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 Wes Wootan, Commissioners Bud Corbus and Al Hofer, Civil Attorney Buzz Grant, Clerk Barbara Steele, and Deputy Clerk Shelley Essl.

Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(d) – 31-874 to discuss indigent applications. Roll call vote was taken.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

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

K-01-16-01 Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to approve with a reimbursement order of $100.00 and 50% of federal and state tax refunds as payment.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to authorize the Chairman to execute the paperwork for indigent liens and release of liens.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

The public portion of the meeting was held.

Nathan Jones of King Hill appeared to discuss concerns he has with the economic development proposal from Buxton that the board has been working on with the City of Mountain Home. Mr. Jones attended the Glenns Ferry City Council meeting where the city presented the Buxton proposal. What he got from the presentation is that Buxton is only going to work toward retail businesses coming to the area and he feels that the Glenns Ferry area needs industry, not retail. He also feels that retail businesses will hurt local “small town” businesses as well. Mr. Jones also discussed an on-off ramp project that was supposed to take place in Glenns Ferry.

Jeff Dearing, Family Advocates, appeared. Family Advocates is the non-profit agency that handles the Guardian Ad Litem program for Elmore County. Mr. Dearing thanked the board for supporting the
program, which allows them to do the work they do for the children of Elmore County. When children are placed in the child protection system, they provide the guardians to speak on behalf of the children in court. They helped over two dozen children in Elmore County last year. They are based out of Boise and Caldwell, but work throughout southwest Idaho. There is one dedicated staff member in place for Elmore County, who is responsible for recruiting and training the guardian volunteers. The volunteers receive training, which includes classroom and courtroom training. There are currently five volunteer guardians in Elmore County and a sixth volunteer currently in training. Their main goal is to advocate for the best interest of the children.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve the Recorder’s Office Report and the Clerk’s Bail Bond Report for the record only.

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Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve and sign the Thank You letter to US Ecology for a contribution of $1,000.00 to be used toward the purchase of a new extrication truck.

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Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve the minutes for January 8, 2016.

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Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to approve the Ambulance District Expenses in the amount of $4,768.37, payable to Norco-$42.53, Valley Co-ops, Inc.-$300.81 and Elmore County-$4,425.03.

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Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to approve the Pest Abatement District Expenses in the amount of $4,910.41, payable to Elmore County-$3,340.41 and Bastida Auto Repair & Service-$1,570.00.

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Motion carried and so ordered.

A notary public being available in the courthouse was discussed.
Rodney Remling, Republic Services, appeared to discuss landfill costs per a request from Commissioner Wootan. The county received a proposal from Idaho Waste Systems (IWS) for $25.00 per ton to operate the Bennett Road landfill, haul the trash to Simco Road and bury it. Commissioner Wootan asked for a breakdown of what it costs for these services. Mr. Remling estimates that $8.00 is going toward running Bennett Road, $10.00 is going toward hauling the trash, leaving $7.00 to bury the trash at Simco Road. He stated that other landfills in the area have a cost of $33.00 per ton just to bury the trash, and Republic Services feels that $25.00 is a great deal for the county. Attorney Grant thanked Mr. Remling for his comments, but wanted to point out that the county has been in a long term agreement with IWS for the management of Bennett Road at a rate of $12.69 as adjusted by the Consumer Price Index. Pursuant to other agreements, IWS was required to take all county trash at no cost. He stated that if the county were to enter into an entirely new deal today without being the host county, he agrees that the proposed cost would be reasonable, but based on the current county contracts with fixed rates that are substantially less, $25.00 is not a reasonable deal for the county.

John Kiefer, Elmore Soil & Water Conservation District appeared to discuss his funding for FY2017. Mr. Kiefer requested an increase of $500.00 in the annual funding as they will need to hire additional help. He reviewed the projects they have planned for the year. Discussion followed.

Sheriff Rick Layher and Chief Deputy Mike Barclay appeared to update the board. Sheriff Layher stated that the Three Island Crossing will be held this year. It hasn’t been held in several years due to safety concerns, but Sheriff Layher stated they will do a lot of training to make sure the people are safe.

Paula Riggs and Courtney Lewis appeared to discuss the Buxton proposal. Mr. Riggs presented the proposal to the Glenns Ferry City Council and told them of the options to include them in the program. The city council decided to just take advantage of the marketing report that would be included in the $50,000.00 per year contract and did not want to pay the extra $10,000.00 for the business matches. Ms. Riggs reviewed the contract from Buxton for the three years at $50,000.00 per year, with Elmore County paying the cost for the first year, the City of Mountain Home paying the cost for the second year and each entity splitting the cost 50/50 for the third year. Discussion followed. The board decided to move forward with the program.

Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to approve the retail recruitment agreement between Buxton, Elmore County and the City of Mountain Home with Elmore County paying $50,000.00 the first year, the City of Mountain Home paying $50,000.00 the second year and each entity splitting the cost 50/50 for the third year.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.
Stephaney Kerley, Forest Service, Louie Lasuen, Mountain Home Highway District, Chief Deputy Mike Barclay, Dale Nadler, Bureau of Homeland Security, Carol Killian, Disaster Services and Alan Christy, Land Use and Building Department Director appeared to discuss the snow amounts in the Pine area and possible flooding issues. Ms. Kerley stated that with this amount of snow pack there is a very strong possibility of mudslides and flooding with a major rain event. The Forest Service has no funding available for additional storm patrols at this time. After every major event, they send out patrols to check the status of their roads and they will keep in contact with the highway districts to see what their issues are and if there may be any funding available, which is allotted on a case by case basis. Commissioner Corbus asked if the Forest Service has any way to predict future weather situations. Ms. Kerley stated that when a major storm comes through, they will send out helicopters to do an aerial survey of what’s going on. There is huge potential for mudslides and flooding in the Dog Creek area and they expect problems along the lower South Fork boat access area. If a major issue arises, they will go to the regional office and apply for funding to do emergency repairs where they can. The Forest Service only has one road crew, with their equipment staged in Boise. The equipment is sent out on a triage basis, to wherever the worst situation is. Mr. Lasuen stated that the highway district will go to the bridges and remove any logs that are jammed, but they will not put a crew in danger if the water is running too high or swift. They will also have people on call 24/7, driving the river looking for issues so they can get to a situation immediately. Commissioner Corbus suggested having emergency personnel aware and staged close when the highway district is removing logs from the river in case of an emergency while removing the debris. Mr. Nadler reminded everyone to document any overtime for extraordinary events, and any spending that is not budgeted for so that the Bureau of Homeland Security can help them recoup the funds. Mr. Christy met with the new State Flood Plane Coordinator and made a site visit to the Pine area. He is working on possibly getting an informational letter out to residents in the area stating that it is an above average water year and give a list of ways to prepare for any flooding that may occur.

Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(c) to discuss the acquisition of real property. Roll call vote was taken.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

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

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to make on offer of $475,000.00 on the property located at 2180 American Legion Boulevard, enter into a contract for the purchase of the same, subject to the appraisal requirements under state law and designate Commissioner Hofer as liaison in regard to any matters pertaining to the same.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.
Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(b) to discuss a personnel issue. Roll call vote was taken.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

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

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to authorize Commissioner Hofer to sign the personnel notice discussed in the Executive Session.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

The solid waste fee schedule for the Bennett Road landfill was discussed.

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

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Regular session resumed.

Karla Post, Century 21 agent, appeared to discuss the offer the county made on the property located at 2180 American Legion Boulevard. Ms. Post stated that the seller would like the closing on the property to be done by the end of June and asked if the county would be able to accomplish that. Attorney Grant discussed due diligence that the county would need to do in order to purchase the property and have the closing by that time. Discussion followed.

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to approve the Certificate of Residency applications for Lesley Edguar Arce and Jennifer Walsh.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Landfill issues were briefly discussed.

A short recess was taken. Regular session resumed.

Legislation regarding public defender services was discussed.
Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to adjourn.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

/S/ FRANKLIN L. CORBUS, Chairman
ATTEST: /S/ BARBARA STEELE, Clerk