

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

FEBRUARY 10, 2014

The Elmore County Commissioners met in regular session on the above date in the Commissioners Room, basement of the Elmore County Courthouse, 150 South 4th East, Mountain Home, Idaho.

Present at the meeting were Chairman Al Hofer, Commissioners Bud Corbus and Wes Wootan, Civil Attorney Buzz Grant, Clerk Barbara Steele, and Deputy Clerk Shelley Hooper.

Mountain Home Fire Chief Alan Bermensolo and Stephany Church, Breck Young and Bob Shindelar of the National Forest Service, appeared to discuss the burn ban ordinance. Attorney Grant stated the main issue is whether to allow campfires when there is a burn ban in effect and if so, where the campfires should be permitted. Ms. Church stated that the Forest Service implements fire restrictions on their own, but when the county implements a burn ban, then they have to exclude those restrictions within the county, which makes it difficult for the forest service to juggle that issue along with their fire restrictions. Mr. Shindelar stated that most county burn bans are put in place mainly for debris burning around residences, however, campfires are still allowed in campgrounds that have fire rings for safety. If the fire thresholds gets to a dangerous level, such as lack of moisture or fire activity that may be occurring, the forest service will implement restrictions on federal lands in disbursed areas. Ms. Church stated that timing of when each entity implements restrictions seems to be an issue. Typically, the county will need to implement their burn ban when the lower areas become dry, but higher altitude areas may still have snow and wet conditions which does not constitute burn ban restrictions. This seems to be confusing the public on where they can or can't have campfires. The board feels the goal is the ability for people to have campfires while meeting the criteria of all entities, but is flexible enough for each entity to have their own separate restrictions. Attorney Grant will continue to work on the language in the burn ban ordinance as instructed. Ms. Church informed the board that Forest Service will not be doing salvage logging from Elk Complex fire area, but will handle road side tree hazards as they arise. Right now, their main goals are to keep the soil on hills with planting projects and replacing range infrastructure so grazing can resume as soon as possible. They are also working with the highway district on three bridge projects due to fire damage.

Chief Deputy Mike Barclay and Lieutenant Robert Wade appeared. Deputy Barclay stated that they would like to send three or four jail deputies to detention training in Hailey, and will be using the SCAAP funds for the costs. He is also looking into purchasing furnishings for the Pine sub-station. They will need a television, DVD player, queen size mattress set, coffee table, and a couch. He would also like a removable enclosure and screen door for the upstairs entranceway to keep out the snow and moisture. The board asked that he gets pricing for the furnishings and let them know. Deputy Barclay discussed the supervisors pay increases. Sheriff Layher has decided that the increases will come out of overtime line item, and he realizes that it will be a shortfall for his 2015 budget. Those promotions were given in last month's pay period and Deputy Barclay asked if he can pay one month back pay for those promotions. Commissioner Wootan stated that he is concerned with the fact that they are decreasing other line items

and shifting those amounts to fund the salary increases. Deputy Barclay stated that he is working on implementing the step and grade system to be used for future promotions. They will need to purchase a steamer and warmer for the jail kitchen, but they are hoping that they will last a bit longer so they can put that into the 2015 budget. They will also need an upright freezer for the sally port. Deputy Barclay wanted to update the board on where they are headed with the 2015 budget. Currently, equipment install fees are \$6,000.00 to \$7,000.00 per vehicle, and those install fees do not include camera system installs. There will be an increased purchase price for Dodge Chargers and a significant increase for the purchase price of Chevy Tahoes. They will also need to purchase camera systems, at a cost of \$5,000.00 each, with an install fee of \$1,000.00 per unit. He will be getting ten used camera systems from the state for a cost of \$5,000.00, and will need to pay install fees on those, but he is not sure what that install amount will be. Salaries for the new deputies in Pine were discussed. Deputy Barclay will be starting them at a lesser salary. Since the positions in Pine require more responsibility, Deputy Barclay is researching similar situations in regards to a fair salary for those positions and can implement that in May when they begin their budget process. The increased salary can be used as an incentive to be implemented in October after the deputies graduate from the academy, with the understanding that the salary amount will decrease if they leave the position in Pine and get position in town.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345(b) to discuss a personnel issue. Roll call vote was taken.

HOFER -**AYE**
CORBUS -**AYE**
WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

Regular session resumed. No decision was made as a result of the Executive Session.

Deputy Barclay continued the discussion regarding furnishings for the Pine EMS building. He stated they would also like to purchase silverware and a bunk bed set for a second room. There is also a futon which folds out to a bed, so the addition of a bunk bed set may help with save on having to pay to rent a room when deputies have to work extended shifts in Pine. An extra full time maintenance position at the jail was discussed. Deputy Barclay stated they will need to do physiological evaluations and polygraph testing on their employees so a line item will need to be added in the 2015 budget for that testing.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to approve the Certificate of Residency applications for Alexander J. Brown, Audrey Dale Carl, Natasha Ann Feekes, Sky Mae Gennette, Cristal Guadarrama, Jose Missall Gutierrez, Paloma Jaraz, Amaranta Juarez, Andrea Juarez, Kimberly Sanchez, Justine Rochelle Turner, Anthony T. Fillmer, Grady C. Morrill, Kelsey Jo Robinson and Amanda M. Rouse.

HOFER -**AYE**
CORBUS -**AYE**
WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to approve the Pest Abatement District Expenses in the amount of \$185.70, Mountain Home Auto Ranch - \$113.70 and Grubbrothers Arts - \$72.00.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS -AYE
WOOTAN -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve the Ambulance District Expenses in the amount of \$1,310.51, Valley Co-Ops, Inc. -\$1,296.02 and Hiler Bros Inc. - \$14.49.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS -AYE
WOOTAN -AYE **Motion carried**

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve Tax Fee Cancellation No. 1238 Sunset & Co Inc., - \$146.38.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS -AYE
WOOTAN -AYE **Motion carried**

Seth Grigg, Dan Chadwick and Tony Poinelli of the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC), appeared to investigate the Arrowrock Road maintenance issue. Chairman Hofer reviewed the maintenance cost and agreements issues from the beginning to bring everyone up to speed. The possibility of the Atlanta Highway District taking over the road is being researched. Senator Bert Brackett is working on legislation that hopefully can assist the highway district in taking over the road. Allocation of yearly funding associated with the road was also discussed. Lengthy discussion followed regarding the process of annexing of the road to another entity. The board voiced their concern about resolving this issue for the best interest of the Atlanta residents.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to adjourn for lunch.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS -AYE
WOOTAN -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Regular session resumed.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345(d) – 31-874 to hold a Hearing of Continuation on case NM-01-14-04. Roll call vote was taken.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS -AYE
WOOTAN -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

K-03-13-01 Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve the Finding of Facts/Conclusion of Law.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

K-04-13-01 Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve the Finding of Facts/Conclusion of Law.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

K-04-13-04 Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to approve with reimbursement order of \$50.00 per month and 50% of State and Federal income tax refunds as payment.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

NM-02-14-02 Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to approve the \$750.00 request for a cremation. The applicant’s son will sign payback agreement of \$25.00 per month.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

The hearing on case NM-01-14-04 was reopened. Social Services Director Marianne Bate updated the board of her attempts to verify two future employment opportunities provided by the applicant. Ms. Bate was unable to get verification from either company as far as future employment of the applicant. Questions were asked and answered and the hearing was closed.

NM-01-14-04 Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to deny as not indigent, unable to verify future employment, and candor with the tribunal.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

Assessor Ron Fisher appeared and reviewed an application for property tax exemption, submitted by Lois M. Walter on parcel #MHTR000039600A for 2014.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve the Application for Property Tax Exemption for Lois M. Walter on parcel #MHTR000039600A for 2014.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN..... -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve the Fair Carnival Agreement with Town and Country Shows.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS..... -AYE
WOOTAN..... -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Alan Christy, Land Use and Building Department, appeared and reviewed the draft update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve the expenses in the amount of \$770,079.98.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS..... -AYE
WOOTAN..... -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to approve the payroll for January 2014 in the amount of \$411,343.88.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS..... -AYE
WOOTAN..... -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

Attorney Grant is working on a lease agreement with the Pine Senior Center for a building lease and will have the draft for review by the board at next week’s meeting.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to adjourn.

HOFER -AYE
CORBUS..... -AYE
WOOTAN..... -AYE **Motion carried and so ordered.**

ALBERT HOFER, Chairman

ATTEST:

BARBARA STEELE, Clerk