

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

NOVEMBER 29, 2017

The Elmore County Commissioners met in special session on the above date in the Mountain Home Junior High, Commons Area, 1600 East 6th South, 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 Essl. Several members of the public were in the audience.

The purpose of this special session is to review applications submitted to fill a vacancy on the Western Elmore County Recreation District (WECRD) Board. Applicants will be allowed to make statements to the public and answer questions from the Board and public. The special session may be extended to another night or nights if warranted.

Two applications were received, one from Dan Gillies for the District 2 vacancy and the second from Reginald "Lee" Pierce for the District 1 vacancy.

Mr. Gillies spoke first. He has lived in Mountain Home since 1969. During that time he was employed as a grade school and middle school teacher. He also taught drivers education for twenty seven years. He has worked with sports programs for the schools and did custodial work for the school district. He has seen the parks program grow and flourish with some very dedicated people and feels that both the City of Mountain Home recreation employees and other city workers are doing a fine job. There are well maintained and thought out parks in the city and many activities offered through the city recreation. He would like to see the city continue to grow and improve and he feels that the WECRD can be a part of that growth. His goal is to have a solid structure that will support continued growth in the city. A question and answer session with the commissioners and the audience followed.

Mr. Pierce spoke next. He was born and raised in Elmore County and volunteered for the WECRD during its first few years. He also volunteered his time to help organize trips for the youth of Elmore County to be bused to surrounding recreation centers. The purpose of these trips was to show both the public's desire and the need for local facilities and programs. He firmly believes that Elmore County needs a place for the youth in the community to spend their time. A place that they can grow both mentally and physically, where they and their families can find programs to help them when they are in need and to have a place where the negative outside influences can be put in check. When it comes to adult health programs in the community, Elmore County is definitely not on the forefront. But he doesn't feel that it is from a lack of participants, but a lack of organization and advertising. He is a runner and it takes no time to plan a run, but some of the difficulty comes in when you try to set up a consistent group, place and time when you have to deal with our ever changing weather and there is no place to go. He feels that the WECRD could help in the organization, logistics and advertising of community fitness clubs and programs, it just takes the right person with the right direction and motivation to get this done. He is

a full time firefighter for the Gowen Field Fire Department, a member of the Idaho Air National Guard, a part time EMT for Elmore Ambulance Service and a volunteer firefighter for the Glens Ferry/King Hill Rural Fire Department, so he feels that when it comes down to it, if someone needs help, he wants to help them or at least get them the help they need. A question and answer session with the commissioners and the audience followed.

The commissioners felt that both applicants were very qualified and they decided that they would submit both applicant's names to the Governor's office with the recommendation that the Governor appoint Mr. Pierce to fill the District 1 vacancy and Mr. Gillies to fill the District 2 vacancy.

Motion by Hofer, second by Corbus, to adjourn.

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

Motion carried and so ordered.

/S/ ALBERT HOFER, Chairman

ATTEST: /S/ BARBARA STEELE, Clerk