

## **JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

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

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Crozier reported from his meeting with representatives from the Department of Health and Welfare, the Health District, and the Twin Falls County Commissioners. They had questioned how directors of the Crisis Center board could help the Center become more sustainable.

Commissioner Crozier stated directors of the Fair Board had reviewed statistics from the recent Fair.

Commissioner Crouch had attended a school district community leadership meeting.

Commissioner Howell reported he had participated on the Magistrate Board, which had reviewed new magistrate judges John Lothspeich and Stacy DePew. He said no action was taken and that the Board would hold a final evaluation in six months.

Commissioner Howell stated Sharde McMillan, as assistant building official for the County, had gone the extra mile in responding to a complaint from an Eden resident.

Commissioner Howell had also attended a Southern Idaho Regional Solid Waste District meeting where directors had discussed salaries. In addition, he reported a horse was killed when it ran into a gate during team roping at the Fairgrounds.

Commissioner Howell said he had received a request to support the construction of an additional bridge across the Snake River Canyon, to which the Board was amenable.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to send a letter of support to the Northside Transportation Committee for a third bridge between Jerome and Twin Falls Counties. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

### **CY LOOTENS—CANVASS OF AUGUST 27 ELECTION**

Elections Specialist Cy Lootens was present.

Cy Lootens reported the clerk's office had mailed out two ballots to Jerome County residents living in the Shoshone school district and had remained open until the polls closed but that no one had voted. He said a school bond had failed district wide without receiving a super majority in favor.

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❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to approve the election canvass certification for the Shoshone school district. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

### **SPECIAL MEETINGS**

The Commissioners agreed to meet on Tuesday, September 10, for a short meeting in the afternoon. They also expected a quorum for a Special Meeting on Friday, September 13, although Commissioner Crouch would not be present.

### **APPROVE TIME RECORDS**

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

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

The Board signed a Claims Approval Report dated August 28, 2019, for the Insurance Deductible Trust Fund, with a grand total of \$296.

The Board signed a Claims Approval Report dated August 28, 2019, for the Insurance Deductible Trust Fund, with a grand total of \$5,445.71.

The Board signed Employee Wage Change forms for Mario Umana, Camille Tracy, and Stephanie Callen.

The Board signed a leave request for Mario Umana.

### **TRACEE MCKIM—PHONE PURCHASE**

Present were Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim, Building Official and Assistant Building Official Rick Kirsch and Sharde McMillan, respectively.

Sharde McMillan presented information about a phone she was requesting for her use in the Planning and Zoning Office. She explained that the phone would be universal for communicating with other building departments; she said it would also be more customer friendly with a cordless headset so that she could refer to maps while on the phone.

Tracee McKim said the cost would come from the General Current Expense budget line.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to purchase a phone system for \$1,010 for the Building Department. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

### **DECISION—PER DIEM AMOUNTS IN THE EMPLOYEE MANUAL**

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson was present. Also present was Mike Rasch.

The Board followed up from its discussion of August 26 with the veterans service officer about per diem rates paid to employees for overnight travel.

Michelle Emerson recommended adopting the rate the State of Idaho pays, as the Board had done for mileage reimbursement.

➤ Commissioner Crouch said he was collecting more information from the Idaho Association of Counties, and the matter was continued until September 9.

10:25 A.M. – Commissioner Howell was excused to meet with the Minidoka County Commissioners regarding Southern Idaho Economic Development (SIED).

### **MIKE RASCH—REQUEST FOR TAX CANCELLATION**

Assessor Rick Haberman was present. Also present was Mike Rasch.

Rick Haberman explained that two parcels were on the 2108 taxes for Mike Rasch but that he had only one house because his house had burned and been replaced by a new house in 2019.

Rasch said he had assumed that the assessor's office would know he was replacing his house when he received his building permit and that he agreed that he owned only one property.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to delete the value of the damaged house and add the value of the new house for the 2019 tax year, Parcel No. RP08S16E246121, for Michael Rasch. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

### **JAMIE RUPERT—APPROVAL OF FAIR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

Fair Manager Jamie Rupert was present.

Jamie Rupert brought estimates for horse stalls at the Fairgrounds and also told the Commissioners the arena and track needed dirt or gravel additions each year.

➤ It was determined she would bring more bids on September 9.

Rupert told of the need for new water lines because of leakages.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve up to \$1,750 for water maintenance at the Fairgrounds. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Meeting recessed at 11:40 A.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:45 P.M. with Commissioners Crouch and Crozier present.

### **REVIEW EMPLOYEE & SUPERVISOR MANUAL**

The Commissioners read from the Employee & Supervisor Manual beginning on Page 48, "Timesheet Reporting," and read to "Training Time" on Page 51.

### **TIM LARSON—AIRPORTS REPORT**

Airports Manager Tim Larson was present.

**Report:** Tim Larson reported that the company demolishing two buildings at the Jerome Airport had delayed beginning until September 9. He said the former terminal demolition would also probably begin the next week. He added that the Airport was experiencing more air traffic and fuel sales because of the runway closure of the Gooding Airport.

Larson presented three bids for fencing at the Jerome Airport.

➤ It was determined Larson would follow up on the bid from Bill's Fencing to make sure it included what was needed.

**Fuel Prices:** The Board clarified with Larson the fuel prices charged to crop sprayers. He said they are charged \$.15 more per gallon than the fuel cost to the County. He said he sends an e-mail to the crop sprayers every Tuesday to apprise them of the fuel price that week. Larson said the margin for other fuel purchasers is \$.61 per gallon, with discounts depending on their usages.

**Fuel Island Cover:** Larson reported 60 percent of fuel purchasers he had surveyed would prefer an enclosed unit over the fuel island and that he would poll the directors of the Airport Advisory Board at their meeting that evening. The Commissioners agreed they would prefer a cabinet covering the fuel island but would need to see the price differences between it and just a roof.

**Winter Projects:** Larson enumerated projects he planned over the winter months, including: grounds and drain clean-ups; repainting the segmented circle; filling in animal holes in the fence line; cleaning out the green storage shed; cleaning up a former canal in preparation for extending the runway; fortifying the escape ramps; and cleaning up the Hazelton Airport.

#### **DISCUSSION AND DECISION—CONVEYANCES FROM THE BLM**

Don Zuck, representing the Snake River Canyons Park Managing Board, was present.

Don Zuck relayed that the directors on the Snake River Canyons Park Managing Board were in favor of the County seeking a conveyance of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property leased by the County for the Park to ownership by the County.

Zuck gave the Commissioners information and pictures of a gun range developed by Canyon County. He said he would also like the Commissioners to seek a conveyance of BLM property proposed for a shooting range in Jerome County.

The Commissioners studied maps of the Park and the proposed shooting range.

➤ Further discussion and a decision about seeking BLM conveyances was continued until September 9.

#### **MIKE SEIB—LEGAL COUNSEL**

Attorney Mike Seib and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim were present.

**Per Diem Reimbursement Amounts and the Need for Receipts:** Seib advised that employees would not need to submit receipts if they were paid for per diem expenses.

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**Agreement to Establish a Tri-County Board of Community Guardians:** The Board told Seib it was in need of an agreement among Jerome, Lincoln, and Gooding Counties to establish a Board of Community Guardians.

**Mass Gathering, Alcohol Sales, Illegal Building:** The Board sought legal counsel about possible violations at an arena on Highway 93. Seib advised the sheriff's office would be responsible for enforcing the County's mass gathering ordinance. He also said he would consult the Planning and Zoning Office about investigating possible zoning ordinance violations.

4:10 P.M. - Commissioner Howell was present.

### **PUBLIC DEFENDER CONTRACTS**

Present were Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim and Social Services Director Kim Drury.

The Board discussed the contract increases requested by public defenders.

- It was determined to ask Mark Coppin and Steve McCrae to address the Board.

### **READ AND APPROVE MINUTES**

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to approve the minutes of August 26 and August 27 as read. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

### **INDIGENT MATTERS**

Social Services Director Kim Drury was present.

Kim Drury explained her request for four partial lien releases so that personal representatives could sell property belonging to deceased clients. She believed the releases would allow the County to recoup some of the debt owed it. The Commissioners agreed with signing the releases.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to follow staff recommendations regarding indigent matters. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes. Denied were Case Nos. 1819-062 and 1819-111.

### **PUBLIC HEARING—FY 2019-20 COUNTY BUDGET (recorded)**

Present were Sheriff George **Oppedyk**, Chief Deputy Sheriff **Gary Taylor**, Emergency Management Director **Tanya Stitt**, Tri-county Weed Supervisor **Terry Ruby**, Misdemeanor Probation Administrator **Deserae Jones**, Prosecutor **Mike Seib**, Airports Manager **Tim Larson**, Extension Educator **Steve Hines**, Building Official **Rick Kirsch**, Juvenile Probation Administrator **Mario Umana**, Clerk/Auditor/Recorder **Michelle Emerson**, and Chief Deputy Clerk **Tracee McKim**. Present from the public was **Linda Montgomery**.

**Hearing:** Commissioner Howell stated the FY 2019-20 budget included salary increases as well as projects, including a jail expansion. He explained that \$2 million in the budget for an extra jail pod was from reserves that County departments had saved from their budgets. He said the Board appreciated the department heads thinking of the public first as well as having concern for employees.

Commissioner Crouch said he had enjoyed the budgeting process and had appreciated working with everyone in a way that benefits everyone.

Commissioner Crozier stated everyone had cooperated in everyone's best interest to set the new budget.

Linda Montgomery said she appreciated what the departments do for the County.

Commissioner Howell closed the budget hearing.

❖ **Resolution:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to pass Resolution 2019-28 to adopt a County budget for FY 2019-20. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-28**

**JEROME COUNTY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

WHEREAS, Notice of Publication having been heretofore given on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019 setting a public hearing where any taxpayer of the County of Jerome could appear and be heard upon any part or parts of the Jerome County Tentative Budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020; and

WHEREAS, said hearing was held on 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2019, at 5:15 o'clock p.m. in the Commissioners' Room at the Jerome County Courthouse at Jerome, Idaho, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 31-1606; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Jerome County having duly considered said budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF JEROME, STATE OF IDAHO, that the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Jerome County Budget is approved as advertised and as is fully set out in the attachment hereto and by this reference incorporated herein.

Total Budget	\$18,412,980.00
Less Unexpended Balance	\$ 4,788,380.00
Less Other Revenue	\$ 5,364,309.00
Net From Taxes	\$ 8,260,291.00

DATED This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2019.

ATTEST:

/s/ Charles M. Howell  
CHARLES M. HOWELL, Chair

/s/ Michelle Emerson  
Michelle Emerson, Clerk

A. Ben Crouch  
A. BEN CROUCH, Vice Chair

( S E A L )

/s/ John Crozier  
JOHN CROZIER, Commissioner

**PUBLIC HEARING—FY 2019-20 AMBULANCE BUDGET (recorded)**

Present were Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracee McKim. Present from the public was Linda Montgomery.

**Hearing:** Commissioner Howell stated the ambulance budget reflected the County's contract with the St. Luke's Health Care System to provide ambulance service to Jerome County. He said the County had increased the amount it allocates to the City of Jerome and Rock Creek Fire Districts for Quick Response Units.

No further comments were made by the Board or the public.

Commissioner Howell closed the ambulance budget hearing.

❖ **Resolution:** A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to accept the ambulance budget for FY 2019-20 by Resolution 2019-29, as presented by staff. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2019-29**

**JEROME COUNTY AMBULANCE BUDGET  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020**

WHEREAS, Notice of Publication having been heretofore given on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019 setting a public hearing where any taxpayer of the County of Jerome could appear and be heard upon any part or parts of the Jerome County Tentative Ambulance Budget for the Fiscal Year 2019-2020; and

WHEREAS, said hearing was held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2019 at 5:30 o'clock p.m. in the Commissioners' Room at the Jerome County Courthouse at Jerome, Idaho, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 31-1606; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Jerome County having duly considered said budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF JEROME, STATE OF IDAHO, that the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Jerome County Ambulance Budget is approved as advertised with the following amendments.

Total Budget	\$562,849.00
Reduced by cash on hand	\$ 26,649.00
Net taxes from taxes	\$536,200.00

See attached publication in the appropriate newspaper and by this reference incorporated herein.

DATED This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2019.

ATTEST:

/s/ Michelle Emerson  
Michelle Emerson, Clerk

( S E A L )

/s/ Charles M. Howell  
CHARLES M. HOWELL, Chair

/s/ A. Ben Crouch  
A. BEN CROUCH, Vice-Chair

/s/ John Crozier  
JOHN CROZIER, Commissioner

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

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Jane White, Deputy Clerk

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Charles M. Howell, Chairman

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A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

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John Crozier, Commissioner