a decision until they could consult the County assessor.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to add "Airport Grant Application" as an unanticipated and necessary item to the agenda at 2:30 P.M. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Meeting recessed at 11:59 A.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:20 P.M.

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NANCY MARSHALL—PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall was present.

Planning & Zoning Commission Resignations: Nancy Marshall followed up from April 27 about temporarily limiting the number of members on the Planning & Zoning Commission. She reported that Mike Tylka and Bill Baker had both expressed that they would be willing to resign early from their terms on the Commission.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to accept the resignations of Mike Tylka and Bill Baker from the Planning & Zoning Commission, to be determined at a later date whether to fill the positions. It was seconded, followed by discussion of appreciation of their points of view, and carried with unanimous ayes.

The Commissioners signed certificates of appreciation for both Tylka and Baker.

New Vehicle Purchase: Marshall requested to purchase a vehicle for her department that was allowed in the FY 2019-20 budget. She told the Board a current P&Z vehicle required more repairs than its worth and that she had located a former government vehicle with 53,000 miles on it that would meet the department's needs.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the purchase of a vehicle for Planning and Zoning in the amount of \$16,880 considering a trade-in. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

GIS Plotter Maintenance: Marshall recommended renewing a maintenance agreement for a plotter in the mapping department.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to pay \$1233 to Bonneville Blueprint and Supply Company for maintenance of the plotter in the GIS department on behalf of Planning and Zoning, effective April 20, 2020, through April 19, 2021.

MICHELLE EMERSON—PUBLIC DEFENDER GRANT

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson was present.

Michelle Emerson discussed with the Board a grant application she was preparing for the Public Defense Commission. The matter was continued until May 11 when she would present a finalized application.

Emerson requested to speak with the Board about setting hearing dates regarding an upcoming proposal from the County Urban Renewal Agency.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to amend the agenda to include Jerome County Urban Renewal authorization of public hearing dates because taxing districts must have hearing notices 30 days prior to a hearing. It was seconded and carried with Commissioners Howell and Crozier voting aye and Commissioner Crouch recusing himself.

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JEROME COUNTY URBAN RENEWAL HEARING DATES

The Board discussed with Emerson the need for taxing districts to have notices prior to Urban Renewal public hearings.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve public hearing dates for the Planning & Zoning Commission of May 18, 2020, and the County Commissioners of June 8, 2020. It was seconded and carried with Commissioners Howell and Crozier voting aye and Commissioner Crouch recusing himself.

TAX EXEMPTION FOR LUTHERAN CARE SUBDIVISION, Continued from the A.M.

Assessor Rick Haberman was present.

Rick Haberman questioned whether the deadline for a property tax exemption submitted by Jackie Metzger would be the date on the application or the date of a decision by the Board of Commissioners.

- The Commissioners determined to consult their legal counsel later in the day.

AIRPORT GRANT APPLICATION

Airports Consultant Kent Atkin was present by speakerphone.

Kent Atkin told the Board he had already received a document to apply for federal funds for airport development and equipment projects following the Commissioners' submittal of a grant application on April 29. He recommended that Commissioner Howell sign it in order to receive federal funding as soon as possible.

Commissioner Howell signed the grant document in several places, and the deputy clerk sent it to Atkin for submittal to the Federal Aviation Administration.

ZOOM MEETING WITH SOUTHERN IDAHO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SIED)

Connie Stopher and Ervina Covcic were present electronically representing Southern Idaho Economic Development.

As executive director of SIED, Connie Stopher spoke of the silver lining resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. She told of a virtual tour of the Magic Valley and sample boxes of regional products sent to prospective companies.

Ervina Covcic, representing the Rural Economic Development Services (REDS) arm of SIED, reported of her social media and Instagram efforts to help rural communities. She said feedback from Eden and Hazelton had been good.

- Covcic asked the Commissioners to be thinking of possible volunteers to represent the east side of the County.

MIKE SEIB—LEGAL COUNSEL

Attorney Mike Seib was present.

Firearms Ordinance: Mike Seib advised about adopting a firearms ordinance that would restrict shooting near the rim of the Snake River Canyon. The Commissioners discussed the distance to write in the ordinance and determined to delay a decision until May 11.

Motorized Traffic on Yingst Grade: Seib counseled that an ordinance would be necessary to close Yingst Grade to motorized traffic.

Tax Exemption: Assessor Rick Haberman was present. Seib advised that the Commissioners could consider a tax exemption application if it had been submitted before the deadline.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the property tax exemption for High Desert Holdings, LLC, for Lutheran Care Subdivision site improvements associated with land under Idaho Code Section 63-602W. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

READ AND APPROVE MINUTES

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the minutes of April 23 and April 27 as read. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

INDIGENT MATTERS

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to follow staff recommendations for indigent matters. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes. Approved was Case No. 1819-127. Dismissed was Case No. 1920-023.

The Commissioners had received more information from the social services director regarding a request for a partial release of a lien.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve a land division as recommended by Kim Drury to releasing a lien on a small parcel and leaving the lien on the larger one. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:06 P.M.

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

John Crozier, Commissioner