

**COMMISSIONERS MINUTES**

**MAY 18, 2015**

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

Present at the meeting were Chairman Wes Wootan, Commissioner Bud Corbus, Civil Attorney Buzz Grant, Clerk Barbara Steele, and Deputy Clerk Shelley Essl. Commissioner Hofer will join the meeting later.

Trish Senger, Deb Plemmons, Mike McGrane and Mike Blauer, representing St. Luke’s Elmore appeared to give the board an update on the Elmore Ambulance Service. Mr. Blauer is the newly hired hospital administrator and gave the board his personal history. Ms. Senger reviewed the market increase and range compression plan that they have been working on regarding increasing turnover with paramedics and EMTs across the agencies operated by St. Luke’s. She has found that paramedic losses are directly tied to pay rates, which has been verified through exit interviews. This has made recruitment, especially for paramedics increasingly difficult. They have been competing against area EMS agencies for paramedics. Ms. Senger stated that they would like to increase the paramedic range 12% to match regional markets. She explained the new billing procedures they have and the estimates net revenues from the new billing. Reworking the current EMS coverage in Glens Ferry was also discussed.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve the Ambulance District Expenses in the amount of \$114,692.60, payable to Elmore Medical Center.

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

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve the Certificate of Residency applications for Alissa M. Lindsay, Katherine C. Stegner and Courtney A. Aguilera.

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

Sheriff Rick Layher appeared to discuss an issue of how employees are charged time off. Attorney Grant reviewed the resolution modifying the order in which an employee is charged time off. Sheriff Layher also discussed a personnel issue.

Motion by Wootan, 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.

**WOOTAN..... -AYE**  
**CORBUS..... -AYE**

**HOFER ..... -ABSENT Motion carried and so ordered.**

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

Alan Christy, Land Use and Building Department and Attorney Susan Buxton, representing Idaho Country Concerts, appeared to give a status report on the agreements for the upcoming country music festival. Central District Health has approved the vendor list. Attorney Buxton stated that the well has been drilled on venue site. She also stated that Red Truck Wildfire added an additional brush truck, bring the total to three trucks, so in the event one truck is called to a brush fire off site there will be two trucks remaining on site. Attorney Grant reviewed some items that need to be integrated into a few agreements to finalize them.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to suspend the reading of Resolution No. 566-15 and refer to it in title only.

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

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve Resolution No. 566-15 Personnel Policy – Clarifying Employee Time Off Usage.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 566-15**

**AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ELMORE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, STATE OF IDAHO, ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2015, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, TO WIT;**

**WHEREAS**, Elmore County has established a written personnel policy dated effective March 1, 1999, which policy has been amended from time to time (the "Personnel Policy"); and  
**WHEREAS**, the Board of Elmore County Commissioners (the "Board") approved and passed Resolution No. 564-15 on March 9, 2015, regarding how an employee will be charged for time off; and  
**WHEREAS**, on the Board desires to clarify the position of Elmore County as it pertains to how Elmore County will charge an employee for time off based upon compensatory time, holiday time and vacation time and to permit an employee to carry up to 80 hours of compensatory time; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Board desires to rescind and terminate Resolution No. 564-15 upon the approval and passage of this Resolution.

**NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Board hereby amends the Personnel Policy as follows by the addition of the following:

1. In the event an employee requests time off and such time off is granted by his or her supervisor, the employee shall be charged time in the following order: 1) holiday time; 2) compensatory time, after 80 hours of accrued time; and 3) vacation time.
  
2. In the event of a conflict between the Personnel Policy and this Resolution, this Resolution shall control
  
3. The Board hereby rescinds and terminates Resolution No. 564-15 as of the date hereof, and such Resolution No. 564-15, shall be of no further force and effect after the date hereof.

Approved as a Resolution of the Elmore County Board of Commissioners effective on this 18th day of May 2015.

**ELMORE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**/S/ WESLEY R. WOOTAN, Chairman**  
**/S/ FRANKLIN L. CORBUS, Commissioner**  
**ATTEST: /S/ BARBARA STEELE, Clerk**

Commissioner Corbus updated the board on the Ambulance Oversight Committee Meeting.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to add Bill Richey, Military Liaison to the county, to the agenda to give the board his monthly update.

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

Mr. Richey gave the board his monthly update. He recently traveled to Washington D.C. where he visited Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base and met the Commander, General Carlisle and each department head. He also met with the Surgeon General and discussed the Mountain Home Air Force Base hospital. General Carlisle had comments regarding the overall manning shortfall of maintainers, which shows that Mountain Home AFB is short about 1,000 maintainers. This shortfall reduces the number of planes that can fly in and out and is one of the reasons the A-10's were to be retired, so those maintainers could be shifted around to maintain the F-35's. Mr. Richey discussed the water acquisition project for the base with General Carlisle, who stated he has already spoke with the Secretary of the Air Force for Installations and is making sure that the project is being pushed to get started.

Treasurer Amber Sloan appeared to discuss an issue of liens in the City of Glenns Ferry. She received a request from Glenns Ferry Treasurer to remove liens that were inadvertently added to the county property

tax bills. Treasurer Sloan stated that the board would have to cancel the taxes so she can remove them from the county tax roll.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve Tax Cancellation No. 1280 Maria Castillo-\$293.50, No. 1281 Robert P. & Lula Higgins-\$1,404.25, No 1282 Daniel E. Anderson-\$291.16, No. 1283 Audrey Carl-\$452.50, Gerald A. & Kathy Hilty-\$1,196.98, No. 1285 George Pagac-\$407.90, No. 1286 Velma Pine-\$981.11, No. 1287 Johnny Santos-\$630.00 and No. 1288 Sherman & Lillian Stump-\$581.60.

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

The process in which the county distributes funding to various entities within the county was discussed.

The expenses were discussed.

Commissioner Hofer joined the meeting.

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

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

Regular session resumed.

Sheriff Rick Layher, Theresa Mallea, County Dispatch, Carol Killian, Disaster Services and Jeff Berger appeared to discuss the Idaho 700 MHz Radio System. Ms. Killian explained that the command vehicle and the dispatch center both have 700 MHz consoles installed so they are able to communicate with other agencies if they were to come into Elmore County in the event of an emergency such as a car chase, etc. In order to be able to communicate through the system, Elmore County will need to sign an agreement with Ada County. Mr. Berger explained how the system will work and that there will be no fees associated with the operation. Attorney Grant will review the agreement before it is executed by the board.

George Murgel, representing Centra Consulting, Inc., appeared to discuss the Arid Exemption for the Bennett Road landfill. He has been working on the arid exemption process in order to set up the drilling process that is required before the arid exemption can be granted. Mr. Murgel has been working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to determine exactly what requirements are needed in the application process so the drilling can be started. Discussion was placed on hold to hold a scheduled hearing of reconsideration.

Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345(d) – 31-874 to hold a Hearing of Reconsideration on case K-01-15-04. Roll call vote was taken.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

A Hearing of Reconsideration was held on case K-01-15-04. Present at the hearing were Chairman Wes Wootan, Commissioners Bud Corbus and Al Hofer, Civil Attorney Buzz Grant, Clerk Barbara Steele, Deputy Clerk Shelley Essl, Social Services Director Marianne Bate, Social Services Assistant Candi Hinton and the applicant. Questions were asked and answered and the hearing was closed.

Regular session resumed. The following decision was made as a result of the Executive Session:

K-01-15-04 Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to approve with a reimbursement order of \$100.00 per month as payment to begin on September 1, 2015.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

Discussion resumed with Mr. Murgel regarding the Arid Exemption. Commissioner Hofer discussed a letter from DEQ dated October 29, 2014 outlining areas of the arid exemption application that needed to be revised and asked Mr. Murgel if those revisions had been addressed. Mr. Murgel stated that he does not have a formal response prepared with revisions made. Once he prepares the document, he will resubmit it to DEQ for approval. He feels that the revisions should be sufficient and DEQ will then approve the drilling phase. The board feels that this process has been dragging on for years and discussed whether Mr. Murgel should continue on with the project or if the county should hire another company to finish the process in a timely manner. They gave Mr. Murgel a deadline of two weeks to get the application process completed and submitted to DEQ. If the board were to choose continuing with Centra and Mr. Murgel, Attorney Grant recommended that Mr. Murgel present the board with a formal letter outlining the tasks to be done and a specific date of completion. Discussion followed.

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

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

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

K-04-15-01 Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to deny as the applicant received Medicaid to cover dates of service and Elmore County is not the last resource.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

K-05-15-01 Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to deny the 10 Day Prior application as the applicant failed to cooperate to determine indigency, residency or the last resource.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

Further discussion was held with George Murgel. Mr. Murgel spoke with Steve West of Centra Consulting, Inc. and they decided that Mr. Murgel will complete the application process and get it submitted to DEQ without any further expense to the county. He will also meet with DEQ as necessary to get the application approved and the drilling process underway. Mr. Murgel will have a letter agreement drafted by Centra sent to Attorney Grant by the end of this week outlining the work he will accomplish and a specific date of completion for the board’s review and approval at next week’s meeting.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to add County Prosecutor Kristina Schindele to the agenda to discuss a personnel issue.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

Motion by Wootan, 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.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

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

The board updated County Prosecutor Schindele on the result of the discussion with George Murgel regarding the Bennett Road Landfill arid exemption and Centra Consulting, Inc.

The possibility of changing the commissioner meetings from Mondays to Fridays was discussed.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to add to the agenda the discussion by Assessor Fisher regarding Ag Land Values and Solid Waste Fees.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

Assessor Fisher presented the board with a letter he will be sending out with this year's assessment notices, explaining the increase in farm land valuations for 2015. He reviewed a breakdown of current farm land values per acre and the values per acre with the increases. He stated that the increase will be split between two years, with half of the increase being billed this year and the other half of the increase being billed in 2016. Assessor Fisher explained that the lands are assessed according to an income approach. For example, irrigation lands are of less value because the owner has more expense with having to pump the water for irrigation. The less expenses they have, the higher value the ground is going to have. The cost of pumping the water is taken into consideration as a deduction, but the equipment that is used on the land cannot be used as a deduction, as it is exempt from taxation. Assessor Fisher stated that the land values were broken down into different categories, irrigated farm land, irrigated pastures, dry farm land and dry grazing. They did not make any changes to the irrigated pastures or dry grazing valuations. Discussion followed.

The request from St. Luke's Elmore for a pay increase for Elmore Medical Services (EAS) Paramedics and EMT's was revisited. The board feels that the new billing procedures will generate an increase in revenues which will help offset the pay increases.

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to approve the request from St. Luke's Elmore for a pay increase for EAS employees.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

Commissioner Corbus briefly discussed the water acquisition issue.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to adjourn.

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

**Motion carried and so ordered.**

**/S/ WESLEY R. WOOTAN, Chairman**  
**ATTEST: /S/ BARBARA STEELE, Clerk**