



# POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**Meeting Minutes**  
*Commission Chambers*  
**543 Bannock Ave.**  
**American Falls, ID 83211**  
[www.powercounty.id.us](http://www.powercounty.id.us)

Monday, July 22, 2019, 9:00 a.m.

## I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, July 22, 2019, and called the meeting to order at the hour of 9:07 am, 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 Flor Cardona, Deputy Clerk Lissette Aguirre, Deputy Auditor Laura Carlon, Deputy Indigent Director Chelsy Fehringer, Payroll Specialist Anson Call, Legal Counsel (Via telephone)
OTHER PARTIES PRESENT:	Sheriff Jim Jefferies Treasurer Deana Curry Barbie Workman Di Jones Kathleen Elliott Kerry Hong Mitch Brown Kami Chandler Craig Heward Curtis Munk Jared Ricks Scott Nash Melanie Garbett (via telephone)

## III. AGENDA

### A. NOTICES/REPORTS

1. **Public Defense Commission Update:** Jared Ricks and Kathleen Elliott of the Public Defense Commission appeared before the Commissioners advising that they are currently public hearing stage of the negotiation process for the dependence of defense fund and reasonable equity. Commissioner Anderson inquired of the public defender workload. Mr. Ricks discussed the difference between conflicts among

defendants. Ms. Elliott reports that their office is stabilizing after some turn over and want to be more responsive. Mr. Ricks reports that he will meet with the Commissioners four times a year to provide updates. Ms. Elliott will be distributing 5.2 million in funds to the counties. The Advisory Board consist of 7 clerks. Ms. Elliott reports that they are working toward more education and hopes to have a public defender school by 2020. Commissioner Funk said he is interested in having interns in the County. Commissioner Lasley said that as elected officials they make the best decision for the county and don't let politics drive their decisions. They make administrative type decisions on what is best for Power County. The Commission expressed concern to meet the ongoing and growing mandates without adequate funding.

2. **Sixth District Court Update:** Sixth District Trial Court Administrator Kerry Hong and Administrative District Judge Mitch Brown appeared before the Commissioners to discuss Fiscal year 2020 Budget and other questions and concerns regarding court. Mr. Hong advised the Commission of upcoming assignment changes in the District. Mr. Hong encourages increased wants to have dialogue between the county and the courts. Judge Brown discussed upcoming budgetary impacts. Judge Brown said they have had to increase compensation for conflict public defenders pursuant to Administrative Order. Judge Brown advises the Administrative order sets the pay at \$85.00 an hour for routine cases and \$100.00 for high profile cases. Judge Brown encouraged the Commissioners when looking into the budget, for them to budget more for investigative expenses. The Commission recognized the need advising that they have budgeted as much as the levy could support toward the same.

#### **B. MOTIONS:**

1. **Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda for Monday, July 22, 2019, was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.
2. **Personnel Updates:** Clerk Sharee Sprague reports that impacted budget lines have been reviewed for sustainability and requests Lissette Aguirre receive a wage increase to \$29,866.20 annually or \$16.41 hourly as compensation for change of department and completion of assigned job duties. A motion to accept the increase was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the board, motion unanimously carried.
3. **Budget Approval for Publication:** Clerk Sharee Sprague presented before the Commissioners on the budget approval for publication. Clerk Sprague notes that the county will need to levy for the Abatement District this year. Clerk Sprague advises that the Power County Landfill and the Ambulance District are at the levy limit based