



POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes
Commission Chambers
543 Bannock Ave.
American Falls, ID 83211
www.powercounty.is.us

Monday, February 9, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, on February 9, 2015, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., in the Commission Chambers of the Power County Courthouse.

II. COMMISSIONERS/STAFF

PRESENT: Commissioner Ron Funk, Chair
Commissioner Delane Anderson
Commissioner Bill Lasley

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Sharee Sprague, Clerk

OTHER PARTIES PRESENT: Craig Heward (Appeared telephonically)
Deanna Curry
Donna Thornton
Douglas Balfour (Traveled with Commissioners to Cassia County)
Jim Jeffries
Launa Snow (Appeared telephonically)
Mark Funk with Driscoll Trucking (Appeared telephonically)
Mary Annen
Ryan Petersen
Suzanne Johnson

III. AGENDA

A. NOTICES/REPORTS

1. **GIS Mapping Fees:** Deputy Assessor Donna Thornton reported fee assessment and disclaimer options for possible implementation in the Assessor's Office. Thornton shared that fees in other jurisdictions vary from \$50.00 - \$400.00. Commissioner Funk shared that Idaho State University agrees to pay the \$100.00. Thornton inquired if the Commissioners would request a onetime fee and then agencies could obtain updates from time to time. Additionally, she explained that information gained online would not allow for appropriate overlay on projects as needed. Commissioner Lasley inquired if job responsibility prioritization had been discussed with the Newly Elected Assessor. Elected Clerk Sprague inquired if an ISU intern would be of assistance and advised that ISU has a mapping department that is being utilized by Bannock County. Thornton will contact Bannock County and inquire of program options and then discuss the same with Assessor Mary

Annen. Thornton provided online disclaimer language for consideration of the Commission.

2. **Shared Employee:** Assessor Mary Annen and Treasurer Deanna Curry requested the ability to hire a shared employee to work between the two (2) offices. The Board encouraged the teamwork between departments and discussed supervisory and conflict management issues. It was reported that the personnel manual regarding reduction in workforce would justify the increase that the shared job may have on the next fiscal year budget. The Board determined that the budget is set for this year and that the employment position could be fiscally funded through the Assessors budget for this year. The Commission will need some guidance on assessment for the departmental budgets for the next fiscal year, which could be provided at the end of this fiscal year budget. Assessor Annen concurs that the budgetary obligation could be sustained through approved assessor budget for this fiscal year.
3. **Table Top Mountain repeater Site:** Sheriff Jim Jeffries advised the Commission that he is working with Bannock County on a shared repeater site that could save the County on monthly fees assessed through the current providers. Verizon Wireless has not provided any further update regarding installation of a tower on county land.
4. **Jail Budget:** Sheriff Jim Jeffries advised the Commission that due to required plumbing repairs the jail budget is currently at 59% expended compared to 28% at the same time last year. Furthermore, there are still pending plumbing concerns that need to be addressed.
5. **Airport Hangar:** Legal Counsel Ryan Petersen updated the Board on removal of property at the Airport Hanger and suggests matter be calendared for March 23, 2015 for confirmation and settlement if necessary.
6. **Airport House:** Commissioner Anderson reported on the progress of renting the airport rental house. Snow Properties has an interested family, however they have dogs. Furthermore, the rental needs a utility shed to house necessary lawn care tools etc. Commissioner Funk suggested that a liability clause be included in the rental agreement to cover the County if the dogs were injured while on the premises. Commissioner Anderson requested that Snow Property get some quotes on the costs of a utility shed and report back to the Board.
7. **Gateway West Taskforce:** The Board of County Commissioners and legal counsel Douglas J Balfour traveled to Burley for a joint meeting at the Cassia County Commissioners Chambers in Cassia County. Douglas J. Balfour reported as follows:

From: Douglas J. Balfour

Date: February 9, 2015

RE: Gateway West Meeting February 9, 2015

On February 9, 2015 Power County Commissioners Funk, Anderson and Lasley, and I traveled to a meeting with the Cassia County Commissioners and the Cassia County Gateway Task Force, held at the Cassia County Courthouse in Burley, Idaho.

Brent Stoker of the Cassia County Gateway Task Force made a presentation concerning a

recent three (3) day seminar he had attended in South Carolina, dealing with underground high voltage electric transmission lines. The initial relevance of this meeting and the visit concerned the proposal that the Power and Cassia Task Forces made to the BLM during the environmental impact process on the Gateway West Project. We requested that the BLM consider placing the electric transmission lines underground for some or all of the length, to minimize the detrimental impact upon Power and Cassia County agricultural interests. The BLM basically rejected our request and pointed out that underground transmission lines are untested and expensive.

Brent reported to the group that high voltage underground transmission lines are the leading technology in most of the world, except for the Americas. Especially in Europe all most all new electric transmission lines are underground.

The seminar was presented in South Carolina by an industry consultant.

There are three (3) factories in South Carolina that build the cables for the underground lines. The new technology has increased the ampacity ratings of underground lines and cables. The new cables are plastic coded with insulation, cross length polyethylene. The old technology, that referred to by the BLM in the Environmental Impact Statement, consisted of oil filled pipes that the electric cables were placed in. The new methods of insulation are much more efficient and pose much less environmental risk.

The manufacturers in South Carolina are building 550 kilovolt lines for installation, mostly outside the US. The technology is quickly advancing and the goal of the technology is to manufacture solid lines with a long span, as splices are very expensive.

Based upon studies Brent cited, most of the costs of the underground transmission lines are not the actual cost of the cable, but other factors including structures and other civil costs.

The costs have come down from the figures contained in the BLM EIS, but still is not as cheap as the overhead wires. Brent predicted in ten (10) years the cost of underground could be very comparable to overhead the way the costs have come down in the last few years. This is especially the case when the environmental costs and damages of overhead lines are considered.

Brent, I and Ron Funk gave a general update on the status of Gateway West. Idaho Power has now a most completely withdrawn from the idea that Gateway West is a necessary component for any power needs in Idaho. The most recent Idaho Power websites on Gateway West anticipates beginning construction of the Gateway Project, in segments, from 2019-2024. In addition, Idaho Power's long term electrical needs will be handled the Boardman to Hemingway Line which will link Idaho Power with Bonneville Power and West Coast Utilities for increased efficiencies. Combining Boardman to Hemmingway with Green Power coming online, solar and wind energy, Idaho Power will be able to serve any reasonable growth for a long time, without any new sources of power, or any reliance on Gateway.

In a related matter, the Sage Grouse analysis is continuing to progress. The main reason Power and Cassia County's preferred alternative routes were rejected was a BLM interim rule preventing infrastructure from being built in any Sage Grouse habitat. It appears that the rule will change with the BLM's Environmental Impact Statement and study of Sage Grouse in Idaho. Hopefully sometime in 2015 that EIS will come out, and Power and Cassia County's preferred routes can be revisited under the new Sage Grouse guidelines.

There was a question and answer session at the end of the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m. The Cassia Commissioners have scheduled a similar meeting and presentation for Southeast Idaho, March 5, 2015 at 11 a.m. at the Bannock County Courthouse.

Doug

8. **Transfer Station Truck:** Commissioner Funk reported that Diesel Depot delivered a truck to the Transfer Station for testing. Craig Heward reported on the status of the backhoe repair and truck feasibility. Mr. Heward is satisfied with the performance of the truck once the PTO and pump to roll tarp are installed.
9. **Problem Solving Court Personnel:** Suzanne Johnson, Sixth District Trial Court Administrator, thanked the Commission for their work and cooperation on the Memorandum of Understanding for the Problem Solving Court contract. Furthermore, she advised that the Sixth District will begin recruitment for the replacement of Sixth District Magistrate David Evans of Oneida County and will provide information to the Commission Chair as the project develops.
10. **Joint Meeting with City:** The Commission requested that Clerk Sprague contact Clerk Herndon with the City of American Falls and set up a joint meeting.
11. **Personnel Forms:** Clerk Sprague presented a salary approval form for use. Clerk Sprague inquired advised of the development of other personnel forms and job descriptions and inquired if implementation needs Commissioner approval through a motion. Following discussion, by consensus of the Board all forms shall be approved through legal counsel and the Commissioners shall be advised prior to implementation.
12. **Power County Ordinances:** Ryan Petersen advised that Planning and Zoning has passed an ordinance that will need to be calendared. Further, the County is in the process of developing new ordinances related to sexting and reported development of ordinance may require joint meetings between the City and County.

B. MOTIONS:

1. **Motion to Amend Agenda:** A Motion to amend the Agenda to include the following items was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, Motion carried and the Agenda was amended to include;
 - Airport House/Hanger
 - Landfill Truck
 - Guardianship Appointments
2. **GIS Mapping Fees:** A Motion to adopt and annual fee of \$100.00 for GIS applications and include additional term of use language of *"Power County GIS data is for your personal and business use. In Accordance with Idaho Code 31-875, this data may not be resold or further redistributed. In addition, please be aware that you cannot use any Assessor data to create a mailing list in violation of Idaho's Public Records Act, particularly Idaho Code 9-348."* on the request form and include a disclaimer on

website similar to Adams County was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, Motion carried.

3. **Shared Employee:** A Motion to authorize the Assessor and Treasurer to fill the vacant position in the Assessor's Office with a shared employee to work between the two departments was made by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, Motion Carried.
4. **Claims and Demands:** Motion to approve demands as presented was made by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, Motion Carried.

A Motion to accept the Claims Report payable to Anderson Body and Glass in the amount of \$361.40 was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Commissioner Anderson abstained from action. Following an audible call of the board, the motion carried. A detailed report is available through the Clerk's Office.

A Motion to accept the Claims Report as presented was made by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following an audible call of the board, the motion carried. The following claims were examined, approved, and ordered paid. A detailed report is available through the Clerk's Office.

Fund Description	Expenses
GENERAL FUND (CURRENT EXPENSE)	\$ 74,975.46
POWER COUNTY AMBULANCE DIST.	\$ 5,187.14
POWER COUNTY ABATEMENT DIST.	\$ 16,060.00
DISTRICT COURT	\$ 4,650.50
JUSTICE FUND	\$ 80,889.70
MISDEMEANOR PROB/DRUG COURT	\$ 270.00
ENHANCED 911 SERVICES	\$ 2,598.47
ELECTIONS	\$ 4,832.84
INDIGENT	\$ 2,799.79
REVALUATION	\$ 2,460.09
SOLID WASTE (LANDFILL)	\$ 10,887.20
WEEDS	\$ 3,169.99
WATERWAYS	\$ 145.70
PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$ 8,389.83
TOTAL	\$ 217,316.71

5. **Transfer Station Truck:** A Motion to purchase a new truck for transfer station in the amount of \$14,900.00 after trade and to have Diesel Depot install the necessary items for the roll tarp was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a Second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, Motion Carried.
6. **Guardianship Board:** A Motion to release John Beake and Debbie Crompton and appoint Luiz Perez, Jeffrey Ellis and Jennifer Rupp to the Power County Guardianship

Board was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, Motion Carried.

7. **Past Minutes:** A Motion to table approval of Past Meeting Minutes to the next meeting was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a Second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, Motion Carried.
8. **Certificate of Residency for Junior College Tuition I.C. §33-2110:** A Motion to approve the presented Applications for Certificate of Residency pursuant to I.C. §33-2110 for Junior College Tuition assistance through college of Southern Idaho was made by Commissioner Lasley with a Second by Commissioner Funk. Following an audible call of the board, the motion carried and the following applications were approved;
 - K. Krell
 - K. McClurg
 - R. McLean

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NO EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD

V. ASSESSMENTS/CONCLUSIONS:

1. **Next Meeting:** The next regular session for the board to meet is slated for February 23, 2015.
2. **Adjourn:** Having no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Board of County Commissioners during the Regular Board Meeting held March 9, 2015.



COMMISSIONER FUNK, Chairman

ATTEST:


SHAREE SPRAGUE, Clerk