

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Monday, July 20, 2020

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

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to amend the July 21 agenda to include consideration of an application from True West Beef for a tax reduction according to Idaho Code 63-602NN. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Crozier reported he had attended two Fair Board meetings. He informed the Board that Fair directors were proceeding cautiously to hold the County Fair and Parade August 10-15 but had cancelled the carnival because of its unavailability.

Commissioner Crozier also reported from the South Central Community Action Partnership annual business meeting where officers were reelected.

Commissioner Howell stated he had spoken with St. Luke's Hospital and Lincoln County representatives about having an ambulance available for the Jerome Rodeo. He had also talked with Linda Montgomery, who had a follow-up from a meeting with Health District representatives.

Commissioner Crouch reported from an Airport Advisory Board meeting where a notam for pilots was discussed. He had also attended a Republican Central Committee meeting where he had heard an in-depth report of recent State legislation.

Commissioner Crouch had attended the emergency Fair Board meeting, and he and Commissioner Howell had attended a Jerome 20/20 economic development meeting.

All three Commissioners had met with the new College of Southern Idaho president, Dean Fisher.

APPROVE JAIL CLAIM

This agenda item was not necessary.

ROTARY FUNDING DECISION

This item was not necessary because the Commissioners had approved on June 29 to reimburse the Rotary Club for graffiti removal at Yingst Grade.

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BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Veterans Service Officer Cody Cantrell was present. He offered to work several hours a week following his resignation date of July 23 until his position is filled, to which the Board agreed.

The Board signed leave requests for Mario Umana (2) and Deserae Jones (2).

The Board signed an Employee Wage Change form for Deputy Sheriff Colton Crockett to increase his salary because he had obtained his Deputy 2 status, effective July 19, 2020.

The Board signed a Claims Approval Report dated July 15, 2020, for the Insurance Deductible Trust Fund, with a grand total of \$5,837.31.

SIGN TIME RECORDS

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

TANYA STITT—EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Present were Emergency Management Director Tanya Stitt and Coordinator Kirsten Howard as well as Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson.

Tanya Stitt discussed with the Commissioners measures for controlling the spread of the coronavirus. She verified with Commissioner Crozier that there would be vendor booths at the County Fair in August.

Stitt announced that Randy Hall, as regional emergency manager for St. Luke's, would resume Friday speakerphone situation reports at 10:30 A.M. to the Commissioners and City of Jerome officials.

➤ Commissioner Howell asked that Stitt provide more information to the public about the reasons for wearing masks and instructions for wearing them and gloves when in proximity of others.

HEALTH DISTRICT UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS

Present were Emergency Management Director Tanya Stitt, Emergency Management Coordinator Kirsten Howard, and Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson. Also present, by speakerphone, were Dale Layne, Jerome School district superintendent; Linda Montgomery, Melody Bowyer, Josh Jensen, and Brenda Gully, Public Health District representatives; Randy Hall, St. Luke's regional emergency manager; and Mike Williams, City of Jerome administrator.

As director of the South Central Public Health District, Melody Bowyer reviewed an e-mail she had sent regarding the spread of the coronavirus. She said the number of cases in Jerome County was increasing and that an assisted living facility had positive cases in its staff and residents. Bowyer gave hospital admission statistics and said bed availability and staffing were satisfactory.

Josh Jensen added hospital numbers, which included 15 employees testing positive for the virus. He said the turnaround to receive testing results was seven to eight days.

Mike Williams asked how many persons the hospital tests per day. Jensen said an average of 40 persons request tests but that about 50 percent meet the criteria for being tested.

Mayor Dave Davis asked about tracing the spread of the virus. Bowyer answered that it is difficult to identify persons who had been in contact with a person who tested positive when there is community spread, adding that currently contact tracing was backlogged.

Dale Layne asked for information relevant to the Jerome schools planning to reopen on August 24. Bowyer said she would like to see the incident rate of cases cut in half by the beginning of the school term.

Hall expressed that the wearing of masks would be an insurance against the Governor rolling back the State's reopening to Stage 3. He said the hospitals were cancelling all elective surgeries, which Bowyer said was not a good sign.

DECISION—GOLD STAR MEMORIAL DONATION

The Commissioners considered a donation request from Kelli Savage on June 29 for a memorial to honor Gold Star Families losing a loved one in military service.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to offer a donation of \$500 to the Idaho Gold Star Families Memorial Monument. It was seconded, followed by discussion that the memorial is in Pocatello but that Jerome County wanted to indicate that it supports veterans. The Motion carried with unanimous ayes.

MIKE TYLKA—SNAKE RIVER CANYONS PARK UPDATE

Mike Tylka, chairman of the Snake River Canyons Park Managing Board, was present.

Mike Tylka reported that Park Board members had set 23 carsonite markers in the Park and that the County mapper had put their locations in the County records. He said Codie Martin, as a Bureau of Land Management representative, had met with the Park Board and had discussed with members wagon ruts and archeological artifacts present in the Park.

Commissioner Crozier asked about vandalism in the Park. Tylka answered that vandals had shot all the shooting-restricted signs as well as committing other vandalism.

Tylka said the Park Board had authorized a sign cautioning falling rock in the Park and had voted to re-gravel the original parking lot and build an arbor there, designating it as the Devil's Corral trailhead. The Board had also discussed making deletions and additions to its Five-Year Plan. Tylka added that the West Valley Realtors Association was finishing its Yingst Grade project.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the expenditure of \$5,000 for miscellaneous parking lot establishment and maintenance for the Snake River Canyons Park projects. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

❖ A Motion was made by Crozier to approve the expenditure of \$3,000 to purchase the steel for the construction of an arbor at the Devil's Corral trailhead. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

The Commissioners expressed their appreciation of Tylka's tenacity in progressing with developing the Park.

Meeting recessed at 11:59 A.M.

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

JOAN HABBABA—INTERLINK VOLUNTEER CARE GIVERS UPDATE AND BUDGET REQUEST

Joan Habbaba, as executive director of Interlink Volunteer Care Givers, was present.

Joan Habbaba read a report of the services offered by Interlink Volunteer Care Givers. She said the agency's main service is transportation, especially since other public transportation was not available because of the pandemic. Habbaba told the Commissioners that 30 percent of Interlink's clients were Jerome County residents and that there are six volunteer drivers from the County. She said the organization offers many other services to assist and maintain independent living and serves as a last resort for persons not qualifying with other agencies.

Habbaba requested \$2500 from the FY 2020-21 budget, up from the \$2000 received in 2020, because of an increased number of clients. She said the agency operates with no federal or state funding and reimburses volunteers \$.50 a mile for their transportation services.

Commissioner Howell was present.

CLERK'S OFFICE—DESIGNATE PRECINCT POLLING PLACES

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson and Deputy Clerk/Elections Specialist Cy Lootens were present.

Cy Lootens presented a resolution designating polling places for an upcoming school district election on August 25. He said he had moved voting from the Falls City precinct to the Courthouse because the Ascension Priory was not open to the public. Voting for the Eden and Hazelton precincts would also be at the Courthouse rather than the Valley School because the County knows of no Jerome County resident living in those precincts.

Michelle Emerson reminded that residents who had requested a mail-in ballot for the August election would receive one in the mail.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to sign Resolution 2020-33 for a new designation of polling places. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

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**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-33
DESIGNATED POLLING PLACES
July 20, 2020**

WHEREAS, the Jerome County Commissioners having received a request from County Clerk Michelle Emerson to designate polling places for the precincts for the upcoming August 25, 2020, election; and

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners for Jerome County, State of Idaho, the designated polling places stated below shall be the designated polling places as required by Idaho Code Section 34-302.

Precincts

Polling Places

#1 Bishop-Court	Episcopal Parish Hall; 201 South Adams; Jerome, Idaho
#2 Canyonside	Jerome Recreation District; 2032 South Lincoln Avenue; Jerome, Idaho
#3 Eden	Jerome County Courthouse; 300 North Lincoln; Room 301; Jerome, Idaho
#4 Falls City	Jerome County Courthouse, 300 North Lincoln; Room 301; Jerome, Idaho
#5 Hazelton	Jerome County Courthouse; 300 North Lincoln, Rm 301; Jerome, Idaho
#6 Northeast	Jerome City Library; 100 First Avenue East; Jerome, Idaho
#7 Northwest	Jerome School District #261; Administration Building; 125 Fourth Avenue West (Old Middle School Gym); Jerome, Idaho
#8 Rimrock	Jerome Recreation District; 2032 South Lincoln Avenue; Jerome, Idaho
#9 Shepherd-View	Jerome Middle School; 520 Tenth Avenue West; Jerome, Idaho
#10 Southeast	Jerome School District #261; Administration Building; 125 Fourth Avenue West (Old Middle School Gym); Jerome, Idaho
#11 Southwest	Jerome School District #261; Administration Building; 125 Fourth Avenue West (Old Middle School Gym); Jerome, Idaho

Absentee/Early Voting Jerome County Courthouse; 300 North Lincoln; Room 301; Jerome, Idaho

ATTEST:

/s/ Michelle Emerson
Jerome County Clerk

(S E A L)

/s/ Charles M. Howell
Charles M. Howell, Chairman

/s/ A. Ben Crouch
A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

/s/ John Crozier
John Crozier, Commissioner

TIM LARSON—AIRPORTS REPORT

Airports Manager Tim Larson was present.

Fuel Island Cover: This matter was not addressed.

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Report: Tim Larson reported that Airport Advisory Board members had narrowed candidates for the open airport assistant position from seven to three and would interview the three at their Board meeting on July 23. He told the Commissioners that redesigning the Jerome Airport apron and repairing a tractor would both be expenditures that would qualify for federal CARES Act funding.

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall and Assistant Administrator Kacie Buhler were present.

Legislative Workshop: Nancy Marshall reported on three public hearings to be held that evening. She said they would be joint hearings with the Eden mayor and City Council to receive public comment on new ordinances and zoning map amendments being proposed to regulate the Area of City Impact for the City of Eden.

(1) Marshall said the first hearing would be a new Chapter 10 Section III designed to define and direct land use activity in Eden's Area of Impact. She said the Eden City Council was satisfied with the text of the amendment and that the Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended adopting it.

(2) Marshall informed that the second hearing would be to adopt a proposed Area of City Impact Map with newly designated zones within the Area of City Impact that the City had given to the Commissioners for their decision.

(3) Marshall said the third hearing was to exclude Bureau of Land Management land from the original impact area and to zone it Agriculture Limited (A-L).

Wage Change Employee Reviews: Marshall followed up from July 13 with an Employee Wage Change form and an evaluation for her administrative assistant, Kacie Buhler. She said Buhler was worth a five percent wage increase but that she was asking for only two percent.

The Commissioners considered Buhler's evaluation and favored a five percent raise.

Marshall submitted a new form for a five percent wage increase for Buhler that the Commissioners signed, effective immediately.

Marshall reported to the Commissioners that Sharde McMillan had passed the International Code Council test, which would qualify her for a \$1 an hour wage increase. She also requested to move McMillan to an eight-hour day as a building inspector rather than a clerical employee.

The Commissioners signed an Employee Wage Change form to increase McMillan's employment to eight hours a day and to increase her salary by \$1 per hour, effective immediately.

DISCUSS COUNTY EMPLOYEE MASK MANDATE

The Board discussed whether to require employees to wear masks within County buildings. They favored wearing a mask if within six feet of another person.

BUDGET WORKSHOP

The budget workshop was continued until July 21.

MIKE SEIB—LEGAL COUNSEL

Attorney Mike Seib and Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson were present.

The Commissioners discussed with Mike Seib a requirement to wear masks. They determined to continue their consideration to a later date.

READ AND APPROVE MINUTES

This matter was continued until July 21.

INDIGENT MATTERS

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve indigent matters as presented by staff. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes. Dismissed were Case Nos. 1920-043 and 1920-037. An Order of Suspension was signed for Case No. 1819-037.

Meeting recessed at 3:46 P.M.

Meeting reconvened at 6:30 P.M.

PUBLIC HEARINGS (recorded)

Present were Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall and Assistant Administrator Kacie Buhler. Present representing the City of Eden were Mayor Blaine Campbell, Attorney Tim Stover; and Council Members Michelle Taylor, Kathryn Marshall, Tony Wallis, and Susan Vineyard.

(1) Mayor Blaine Campbell opened a hearing of the Eden City Council on a proposed amendment to the Jerome County Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 10 Section III, for the Eden City Council, with all Council members present. No members of the public were present.

Tim Stover stated the Council would vote on the amendment at a regular City Council meeting.

Nancy Marshall said the proposed amendment was a result of ongoing negotiations between the City of Eden and the County for over two years because both parties needed to agree.

Commissioner Howell asked if there were any concerns about adopting the amendment, and none were expressed.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the proposed text amendment for Chapter 10 Section III as presented and agreed upon and recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

The hearing was recessed.

(2) Commissioner Howell announced the second hearing was to adopt a proposed Eden Area of City Impact Map, with newly designated zones within the Area of City Impact.

Nancy Marshall referred to the proposed zoning map amendment on an overhead screen, indicating zones as either Agriculture Limited, Residential, or Industrial.

There were no comments from City of Eden officials or the Commissioners.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to approve the zoning map for those properties that are included in the Area of Impact as presented. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Howell recessed the hearing.

(3) Commissioner Howell explained that the third hearing was on removing parcels from the Eden Area of City Impact.

Nancy Marshall stated the reason to remove the parcels was that they were Bureau of Land Management land on which the City could not expand or annex. She said the property currently has no zone and that the Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended it be excluded and zoned Agriculture Limited (A-L).

Commissioner Howell questioned why zoning was necessary, and Marshall answered that all County land must have a zone.

No further comments were expressed.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the proposed map amendment to exclude parcels from the Eden Area of City Impact and rezone them as A-L as presented. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Commissioner Howell recessed the hearing until the Commissioners could sign a legislative action page.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

John Crozier, Commissioner