

JEROME COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Monday, August 7, 2023

PRESENT: Ben Crouch, Chairman
Charles Howell, Vice Chairman
Art Watkins, Commissioner
Cy Lootens, Clerk

Meeting Convened at 9:02 A.M.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Howell reported he had worked at SIRCOMM over the weekend to allow people to park there in preparation for the fair parade. He also reported that he had learned of a tech hug grant for Region 4; it is seeing the interest level from the counties. The goal is to make Magic Valley a tech hub of the state. Commissioner Howell stated he attended an event at the fairgrounds that included a 4-H barbeque.

Commissioner Crouch stated that he had also attended and helped at the 4-H BBQ. He also said that he has been focusing on admin issues within the County.

Commissioner Watkins reported that he attended the 4-H BBQ as well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

❖ 9:20 A.M. - A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b), personnel. It was seconded and carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

9:25 A.M. – Close executive session.

STEVE HINES—EXTENSION OFFICE REPORT

Steve Hines submitted a report of activity for the Extension Office for the months of June and July. He mentioned some of the highlights of the report, including working on field demonstration projects and developing data for an online cover crop calculator. He also mentioned the activities of Gretchen Manker with Extension education and Katie Scheer with 4-H.

MARK REYES—GIS REPORT

Mark Reyes presented the Commissioners with a written report of his activities in July. He stated he had attended a GIS (mapping) conference in San Diego that included many workshops that will benefit the County.

RECESS TO ATTEND DL EVANS COOK OFF

Commissioners recessed at 11 A.M. to attend the DL Evans Cook off for the County Fair.

Meeting reconvened at 2 P.M.

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CHARLA WILSON—PROPERTY TAX DISCUSSION

Charla Wilson was present along with Nina Lagle from the Treasurer’s Office to discuss her property taxes. She was having trouble paying taxes from 2020 and asked for assistance from the County Commissioners. She stated if the Commissioners could set up a payment plan with her, she would be able to pay.

❖ Commissioner Crouch made a Motion for Wilson to pay \$50 per month for two months, and then \$221 per month for four months as arranged to remove 2020 interest and fees if paid on time. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

JASON WOODLAND—COMPLAINT DISCUSSION

A complaint was submitted to the Commissioners from Jason Woodland stating that the Jerome Highway District had removed trees from his property near a stop sign. Commissioner Howell stated that since it was the Highway District, the County does not have jurisdiction over the issue.

Commissioner Crouch recommended that the Commissioners discuss the issue with the Jerome Highway District. Commissioner Watkins stated that he would discuss it with the District at the upcoming District meeting.

DISCUSSION—CONTRACT FOR LAND APPRAISAL

A contract for a land appraisal near the Snake River Canyons Park was discussed. Commissioner Howell stated a contract needs signed before the appraisal can begin.

❖ Commissioner Crouch made a Motion to go ahead with an appraisal of property near the Snake River Canyons Park for \$2750 to ascertain the value and to make a decision about purchasing it. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION—FOOD PROCESSING CONSORTIUM

Commissioner Howell continued a discussion from earlier in the day about a food processing consortium, stating it will be a regional concept. He said the consortium is looking for money from Magic Valley counties and commitments from them.

❖ Commissioner Howell made a Motion to send a letter of commitment for money and support for the tech hub grant with EDA. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

An RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for the airport was discussed.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to go ahead with the RFQ for principal consulting for the airport. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

SIGN AND APPROVE CLAIMS

Commissioners signed claims for the August 1, 2023, to August 7, 2023, claim cycle as follows.

DEPARTMENT	PAYROLL	ACCT PAY	GRAND TOTAL
1 CLERK	\$ 29,520.52	\$ 325.20	\$ 29,845.72
2 ASSESSOR	\$ 10,591.10	\$ 76.42	\$ 10,667.52
3 TREASURER	\$ 5,764.78	\$ 148.56	\$ 5,913.34
4 HUMAN RESOURCES		\$ -	\$ -
5 COMMISSIONERS	\$ 5,767.96	\$ 5,588.10	\$ 11,356.06
6 CORONER	\$ 691.76	\$ 160.00	\$ 851.76
10 BUILDING & GROUNDS MAI	\$ 5,716.80	\$ 1,608.71	\$ 7,325.51
1 EMERGENCY MANAGEMEN	\$ 3,681.60		\$ 3,681.60
13 EXTENSION AGENT	\$ 3,075.00	\$ 136.20	\$ 3,211.20
14 DATA PROCESSING	\$ 4,437.78	\$ 7,870.64	\$ 12,308.42
15 ELECTIONS			\$ -
16 CHARITY	\$ 1,919.30		\$ 1,919.30
18 GENERAL	\$ 42,617.13	\$ 4,477.89	\$ 47,095.02
21 PLANNING & ZONING	\$ 13,440.41	\$ 257.37	\$ 13,697.78
22 GIS	\$ 1,768.50	\$ 2,019.00	\$ 3,787.50
29 GENERAL FUND RESERVE			\$ -
30 VETERANS	\$ 1,287.80		\$ 1,287.80
Sub Total (General Fund)	\$ 130,280.44	\$ 22,668.09	\$ 152,948.53
4 SHERIFF	\$ 75,099.29	\$ 27,309.62	\$ 102,408.91
5 SHERIFF-DETENTION	\$ 62,734.05	\$ 4,763.59	\$ 67,497.64
6 ADULT PROBATION	\$ 8,702.56	\$ 1,342.30	\$ 10,044.86
7 PROSECUTOR	\$ 26,682.57	\$ 131.37	\$ 26,813.94
8 PUBLIC DEFENDERS		\$ 1,581.20	\$ 1,581.20
9 JUVENILE PROBATION	\$ 10,066.52	\$ 18,273.62	\$ 28,340.14
18 GENERAL JUSTICE	\$ 82,509.49	\$ 36,874.30	\$ 119,383.79
Sub Total (Justice Fund)	\$ 265,794.48	\$ 90,276.00	\$ 356,070.48
3 AIRPORT	\$ 4,992.31	\$ 90,182.57	\$ 95,174.88
6 DISTRICT COURT	\$ 6,873.25	14280.99	\$ 21,154.24
7 FAIR	\$ 9,487.52		\$ 9,487.52
9 CAPITAL FAIR			\$ -
11 HEALTH DISTRICT			\$ -
15 ELECTION CONSOLIDATION		\$ 10,426.50	\$ 10,426.50
20 REVALUATION	\$ 16,260.96	\$ 1,260.00	\$ 17,520.96
23 SOLID WASTE			\$ -
24 TORT			\$ -
27 WEED			\$ -
29 AMBULANCE		\$ 600,585.00	\$ 600,585.00
38 WATERWAYS BOARD			\$ -
38 WATERWAYS SHERIFF			\$ -
41 BOND REDEMPTION			\$ -
48 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN			\$ -
Sub Total	\$ 37,614.04	\$ 716,735.06	\$ 754,349.10
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 433,688.96	\$ 829,679.15	\$ 1,263,368.11

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❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve claims as presented. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

READ AND APPROVE MINUTES

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve the minutes of July 17 as read. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

MIKE SEIB—LEGAL COUNSEL

Mike Seib, deputy prosecutor; and Andrea Gonzalez from the Adult Probation Department, were present. Discussion ensued with Mike Seib regarding the probation department.

❖ Commissioner Howell made a Motion to recognize Andrea Gonzalez as the acting Adult Probation Administrator for Jerome County and to have authorization to sign paperwork. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Gonzalez’s work duties were discussed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

❖ 4 P.M. - A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to go into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b), personnel. It was seconded and carried with a unanimous roll call vote.

4:25 P.M. – Close executive session.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Cy Lootens, Clerk

A. Ben Crouch, Chairman

Charles M. Howell, Commissioner

Art Watkins, Commissioner