

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

MARCH 18, 2016

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

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, 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 decisions were made as a result of the Executive Session:

K-02-16-01 Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to deny as the applicant failed to cooperate to determine eligibility for county assistance.

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

K-02-16-03 Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to approve with a lump sum payment of \$500.00 and a reimbursement order of \$175.00 per month 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 approve the minutes for March 4, 2016 and March 11, 2016.

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

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to approve the Ambulance District Expenses in the amount of \$139.54, payable to RTI.

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

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, to approve the Certificate of Residency application for Mario Pedroza.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Corbus, second by Wootan, to approve Tax Cancellation No. 1322 Shirley Peterson and Chris Kight-\$244.33.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Wootan, second by Corbus, to approve and authorize Chairman Corbus to sign the Financial Assurance Plan for the Bennett Road Landfill and the Glenns Ferry Landfill.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

Attorney Grant reviewed a call he received from a group who buys leases. The group is interested in buying the lease for the cell tower located on the Elmore County fairgrounds. Attorney Grant asked the board if they were interested in selling the cell tower, the land on which it sits and the lease to the interested group. The board is not interested in any sale at this time.

The monthly department head meeting was held.

Mir Seyedbagheri, Extension Office, appeared and gave his monthly update. Mr. Seyedbagheri surveyed forty two different fields for a new disease called barley yellow-dwarf. So far, all samples have been negative. He evaluated potato cull samples from fall post-harvest for psyllid evaluations. He has been following up on various inquiries from growers such as potato planter performance information and soil and nutrient management information. He wrote an article on Zika virus causes and symptomologies. He met with the seasonal pest-control worker and updated him on this year’s mosquito surveillance and control strategies.

Carol Killian, Disaster Services Coordinator, appeared to update the board. Ms. Killian has ordered security cameras for the courthouse, and is still waiting on another monitor. She received the courthouse security department badge printer and had it set up. She is working on getting funding for a generator for the Pine EMS building. She received a request from Alan Roberts, Extrication Department for updated emergency reader boards. Mr. Roberts feels the current reader boards are outdated, so Ms. Killian is working on getting new ones. She will be taking 250 sandbags up to the Pine area to help with any flooding or landslide issues that may arise from the snow melting. She also has an agreement with the

Glenns Ferry Highway District for extra sandbags if needed. There will be a tabletop disaster exercise held on May 25th with a functional exercise to be held on June 23rd. There will also be a tabletop exercise for the country music festival sometime in the next few months.

Steve Dye, Probation Services, appeared and gave his monthly update. The number of juvenile probation clients continues to be low. The number of adult probation clients decreased by three from last month. The Drug Court participant slots have been reduced by the Supreme Court from twenty eight to twenty two due to a low number of participants. In June, the program will be re-evaluated and if the number of participants has increased, the program can possibly get the additional slots back. The program currently has fourteen participants, an additional two pending entrance into the program and two participants due to graduate from the program next month. Ascent Behavioral Health is no longer going to be providing services to the county due to the decrease in the numbers, so as of next week, he will no longer have a treatment provider for drug court or juvenile probation, and he is working on several options for new treatment providers. The community service report was reviewed.

Bill Richey, Military Liaison, appeared. Mr. Richey attended the Water Resources Board meeting regarding the surface water acquisition pipeline project. The feasibility study for the project was reviewed and should be completed by the end of March and the process for the environmental study was discussed. In regards to the request for the City of Mountain Home and Elmore County to be part of the water acquisition project, an amendment can be added to the agreement once the pipeline project is finished. An exercise will be held April 11th through the 15th where GPS jamming will be used. Air Force public relations will make a public announcement regarding the exercise so the public will be aware of when this will take place. The head doctor of Air Combat Command met with the CEO of St. Luke's to discuss possibly closing the base hospital, but Mr. Richey stated that the Air Force would never consider closing the base hospital unless St. Luke's was able to provide the exact same services that the base hospital does.

Traci LeFever, E-911 Supervisor, appeared to update the board. Recently, there were four board member openings, so Ms. LeFever advertised for the openings in the newspaper and on the county website and got no applications, so they retained the four current board members for the positions. They added Alan Roberts as a new at large member.

Brian Chevalier, Pine EMS Director, appeared. They have had several training sessions. They will attend an upcoming pediatric training session, with twelve people scheduled to attend. He has been working with Carol Killian regarding the conference call phone system. He held a second CPR/first aid class for county employees. He is working with the supervisor of Elmore Ambulance Services (EAS) to rotate vehicles between Mountain Home and Pine for mileage reasons. Commissioner Corbus stated that the county is looking into billing for services for the Pine ambulance, the extrication department and the search and rescue department.

Alan Christy, Land Use and Building Department, appeared to give his monthly update. Building permits were down for the month, with five being issued for March. There are three pending building permits, including one large commercial permit. After a concern was raised about the safety of the intersection at Airbase Road and Grandview Road, Mr. Christy sent a letter to the Idaho Transportation Department requesting an evaluation of the intersection for safety and suggested a traffic signal be installed at the intersection. The Mountain Home Highway District will be making improvements to Hog Farm Road, which will result in additional traffic coming into the intersection. Currently, side street traffic has a difficult time accessing the intersection safely due to congestion and additional traffic control measures may be needed once the improvements are made. Mr. Christy gave the board a memo listing the repairs that will need to be done to the building at the Bennett Road Landfill for their review and approval. He reviewed the survey for the property located at 2180 American Legion Boulevard. Mr. Christy spoke with ZGA Architects and asked them to be involved with the fairground improvements.

Jennifer Smith, Human Resources Manager, appeared. Ms. Smith is working with the Extension Office to hire the seasonal pest-control worker. She attended a seminar on Human Resource law which was very informative. She has been looking into billing practices to bill for services rendered by the ambulance, extrication and search and rescue departments.

Alan Roberts, Extrication Department, appeared to update the board. Mr. Roberts discussed the fatality accident they responded to this morning on Interstate 84. The new rescue truck has been delivered to the dealership. He will meet with them to do a “pre construct” of the utility box that will be put on the new truck. Mr. Roberts stated that once they received the new tools, they will mount them to the truck themselves in the order that works for them.

The monthly elected officials meeting was held.

Treasurer Amber Sloan, appeared. Her office issued sixty three distraint warrants on trailers. She will be getting a fax line installed in her office once she receives her new Xerox machine. Next week she will be advertising thirteen parcels for past due 2012 taxes and of those thirteen, there are four parcels with trailers on them. Two of the trailers are vacant, which will not cause an issue with the county taking tax deed on the parcels and hopes that by May the taxes will be paid on the two occupied trailers.

Scott Hunsaker, County Auditor, appeared and reviewed the annual county audit with the board.

Sheriff Rick Layher and Chief Deputy Mike Barclay appeared to discuss a personnel issue.

Motion by Corbus, second by Hofer, 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. No decision was made as a result of the Executive Session.

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

CORBUS -AYE

WOOTAN -AYE

HOFER -AYE

Motion carried and so ordered.

Regular session resumed.

Dewey Crane, Snake River Rubbish, appeared to discuss an issue with the price of tires taken to the Simco Road landfill. Mr. Crane stated that the cost has increased to \$6.00 per rimless tire with and \$8.00 per tire on a rim. He stated that the increased price may make people start to dump tires out in the desert and in fields instead of paying that much per tire at the landfill and feels that this will become a major issue around the entire county. Discuss followed regarding how and where other companies dispose of their tires.

A short recess was taken. Regular session resumed.

Mir, Seyedbagheri, Extension Office, Jim McNall, ICRMP representative and Attorney Tina Schindele appeared to discuss the restructuring of the Extension Office. Mr. McNall explained that in most counties the extension agent is a University of Idaho employee who is considered the department head and the rest of the staff are county employees. He stated that some counties have an office manager that oversees the daily operations of the office when the extension agent is out. Mr. Seyedbagheri stated that his office staff has a daily activity report and a log in/log out report that they fill in every day, which is how he tracks the staff while he is out of the office. Attorney Schindele stated that the staff, as county employees, are to work in the office Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. and has concerns that the staff is not following those set rules. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the restructuring of the office staff and the possibility of hiring an office manager to oversee proper operation of the office in the absence of the extension agent. Petty cash and 4-H accounts that are run through the extension office were also discussed. Clerk Steele had concerns that these accounts are not being tracked properly and are not included as part of the annual county audit. Mr. Seyedbagheri will make sure all monetary transactions that come through the office are brought to the Clerk’s Office on a regular basis.

Jon Kieffer, Elmore Soil and Water Conservation District, was in the audience during the Extension Office discussion and voiced his concerns over the structure of the Extension Office. The board assured Mr. Kieffer that they are working to resolve all of the issues in the office.

Motion by Wootan, 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