

## **JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Monday, July 29, 2019

PRESENT: Charles Howell, Chairman  
Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman  
John Crozier, Commissioner  
Cy Lootens, Deputy Clerk

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

### **PLANNING AND ZONING—AMENDED AGENDA**

❖ Commissioner Howell moved to amend the agenda to include a signing of a rezoning map from the Planning and Zoning Department. Seconded by Commissioner Crozier, the motion carried unanimously.

Nancy Marshall and Kacie Buhler were present with the map. Commissioner Howell and County Clerk Michelle Emerson signed the map.

### **COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

Commissioner Crozier reported that he had spoken with the Jerome Highway District to inform it about the 100 E 100 S intersection with the weeds issue. The District told him that a traffic study must be conducted before a 4-way stop can be implemented at any intersection.

Commissioner Crouch reported that he had completed the waiver request form for solid waste. He also stated he attended the Jerome Cemetery Board meeting. At the meeting they discussed the district's budget. Commissioner Crouch also reported that he had attended the State Representative Caucus Leadership meeting with local State Representatives. He stated that in the meeting they discussed property taxes as well as a second bridge to Twin Falls.

Commissioner Howell reported that he had spoken with Gary Warr, who is a member of the Rodeo Board about the Jr. Rodeo during the Fair. Gary stated that the Jr. Rodeo is not as popular for participants as was hoped for. He stated that it is just the first year Jerome is doing a Jr. Rodeo so hopefully next year it will be more popular. Commissioner Howell also stated that he had spoken with the new Director of SIRCOMM. He stated that they spoke about SIRCOMM's budget for the year.

### **CODY CANTRELL—VETERANS REPORT**

Veterans Service Director Cody Cantrell was present to give a report to the County Commissioners. He stated he has received 42 visits in the last month. He also spoke about his outreach visits this month. He stated he had one homeless veteran visit. He gave the person information about programs that may be helpful to him, and provided him with information to contact the VA for further assistance. He stated that he is attending a training August on 19. He also stated that he will be out of the office a lot in the month of August. Below are the stats provided for the month of July.

Monday, July 29, 2019

Page 1 of 4

- 42 office visits
- 6 new vetera spec
- 11 new claims filed
- 1 health care enrollment
- 3 education assistances
- 5 letter explanations
- 3 billing questions and help
- 2 notices of disagreement/higher level review
- 1 homeless veteran
- 1 home visit
- 2 State IDVS rep visits
- 3 record requests
- 4 out reach

### **BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Commissioners signed a demand for Zions Bank for a Jail Bond payment.

The Commissioners signed a Liquor License for Tacos Sonora.

Commissioners signed a Comp-Time submission from Brent Culbertson.

### **TERRY RUBY—NOXIOUS WEEDS REPORT**

Terry Ruby was in attendance to give his report to the County Commissioners. He stated his crews have been busy. He stated that he visited the Arroyo's property along with Commissioner Crozier. He stated that based on his visit he conducted a survey of the property in question. He presented his survey to the County Commissioners. He stated that if the Arroyos still have concerns that their next step is to contact the State. Terry stated that recently he has been receiving more informed complaints that usually include GPS coordinates of areas of interest. He stated this is a great thing and is much more helpful than quick calls or hang-up calls from citizens with complaints about weeds. Terry stated that he would have a booth at the county fair for informative purposes for residents.

### **INDIGENT MATTERS**

❖ Commissioner Crozier made a motion to sign indigent matters presented as recommended by staff. Seconded by Commissioner Crouch. The motion carried unanimously.

### **READ AND APPROVE MINUTES**

❖ Commissioner Crouch made a motion to approve the minutes for July 23 as submitted. Second by Commissioner Howell. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Crozier made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted for July 22, second by Commissioner Howell. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting recessed at 11 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

### **REVIEW EMPLOYEE MANUAL**

Commissioner Crozier read aloud from the Employee Manual. He continued from last week reading the section on Personnel Files. Commissioner Howell read aloud the sections on Wage Change Forms, as well as resolving conflict.

### **MIKE DAHMER—BUTTE COMMUNICATION TOWER**

Mike Dahmer was in attendance to speak with the County Commissioners about a radio tower located east of Jerome. He spoke to reasons why he thinks the tower should be moved. He stated that in May of 2013 the builders of the tower filed an application with the FAA for a permit for the tower. He stated that the permit expired in January of 2015. The tower was not completed until 7/28/2015 making the permit invalid. Mike stated other reasons why the tower should be moved. He stated that the tower is too tall for how close it is to the Jerome County Airport. As well he stated it receives too much interference at its current location. He also stated that the tower does not have a light on top of it. He stated that the tower is of high liability for the County. He stated it needs moved, doesn't work, and has no future use.

### **REBECCA SIMPSON—SIRCOMM DIRECTOR**

Rebecca Simpson was present and introduced herself to the commissioners. She spoke about her experiences leading up to her new position.

### **TIM LARSON—AIRPORTS REPORT**

Tim Larson and the County Commissioners spoke about Mike Dahmer's presentation. The Commissioners agreed that any future information presented to the board would be forwarded to Tim for his review.

Tim spoke about cleanup at the airport and what has been picked up by citizens. He also stated that bags of marijuana were discovered while cleaning up. The bags had evidence stickers and numbers from the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff's office was called, and deputies picked up the evidence.

Tim stated that he has not had any contact with Thorpe this week, and the company missed a meeting at the Airport. He stated he would be contacting other remediation companies for bids soon.

Tim stated the bucket on the tractor used for cutting weeds has sheered a bolt causing the bucket to fall. And a fix is in the process of being completed.

Tim stated that Scarrow would like to meet with the commissioners at the Airport next week, August 5 at 1:15, which was agreed upon by the Commissioners.

Tim stated that plotting for a new hanger was discussed with the Hazelton Airport. He stated they were having issues completing the project because they were waiting to get permits from the Building Department. Commissioner Howell stated that the Planning and Zoning Department would be added to the agenda for Tuesday in order to discuss the situation.

Tim presented a leave request to the commissioners for the dates of August 1, 2. The request was signed by the Commissioners.

Meeting recessed at 2:40 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 4 p.m.

**REVIEW OF BUDGET WITH DEPARTMENT HEADS**

Clerk Michelle Emerson spoke to all Department Heads about this year's budget prep. She stated it has been the best year of putting together a budget since she has been in office. Next Tracee McKim of the Clerk's Office spoke to the Department Heads. She outlined the changes to this year's budget that included new employees, raises, and a \$2 million surplus for jail expansion. She also stated that budget prep went well this year. She stated the budget also includes pay for two new security staff and a maintenance person for the potential new jail space. She also stated that PERSI and insurance would be increasing this year.

Next Commissioner Howell addressed the Department Heads. He stated that Wednesday is the Fair Parade and Departments are able to close at 3:30 that day.

Next Jamie Rupert gave an overview of events happening at the fair this year.

Commissioner Crouch announced to the Department Heads that the next Department Head Lunch will be August 12. It will be open to discussions among departments. He asked Department Heads to think of topics for discussion before the lunch.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectively submitted:

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Charles M. Howell, Chairman

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Cy Lootens, Deputy Clerk

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A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

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John Crozier, Commissioner