

POWER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

The Board of Power County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, April 22, 2002. Present were Commissioners Ken Estep, Chairman, Valerie Hoybjerg and Janet S. Chapman. Also present was Power County Clerk Christine Steinlicht and Power County Prosecuting Attorney Paul Laggis.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY: Power County Court Services Officer Max Sprague appeared before the Commissioners to discuss upgrading the fire extinguishers in the Courthouse to "Clean Guard" extinguishers. Clean Guard extinguishers contain a liquid aerosol that will not harm office equipment. The price of the new extinguishers is \$120.00 each. Following discussion, the Commissioners authorized Mr. Sprague to upgrade the Courthouse fire extinguishers to Clean Guard extinguishers. The Commissioners agreed to allow Power County Sheriff Howard Sprague to purchase the fire extinguishers being replaced for \$50.00 each so he can replace the fire extinguishers in the County's patrol vehicles. Mr. Sprague then advised the Commissioners that in order to comply with the recent Building Safety Inspection Report prepared by the State of Idaho Division of Building Safety, the exit signs in the Courthouse need to be illuminated. The Commissioners instructed Mr. Sprague to check and replace the batteries in all Courthouse exit signs so that they will be illuminated.

POWER COUNTY SICK LEAVE BANK: Elna Neu, Secretary of the Power County Sick Leave Bank Committee, appeared before the Commissioners to advise the Commission as to the changes on the Sick Leave Bank Application. The updated Application clarifies that the applicant employee understands and agrees that all accrued sick leave, vacation and comp time must be exhausted before they would be eligible to draw Sick Leave Bank hours. Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the updated Power County Employees Sick Leave Bank Application. Carried. Mrs. Neu then advised the Commissioners that donations to the sick leave bank are made by employees during the annual open enrollment period each January, except on a new employee, who would will be eligible to contribute within thirty days after accruing their first one day of sick leave.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Hoybjerg, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the claims as presented and supplemented. Carried.

Current Expense (General)	\$ 19,329.34
Ambulance	1,969.80
District Court	869.44
Justice	6,092.59
Indigent	1,411.46

Revaluation	28.21
Solid Waste	28,372.77
Weeds	40.95
PILT	117,562.77

CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS – CURB & GUTTER FEES (TAX ROLLS): American Falls Mayor Cecil Weisenburger and City Council Members Dean Weaver and Kristen Jensen appeared before the Commissioners and Power County Treasurer Bobbie Mauch to discuss charging City curb and gutter assessments on the Power County tax rolls. Also present was City Street Superintendent Ron Anderson, City Attorney Randy Kline and City Clerk Betty Huse. The City would like to construct curb and gutter on certain parcels within the City of American Falls; however, they have been unable to collect the costs of installation from the property owners. Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Hoybjerg, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to authorize the Power County Treasurer to charge City of American Falls curb and gutter assessments on the Power County tax rolls with no more than ten parcels having unpaid curb and gutter assessments owing at any given time, upon the condition that in the event any of said parcel is subject to taking by tax deed, the special assessment will be removed and returned to the City of American Falls for collection. Carried. The Commissioners and City representatives agreed to review this arrangement annually. City of American Falls attorney Randy Kline acknowledged that the Power County Commissioners would have discretion to cancel any curb and gutter assessment under an application for hardship exemption during the time these assessments were on the Power County tax rolls.

POWER COUNTY YOUTH CENTER BOARD: American Falls Youth Center Board Members Bob Schreiber, Jane Mehlhaff, Jim Chapman, Gerald Fehringer and Bobbie Mauch appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the plan to move their Youth Center operation into the recently purchased American Legion Building. The Commissioners informed the Youth Center Board of the need to execute a long-term lease agreement between Power County and the American Falls Youth Center for lease of the premises in an amount of \$1.00 per year. The Commissioners agreed that an electrician would need to be contacted to upgrade the wiring in the Youth Center area of the building; after which Mr. Fehringer reported that he and the Lions Club would take care of the limited demolition, which needs to be done in the Youth Center area. Commissioner Hoybjerg reported that after the wiring and demolition has been completed, one of the LDS Service Groups will volunteer to come in and clean up. Commissioner Estep indicated that he would contact Pete Ramsey and Ramsey repair to discuss the electrical needs. The Commissioners will also contact Architect Jerry Meyers to discuss window replacement. This matter was tabled until May 6, 2002.

HARMS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT: Harms Memorial Hospital Administrator Bob Brummond appeared before the Commissioners to present the Hospital District's Financial Packet for March, 2002. Also present was Hospital Board Member Shel Kovarsky. Mr. Brummond then reported that the Harms Memorial Hospital District Board of Trustees would be discussing the options they have to accommodate a physical therapy center in Power County. Following discussion, the

Commissioners agreed that in the event the hospital wanted to put a physical therapy modular structure on the Southeast corner of the Courthouse block, they would need to have a plan to remove the structure in the event it was no longer needed. Mr. Brummond and Mr. Kovarsky advised the Commissioners that the available space in the Doctors Clinic is not sufficient in size to accommodate the hospital's physical therapy program. The Commissioners then presented Mr. Brummond and Mr. Kovarsky with an Extension of the current Lease Agreement between Power County and Harms Memorial Hospital District, which lease agreement expired on December 31, 2001. The lease extension will be presented to the Hospital Board at their meeting this evening. This matter was tabled until May 6, 2002.

LAMB WESTON GRANT: The Commissioners reviewed and approved the written request for Power County to be awarded the sustainable development grant offered by Lamb Weston, which was prepared by Commissioner Chapman. Commissioner Chapman will finalize and sign the written request and submit it to Lamb Weston prior to the deadline of May 10, 2002.

AMBULANCE: Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to recess as Power County Board of Commissioners and reconvene as Power County Ambulance District Board. Carried.

FORT HALL AMBULANCE SERVICE – IDAHO EMS BUREAU: The Commissioners reviewed the letter from the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare advising Power County that the State of Idaho EMS Bureau has received an application for a new EMS service license. The proposed service, Fort Hall Fire/EMS, as an intermediate life support ambulance agency, will provide first responder, basic EMT and advanced EMT personnel and equipment as required within the reservation boundaries of Power, Bingham and Bannock Counties. Any questions or concerns Power County has should be submitted in writing by May 15, 2002, to Idaho EMS Bureau, attention Scott Gruwell. Following discussion with County Attorney Laggis and Ambulance District Director Mark Love, the Commissioners suggested that Mr. Love obtain a copy of the application from Scott Gruwell at the Idaho EMS Bureau and then discuss the same with Fort Hall Emergency Medical Services. The Commissioners agreed that it would be desirable to schedule a meeting with the Commissioners from Bingham and Bannock Counties to discuss County/Tribal relations and services.

AMBULANCE SERVICE CONTRACT – INTERMOUNTAIN RODEO ASSOCIATION: Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Chapman, seconded by Commissioner Estep, to approve and execute the original Ambulance Service Contract between Power County and Intermountain Rodeo Association as presented and amended. Carried.

AMBULANCE – CELLULAR PHONES: Power County Ambulance District Director Mark Love advised the Commissioners that an old cellular phone bill on the Ambulance District's account has been turned over for collection. Mr. Love indicated that the former Ambulance District director allowed EMTs to obtain personal cell phones under the

Ambulance District's plan and that this unpaid bill is as a result of a previous EMTs personal use and the Power County Ambulance District should not be responsible for the charges. Prosecuting Attorney Laggis will write a letter to the former EMT, Niki Pugh, requesting that she pay this outstanding cellular bill immediately.

AMBULANCE – SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT FOR BILLING SERVICES: Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the Service Contract Agreement for Billing Services between the Power County Ambulance District and Medical Solutions commencing May 1, 2002, and ending November 30, 2003. Carried. Mark Love will send the original Agreement to Medical Solutions for their signature.

Moved by Commissioner Hoybjerg, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to recess as Power County Ambulance District Board and reconvene as Power County Board of Commissioners. Carried.

UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIM: Clerk Steinlicht reported that any Eligibility Determination Claims for Unemployment Benefits should be submitted to Gates McDonald through the Idaho Association of Counties. The most recent claim on a former County employee, with a protest deadline date of April 24th, 2002, has been sent to Gates McDonald for their review and consideration.

WEEDS – BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT (BLM) ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT: The Commissioners reviewed the Assistance Agreement between Power County and the Bureau of Land Management for noxious weed control on Bureau of Land Management administered lands for the period beginning May 1, 2002, and ending September 30, 2002. Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to approve Bureau of Land Management Assistance Agreement #DAA000228 as presented. Carried.

WEEDS – GRANTS: Clerk Steinlicht reported that she had reviewed the grant history in the Weeds from the Period September 1, 1999, through April 22, 2002, which includes all of fiscal year 2000 and 2001 and the first six months of fiscal year 2002. The Clerk's Office has deposited \$10,000 in grant monies to the Weed Fund; however, the Weed Department has spent approximately \$30,000 of grant funds. Clerk Steinlicht indicated that when the Weed Department turns money over monthly, they have reported it entirely as "spraying fees" and probably a portion of those funds should have been credited to their grant line. Commissioner Estep indicated that he would review the grant history with Weed Supervisor Curtis Munk and instruct him to itemize his monthly cash turnover so all amounts could be properly allocated.

JET STOP – TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATION: Power County Assessor Doug Glascock appeared before the Commissioners to review a request from Tonna Edmo and Allen Edmo d/b/a Jet Stop to exempt the personal property of Jet Stop from taxation since it is commercial business property within the boundary of the Fort Hall Indian reservation and owned by tribal members. The real property is owned by the City of

Pocatello and leased by Tonna and Allen Edmo; however, the applicants feel that the building and other personal property used in the course of their business should be exempt from taxation. Following discussion, the Commissioners instructed Assessor Glascock to advise Tonna Edmo and Allen Edmo that the personal property uses in the course of their business known as Jet Stop is not exempt from personal property taxation.

LANDFILL – DEMOLITION PIT: The Commissioners discussed the highway district's decision not to assist the Power County Landfill in digging a demolition pit, due to the excess rock just underneath the ground surface. The commissioners agreed to contact with Anderson Construction to construct a new demolition pit at the Power County Landfill.

JAIL – KITCHEN REMODEL: The Commissioners reviewed the plans submitted by Power County Sheriff Howard Sprague for the expansion and remodel of the jail kitchen. The Commissioners have not received any estimates for the construction costs associated with the remodel and expansion.

COUNTY APPAREL: The Commissioners agreed that apparel bearing the County seal should be ordered by each customer rather than Power County ordering specific apparel in bulk quantities. The Power County Clerk's office has a County apparel catalogue that will be made available to any person interested in purchasing County apparel. County employees will be advised that all future County apparel purchases will be by catalogue order only.

FISCAL YEAR 2002 EXPENDITURES: Clerk Steinlicht reported that Power County is currently 50% through fiscal year 2002. Clerk Steinlicht presented each Commissioner with an updated 2002 expenditure report for their review.

VOLUNTEER BOARD TRAINING: Commissioner Hoybjerg expressed her desire to have ICRMP Specialist Jim McNall come to Power County and present an evening meeting for volunteer county board members to get trained on duties, responsibilities, open meeting laws, etc. Each Commissioner will check with the Boards they oversee to determine the level of participation prior to arranging the training. This matter was tabled until May 6, 2002.

GUARDIANSHIP BOARD: Clerk Steinlicht reported that Power County Guardianship Board Chairman Brenda Havlicak, who indicated that the Guardianship Board is attempting to solicit potential Guardianship Board members to replace outgoing members whose term expired January 1, 2002, had contacted her. Commissioner Chapman will remind Mrs. Havlicak to submit the names of potential Board members to the Power County Commissioners for appointment.

COURT SERVICES/PROBATION OFFICE: The Commissioners agreed that job descriptions for the new Court Services office need to be prepared. The Commissioners will instruct Probation Office/Court Services Office Supervisor Russ Wheatley to review

all job descriptions relating to Probation Office/Court Services employees and update the same. This matter was tabled until end of May, 2002.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION: The Commissioners then met as the Power County Board of Equalization at 1:30 o'clock p.m. There being no business to come before the Board, the Power County Board of Equalization recessed.

AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING PURCHASE: Power County Prosecuting Attorney Paul Laggis reviewed the Commitment for Title Insurance prepared by Alliance Title & Escrow relating to the purchase of the American Legion Building by Power County. Following, the Commissioners and Prosecutor Laggis agreed that legal transfer of the property by Warranty Deed could be scheduled. Commissioner Estep will contact American Legion Commander Kyle Wetzel and request that they provide us with a receipt for payment in full of the Internal Revenue Service on May 6, 2002, at which time the Warranty Deed can be executed and recorded.

POWER COUNTY SEARCH & RESCUE: Power County Search & Rescue member Pete Williams appeared before the Commissioners to advise that the annual Search & Rescue Salmon barbeque has been scheduled for July 13, 2002. Mr. Williams then reminded the Commissioners of the Search & Rescue Conference to be held in Reno, Nevada, April 24th through 28th, 2002. Mr. Williams requested that County Search & Rescue funds budgeted in PILT be used to pay for his attendance at the seminar, which request was granted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Hoybjerg, to move into executive session pursuant to I.C. #67-2345, for the purpose of taking up indigent medical applications. Carried.

ALCHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES: Commissioner Estep announced that it was the date and time set for hearing an application for an alcohol beverage license and Commissioner Estep read application in to the record. There being no public objection, it was moved by Commissioner Chapman, seconded by Commissioner Estep, to approve the alcohol beverage license of Claudia J. Walters d/b/a Pocatello Speedway, Inc., for the sale of bottled or canned beer to be consumed on the premises. Carried.

APPLICATION FOR HARDSHIP EXEMPTION – DORIS RAST: The Commissioners reviewed the application of Doris Rast requesting cancellation of unpaid 2001 taxes due to hardship in the amount of \$455.10 on parcel #RPA1109-00. Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Hoybjerg, seconded by Commissioner Estep, to cancel the balance of 2001 taxes on parcel #RPA1109-00 in the amount of \$455.10 due to extreme hardship pursuant to I.C. #63-811. Carried.

POWER COUNTY/CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Linda Campbell of the American Falls Economic Development Board and Kathleen Lewis of the Southeastern Idaho Council of Governments (SEICOG) appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the Economic Development administration funds available to

American Falls and Power County to hire an Economic Development Coordinator, which grant would require the City of American Falls and Power County to put up matching funds or an in-kind match. Also present was City of American Falls Mayor Cecil Weisenburger. The Commissioners asked for statistical information regarding the success of the economic development administration efforts in other communities; however, Ms. Lewis indicated that reliable statistical information might not be beneficial given the diversity of different communities. Ms. Lewis indicated that economic development administration should focus on the American Falls and Power County community to build on it's strengths and proceed with our own unique marketing plan; however, Ms. Lewis indicated that she will attempt into provide statistical information to the Commissioners. Mayor Weisenburger indicated that the City hadn't committed to pursue this grant opportunity and is still investigating potential benefits.

Adjourned.


KEN ESTEP, Chairman


CHRISTINE STEINLICHT, Clerk