COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
FEBRUARY 27, 2012

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 Arlie Shaw, Commissioners Al Hofer and Wes Wootan. Also present were Civil Attorney Buzz Grant, Clerk Barbara Steele and Deputy Clerk Shelley Hooper.

Bill Mogensen, representing Intermountain Technology Group, a division of Corporate Technologies, appeared to introduce his company to the Board. Intermountain Technologies provide information services and technology support. Mr. Mogensen handed out and reviewed a packet explaining the history of the company and the services they provide. Clerk Steele explained the countywide server and the different support systems for each department in the County. The need for an upgrade of the county server was discussed. Mr. Mogensen offered to bring in an engineer to review the systems in each department and get an idea of the future needs of each department. His goal is to make Elmore County aware of available options for providing a higher level of maintenance services within budget guidelines.

Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to approve the minutes for February 21, 2012.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE
HOFER......................................................... -AYE
WOOTAN.................................................... -AYE Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Shaw, second by Hofer, to approve the expenses in the amount of $134,246.24. Discussion followed.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE
HOFER........................................................... -AYE
WOOTAN.................................................... -AYE Motion carried and so ordered.

Clerk Steele discussed the Pine and Prairie precincts. According to Idaho Code, a mail-in precinct is required to have less than one hundred twenty five registered voters at the last general election. Pine had one hundred thirty two registered voters, therefore, cannot be
made a mail-in precinct at this time. Some Prairie residents were opposed to making Prairie a mail-in precinct. It was decided not to make Pine and Prairie mail-in precincts at this time.

Attorney Grant reviewed the Pine Property Purchase. The tentative closing date is March 14, 2012. He will inform the title company that Chairman Shaw will sign the necessary documents on March 12, 2012. There will be a final walk through done at the property.

Motion by Hofer, second by Wootan, to approve the Certificate of Residency for Hannah Leigh Bruno.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE

HOFER......................................................... -AYE

WOOTAN.................................................... -AYE  

Motion carried and so ordered.

Motion by Shaw, second by Hofer, to add to the agenda Idaho Waste Systems to discuss information in preparation for the IWS meeting with the Board on March 12, 2012.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE

HOFER......................................................... -AYE

WOOTAN.................................................... -AYE  

Motion carried and so ordered.

The contract with Idaho Waste Systems (IWS) was discussed. Attorney Grant reviewed changes that IWS has proposed. Handling and hauling fees for extra tonnage were discussed. There is no tipping fee charged for the dirt and coal that comes into the landfill because it is being used for cover. There was a question regarding tonnage per day charges. The contract states 306 days per year as opposed to 365 calendar days per year. Attorney Grant stated this issue needs to be addressed and resolved.

The monthly Department Head Meeting was held.

Carol Killian, Disaster Services Department, appeared to give her monthly report. Ms. Killian met with the Forrest Service and discussed holding a disaster exercise in Elmore County with a mock fire spanning from Pine to Featherville to see how all emergency services would work together in case of an emergency. The tabletop exercise is scheduled to be held on May 15th at 10:00 a.m. at the Pine Senior Center. Clerk Steele stated that is Election Day and the Pine Senior Center is the voting precinct. Ms. Killian will contact Forrest Services to have them change the day. The Commissioners are invited to attend as they are a viable part of the exercise. Ms. Killian attended a Senior Official’s workshop. They are going to design a quick reference pocket card for Senior
Elected Officials, outlining what happens in an emergency. They are progressing with EOC building, getting data and phone lines run.

Vence Parsons, Plant Facilities Manager, appeared to give his monthly report. There is a full time position available in his department and there will be a part time position opening in the future. The positions will be listed with Job Service. The department is going through different storage areas in the County and getting rid of unneeded clutter, trying to free up storage space.

Alan Christy, Growth and Development Director, appeared to give his monthly report. Mr. Christy presented the Board with the Qualified Planner, Professional Services Agreement.

Motion by Shaw, second by Hofer, to sign the Professional Services Agreement for Qualified Planner.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE
HOFER......................................................... -AYE
WOOTAN.................................................... -AYE

Motion carried and so ordered.

Mr. Christy stated they have had an increase in building permits. They have issued a building permit for the solar farm in Grandview. The wind farms are progressing. Mr. Christy updated the Board on Mayfield Springs and the time frames of hearings and deliberations.

Traci LeFever, E911 Coordinator, appeared to give her monthly report. Ms. LeFever discussed Rural Telephone Company (RTI). There is an issue regarding the installation fee and the agreement being signed. Attorney Grant sent the revised contract to RTI regarding a five year non-appropriation clause. He received an email stating RTI was waiting for the County to approve payment of the installation fee before agreeing to the contract. Ms. LeFever has requested and is still waiting for a breakdown of the installation charges, which total $3,000.00. Attorney Grant stated the County has been diligent and RTI has not followed up. Discussion followed.

Steve Dye, Juvenile Probation Director, appeared to give the Board his monthly update. The caseload has remained the same. Mr. Dye would like to apply for a Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant which can help with the community service program. The Juvenile Probation Department uses the Idaho Juvenile Offenders Systems (IJOS), which has an “IJOS To Go” program that can be uploaded into the computers and patrol cars of the Sheriff’s Department and Mountain Home Police. If law enforcement pulls over a juvenile, the officers can look to see if they have a history in the Juvenile System. Mr. Dye is meeting with the Judges and County Prosecutor regarding supervision fees for probation. Mr. Dye updated the board on the research he is doing in
regards to the purchase of the new vehicles for his department. Edmark Chevrolet in Boise gave the lowest bid for the vehicles. Commissioner Wootan stated he would like the purchase to be from a local dealership. Mr. Dye stated the local dealerships were not able to give the lowest bid for the new vehicles.

Motion by Hofer, second by Shaw, to approve the purchase of a Chevy Impala and Chevy Van for the Juvenile Probation Department, from Edmark Chevrolet, for the State bid amount, and authorize Chairman Shaw to sign any necessary paperwork.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE

HOFER......................................................... -AYE

WOOTAN.................................................... -NAY Motion carried and so ordered.

Jennifer Crogg, Misdemeanor Probation, presented the Board with an outline of her monthly progress. The total number of clients on probation is one hundred sixty nine. During the month, eight clients were added to the caseload and five were released or terminated from probation. The number of condition of release is thirty six. There are three restitution cases for the month. There are forty five people enrolled in Community Service. This number is people on unsupervised probation only.

Wade Baumgardner, Veterans Services Officer, could not attend the meeting, but sent an outline of his monthly progress for the Board to review. Mr. Baumgardner met with the Supervisor of Idaho Division of Veterans Affairs to discuss the reason why it is taking so long for some of the local claims to be decided. The Boise Regional Office has taken on cases for adjudication from several surrounding states and many cases are being sent to Washington DC on appeal, so this seems to be causing a back-log. This month his department has assisted forty five veterans, retirees, spouses and/or family members with issues associated with the VA or military records retrieval from St. Louis, Missouri.

Katie Ashby, Drug Court Coordinator, was unable to attend the meeting, but sent a monthly report. Her department collected $2,895.00 in participation fees for the month of February.

The monthly Elected Officials Meeting was held.

Assessor Ron Fisher appeared to give his monthly report. His department is getting ready for Urban Renewal. He has sent letter to the Attorney General’s Office regarding the Military Housing Taxation issue and is awaiting a response. Mr. Fisher received a letter from the operator of the Salon/Barber Shop on the Air Force Base, inquiring why they are required to pay personal property tax. The shop is located in the Army/Air Force Exchange (AAFEs). The AAFEs building is exempt, as it is government owned, but anyone who subcontracts with them is applicable to personal property tax on the property inside. Discussion followed.
Treasurer Rose Plympton appeared to give her monthly report. Ms. Plympton discussed a Homeowners Exemption issue. There has been a question of whether the individual had actually lived in the residence to qualify for a homeowners exemption. She and Assessor Fisher have been working together trying to resolve this issue. The applicant sent in paperwork with a cover letter to the Board of County Commissioners. Ms. Plympton gave the packet to the Board for their review. Mr. Fisher stated his office has been researching this application and he reviewed his findings with the Board.

Sheriff Rick Layher and Deputy Laytreda Schultz appeared to update the Board. Deputy Schultz stated they will be holding the vehicle auction April 7, 2012 and are researching auctioneers. There are items from several storage areas that may be incorporated into the auction as well. Sheriff Layher updated the Board of the operations at the County Jail. The Jail sponsored the Winter State Search and Rescue Conference over the weekend and had a great turnout.

Motion by Wootan, second by Hofer, to approve the Tax Fee Cancellation No. 1151 E. Jex and Jeannine Hepworth for $780.62.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE
HOFER........................................................... -AYE
WOOTAN........................................................... -AYE

Motion carried and so ordered.

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

SHAW........................................................... -AYE
HOFER........................................................... -AYE
WOOTAN........................................................... -AYE

Motion carried and so ordered.

Regular session resumed.

Motion by Shaw, second by Hofer, to go into Executive Session pursuant to I.C. 67-2345(d) – 31-874 to hold a Hearing of Continuation on case K-07-11-09. Roll call vote was taken.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE
HOFER........................................................... -AYE
WOOTAN........................................................... -AYE

Motion carried and so ordered.
Present at the meeting were Chairman Arlie Shaw, Commissioners Al Hofer and Wes Wootan, Civil Attorney Buzz Grant, Clerk Barbara Steele and Deputy Clerk Shelley Hooper. Also present at the meeting were Social Services Director Marianne Bate, Social Services Assistant Kalene Lewis, the applicant, the applicant’s husband and Chavon Weimer, representing St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. Attorney Michael Hague, representing Elmore Medical Center, was on speaker phone. Chairman Shaw swore in those who would be testifying. Questions were asked and answered. The hearing was closed.

Regular session resumed. Case K-07-11-09 will be continued until March 12, 2012 at 11:00a.m.

Allen Kiester, John Boguslawski and Chuck Curtis, of the Snowmobile Groomer Advisory Board, appeared to discuss Malcomson’s Snow Park. Mr. Kiester had a list of suggestions on how to raise funds to help with the maintenance of the Snow Park. He questioned whether Idaho Department of Transportation or the Department of Parks and Recreation could offer some sort of help. Mr. Kiester would like to see the Snowmobile Club and the County work together to make Malcomson’s a workable and self sustaining Snow Park that would benefit all of Elmore County. The possibility of closing the Snow Park due to lack of funding was discussed. Mr. Curtis stated that he researched Malcomson’s Snow Park on the internet and it has publications all over the country, especially for kite skiing, so it is a popular venue. Mr. Boguslawski stated that the Snow Park is an asset to Elmore County for a number of activities and they are glad to work toward a solution to keep the Snow Park open. The County Snowmobile Fund and the Snowmobile Club Funds were discussed. Mr. Kiester stated the Snowmobile Club funds come from donations and is separate from the County’s Snowmobile Fund. He explained what expenses they have each season. Discussion followed.

Katie Ashby, Drug Court Coordinator, appeared to discuss the expansion of Drug Court and the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program FY 2012 Competitive Grant, Category 2 Enhancement. Currently, the Drug Court Program has a two year grant from the Office of Highway Safety, which mainly helps to cover probation officers wages. Ms. Ashby explained a draft of her budget for year one of two. For year two, she will be requesting funds to make up for the funding the drug court program will lose at the completion of the current Office of Highway Safety Grant.

Motion by Shaw, 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.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE

HOFER......................................................... -AYE

WOOTAN.................................................... -AYE  

Motion carried and so ordered.
Regular session resumed. No decision was made as a result of the Executive Session.

Cameron Arial, representing Zions Bank Public Finance, appeared to discuss refinancing options for County Bonds. Mr. Arial reviewed the company’s financial advisor experience and how a financial advisor can help the County get the best results. Interest rates and range of yields were also discussed. Attorney Grant will consult Bond Counsel regarding the issue.

Motion by Shaw, second by Hofer, to adjourn.

SHAW........................................................... -AYE

HOFER......................................................... -AYE

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

/S/ ARLEN O. SHAW, Chairman

ATTEST: /S/ BARBARA STEELE, Clerk