

**JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

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

Meeting convened at 9:20 A.M.

**BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Board signed a Retail Alcoholic Beverage License to Triple S Oil dba Mr. Gas Travel Center #20, Jerome.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to amend the agenda to add JUB Engineers at 10 A.M. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

The Commissioners adjourned as a Board of Commissioners and reconvened as a Board of Equalization.

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BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

**Assessment Appeal—H. L. and Lorna Pringle (recorded)**

**Parcel No. RPJ1503193005A**

**Assessment Appeal—H. L. and Lorna Pringle (recorded)**

**Parcel No. RPJ1503193006A**

Assessor Rick Haberman was present. Also present was H. L. Pringle.

The deputy clerk swore in those who were to testify.

APPELLANT

Pringle requested that the Board reduce the assessed value of his house and a vacant lot. He told of the condition of his house and the upgrades that it would need to qualify for a bank or government loan.

Commissioner Howell recused himself because he had prior information from being inside the house.

Commissioner Roemer presided.

Pringle answered questions from Commissioner Morley.

ASSESSOR

Commissioner Roemer accepted an exhibit from the assessor.

Haberman testified that the Idaho Tax Commission requires his office to appraise properties between 90 and 110 percent of market value and that the Pringle properties had been below 90 percent. He explained that his office performs mass appraisals based on sales of comparable properties.

Commissioner Roemer asked a question.

Haberman said he did not know if his office should change the property assessment because an appraiser had not been inside Pringle's house.

In answer to Commissioner Morley's question, Haberman said the property was now valued at 95 or 96 percent of market value.

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#### REBUTTAL FROM APPELLANT

Pringle said his house was built in the 1950s and that the appraiser was welcome to come into the house.

#### REBUTTAL FROM ASSESSOR

Haberman said houses are valued according to class (good, average, poor, or excellent condition) and that property values were increasing, even for older homes.

➤ It was determined the assessor's office would inspect Pringle's house and that the Board would make a decision of the appeals on July 2.

#### **ASSESSMENT APPEAL—MICHAEL BOSMA**

This appeal was not necessary because Bosma had agreed on an assessment valuation with the assessor's office before the June 25 deadline and had sent a written withdrawal of his appeal.

Commissioner Howell was present. He recessed the Board of Equalization and reconvened as a Board of County Commissioners.

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**JUB ENGINEERS—AIRPORTS CONSULTANT**

Present was Justin McMillan, interim airports manager. Also present were Kent Atkin, representing JUB Engineers, and Ben Crouch.

Commissioner Morley read a letter from the selection committee for an airport consultant recommending that the County change from T-O Engineers to JUB Engineers.

Atkin said he had met with the Airport Advisory Board about a five-year agreement with JUB Engineers and a Capital Improvement Program (CIP), which would include a 2020 pavement overlay and a 2022 extension to the Jerome Airport runway. He said the airport projects would require a design-only grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to begin the process for the airport improvements.

Atkin added that JUB would also address the needs of the Hazelton Airport and said that he had trained many airport managers.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to enter into an agreement for professional services with JUB Engineers, pending clarification from legal counsel. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

The Board told Atkin that his point of contact with the Commissioners would be Commissioner Morley.

A Motion was made by Commissioner Roemer to amend the agenda for Kim Drury to address the Board at 10:30 A.M. It was seconded but did not carry, with Commissioners Morley and Howell voting nay and Commissioner Roemer abstaining.

10:30 A.M. - Commissioner Roemer was excused.

The Board had written a letter to the North Side Soil and Water Conservation District pledging \$12,000 from the FY2018-19 budget.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to sign the letter to the Soil and Water Conservation District. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

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## **CURTIS MAIER—AMBULANCE BUDGET**

Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim was present. Also present were Curtis Maier, Dr. Keller, and Jeff Stevens, St. Luke's; Blane Patterson and Kevin Kroal, Magic Valley Paramedics; and Ben Crouch.

Maier introduced the St. Luke's representatives present. He asked for a three percent increase from taxing district funds for ambulance services, funds for a new ambulance and a bariatric stretcher, and one-third of the cost of Emergency Medical Services consultant fees. He also requested that the County address how it had used Quick Response Unit funds.

Maier said the hospital is forced to control its costs because it receives a fixed amount per patient from insurance companies.

Patterson highlighted ambulance services provided in Jerome County by Magic Valley Paramedics and said a paramedic travels with each ambulance call. He added that ambulances are replaced every seven years. In response to Commissioner Howell's question, he stated Jerome County averages 125 calls per month, compared to 600 in the rest of the St. Luke's system in the Magic Valley.

Dr. Keller stated that St. Luke's offers integrated stroke care, which is no better anywhere else in the country. He explained that the hospital needed to budget for consultant fees in order to establish a tier response to emergency calls.

Stevens spoke of finances and said the hospital planned to purchase two new ambulances in FY 2018-19.

Commissioner Howell asked if the hospital could order the building of an ambulance as soon as it receives funding from the County, and Maier said he would determine if it were possible. He assured the Board that the hospital would base the new ambulance funded by the County in Jerome.

Commissioner Howell asked if St. Luke's would consider a services reduction because of its funding of an ambulance. Maier said the hospital would prefer to receive the full funding requested but said it would consider not taking the three percent increase. He reminded the Commissioners that the County's agreement with the hospital included that the County would levy the maximum amount for ambulance services.

Commissioner Howell verified with Maier that the County would not pay the consultant fees until the first of October.

➤ Commissioner Howell stated the Board would consider St. Luke's request at its budget workshops.

Maier presented a one-year extension to lease the County ambulance facility.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Morley to sign an Extension of Lease Agreement with St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

**KIM DRURY—INDIGENT CASE NO. 1415-00**

This matter was rescheduled for July 2.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

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Jane White, Deputy Clerk

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Charles M. Howell, Chairman

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Catherine M. Roemer, Commissioner

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Roger M. Morley, Commissioner