

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

MARCH 31, 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.

County Prosecutor Kristina Schindele appeared to discuss a personnel issue.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, 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.

The public portion of the meeting was held. Laurence Joost appeared to discuss noxious weeds in the Pine/Featherville area. He is concerned with the amount of noxious weeds that are present in the area and stated that residents do not treat these weeds. Mr. Joost works for the Sawtooth Mountains weed spraying program. They have enough chemicals to do roadside spraying. Mr. Joost stated that since he already has the equipment, he can do the extra spraying if the county would provide the chemicals. He also discussed the dumpster area. He stated that people are leaving appliances, furniture and tires. There are signs that say that dumping of those items is prohibited, but people are still dumping them there and he would like to see the issue resolved.

Preston Lord appeared to discuss grazing the land around the Bennett Road Landfill. Mr. Lord visited the area and has figured that approximately three miles of new fencing will be needed at a cost of roughly \$8,000.00 for materials and \$8,000.00 for the labor. He will use four wire fencing and put in cemented metal posts so they will not burn in the event of a wild fire. If Mr. Lord covers the cost of the new fencing, he asked the board if they would consider a ten year lease with rent of \$1,500.00 per year. Attorney Grant stated that a lease any longer than five years would need to be put out for public bid. Discussion followed regarding a five year lease at a rate of \$1.00 per year for rent, so Mr. Lord can recuperate his costs for the fencing. Attorney Grant prepared a lease agreement to include the items discussed today. Mr. Lord will review the lease agreement and meet with the board later this afternoon for final approval.

The monthly department heads meeting was held.

Steve Dye, Juvenile Probation Director, appeared and reviewed his caseload report and the community service report. They have started the community garden.

Alan Christy, Land Use and Building Department, appeared. His department has been working on a county wide water manual with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The manual is complete and will be on file in his office, the County Clerk's office and at DEQ for public review. Mr. Christy reviewed the Rural Fire Protection District's fire protection resolution for subdivisions and building permit requirements. There will be an Economic Development Forum in Boise on April 22nd and Mr. Christy would like a member of his staff to attend. Building permits are picking up, most likely due to the nicer weather. The Comprehensive Plan draft is out for public comment until April 4, 2014. Attorney Grant gave an update on the Mayfield Townsite.

Carol Killian, Disaster Services Coordinator, appeared. Ms. Killian is waiting for the Environmental Historical Preservation report regarding a project to install security cameras on the exterior of the courthouse and to upgrade the existing cameras inside. She has applied for special project money for funds to rent a helicopter to place the repeater on Dog Mountain. Ms. Killian is still working on the roadblock timesheets from the Elk Complex and Pony Complex fires. She needs the dispatch logs to fill out timesheets correctly. Sheriff Rick Layher and Deputy Mike Barclay also appeared to discuss the timesheets. Sheriff Layher will have the dispatch log sheets run and given to Ms. Killian. Deputy Barclay feels that the logs may not be the most accurate way to have correctly logged the hours. If a dispatcher was busy, they could have missed a deputy checking in or a deputy may have been in a "dead air" spot and may have not been able to reach dispatch to check in. He feels that she may have to rely on the log sheets that the deputies kept. Ms. Killian stated that she will need deputies names and the days they worked at the roadblocks. Discussion followed regarding the best way to keep accurate records in the event of another fire. A back-up generator for the Pine sub-station was discussed.

Alan Lawler, Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D), appeared and updated the board of the grant projects he is working on. He applied for a grant for the Oasis Fire Station, to get funding for the installation of a water well to supply the fire station and resupply the emergency vehicles. RC&D has a fund for dispatch centers and has given Elmore County funds for new chairs in the Emergency Operations Center. Mr. Lawler reviewed the Southwest Idaho RC&D 2013 Annual Report.

Mir Seyedbagheri, County Agent, and Jennifer Crogg, Misdemeanor Probation, sent the board a written monthly update.

The monthly elected officials meeting was held.

Sheriff Layher and County Prosecutor Schindele appeared to discuss a personnel issue.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, 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.

Sheriff Layher discussed his jail commissary account and inmate phone accounts. They are reconciling the accounts and are trying to find the best book keeping solution. Currently, the biggest issue they have is the most efficient way to track refund checks. Deputy Barclay discussed their SCAPP funds and whether they can use them to pay for the new shelving units in the jail storage building. Clerk Steele stated that they will need to refer to the SCAPP guidelines to see what the funds can be used for. Deputy Barclay has spoken to the plant facilities department regarding them making wooden shelving, which would be less of a cost than the metal shelving. Record keeping for roadblocks in the event of a wild fire was discussed. Sheriff Layher would like to keep track of those records like he has in the past. Clerk Steele stated that there are new reporting guidelines required for reimbursements and more paperwork is involved.

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

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Regular session resumed.

Larry Jewett, of the Rural Fire District appeared. The district’s coverage area was reviewed, which includes a considerable amount of federal ground. The taxpayers within the district are paying taxes for the fire district to fight fires on federal lands, which they do not get reimbursed for. This leaves the taxpayer areas vulnerable to fires when the district is out fighting fires on federal lands. Mr. Jewett made a request for PILT money to buy more equipment so they can maintain the district more efficiently. If that is not an option, they will have to look into reducing the coverage area to get rid of a lot of federal grounds. Mr. Jewett reviewed the annual costs to run the district, which increase each year. Approximately one fourth of the district’s budget goes to fighting fires on federal lands, which they do not get reimbursed for. They would like to replace two brush truck and a tanker truck at an approximate cost of \$160,000.00 and would use the requested PILT funds to help pay for the replacement trucks. They would also like to request a yearly amount from PILT to help offset some of the costs to the taxpayers. The possibility of de-annexing the federal lands was discussed. The board will discuss the request further and get back to the district.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, 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.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve the agricultural lease between Elmore County, Preston Lord and Alan Crane.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to approve the Certificate of Residency applications for Lori Ann Michaud and Maria Guadalupe Cortes.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

The possibility of purchasing vending machines for the employee committee was discussed.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345(d) – 31-874 to discuss indigent applications. Roll call vote was taken.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Regular session resumed. The following decisions were made as a result of the Executive Session:

K-02-14-05 Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to deny as incomplete, not the last resource and not indigent per Idaho Code.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

K-02-14-09 Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to approve with a reimbursement order of \$50.00 per month and 50% of Federal and State income tax refunds as payment.

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

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

K-02-14-10 Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to deny as not indigent, incomplete, applicant did not cooperate and Elmore County is not the last resource.

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

NM-03-14-07 Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to deny as unable to determine indigency, or residence due to failure to cooperate.

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

K-02-14-06 Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to deny as the case was approved on 3/10/14 and applicant received retro Medicaid to cover dates of services approved. St. Luke's Regional Medical Center withdrew the application.

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

K-07-13-04 Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve as the application was suspended and the applicant was denied other resources. Approval to include a reimbursement of order of \$50.00 per month and 50% of Federal and State income tax refunds as payment.

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

K-07-13-05 Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve as application was suspended and the applicant was denied other resources. Approval to include a reimbursement order of one half of the amount obligated and payments of \$25.00 per month and 50% of Federal and State income tax refunds, with a review of the monthly payment amount in one year.

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

The board discussed a letter they received from Yev Philipovitch and Mirazin Shakoori, requesting a tax relief for a property they own.

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to deny the tax relief request from Yev Philipovitch and Mirazin Shakoori.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

The Pine EMS coverage schedule was discussed. They are having difficulty finding a supervisor and EMS coverage for the Pine/Featherville area. It was suggested that the board meet with St. Luke's Elmore to discuss temporarily covering the shifts with part time EMT's. Discussion followed.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to adjourn.

HOFER -**AYE**

CORBUS -**AYE**

WOOTAN -**AYE**

Motion carried and so ordered.

/S/ ALBERT HOFER, Chairman

ATTEST: /S/ BARBARA STEELE, Clerk