

POWER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

The Board of Power County Commissioners met in regular session on February 28, 2000. Present were Commissioners Kent Rudeen, Chairman, Ken Estep and Valerie Hoybjerg. Also present were Power County Clerk Christine Steinlicht and Power County Civil Attorney Rob Naftz.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Hoybjerg, seconded by Commissioner Estep, to approve the claims as submitted. Carried.

Current Expense (General)	\$ 5,233.97
Ambulance District	8,440.54
District Court	373.59
Justice Fund	2,919.38
Indigent	5.00
Revaluation	737.92
Solid Waste	57,506.55
Weeds	28.92
Waterways	112.79
PILT	9,517.80

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Community Advisory Board Members Bob Schreiber and Debbie Gist appeared before the Commissioners. The Committee is putting together a community resource manual, which they would like to make available to all Power County Juveniles via the school counselor offices at William Thomas Middle School, American Falls High School and Rockland School. Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Hoybjerg to contribute \$750.00 towards printing the Community Resource Manuals for Youth. Carried.

HARMS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT: Hospital Administrator Ron O'Halleron and Chief Financial Officer Dan Tenley appeared before the Commissioners with Hospital Board Trustee James Chapman to discuss possible County subsidy of nursing home patients in an effort to increase Medicaid reimbursement to the hospital. Following discussion, the Hospital has decided to subsidize nursing home payments through Hospital District funds.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Craig Madsen and Lisa Hensen appeared before the Commissioners to present the Southeastern District Health Department's Quarterly Report. Also present was Board member Judy Meline.

POWER COUNTY FAIRBOARD: Roger Whitnah, Power County Fairboard Chairman, appeared before the Commissioners to discuss expansion of the livestock holding pens at the fairgrounds. The Fairboard would like to use PILT Fairground Construction funds to pay for the project. Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Rudeen, to grant

the request and pay \$4,226.80 from PILT Fairground Constructions Funds to pay for the livestock holding pen expansion project. Carried.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY: Power County Security Officer Dan Thaxton appeared before the Commissioners to discuss security issues within the Courthouse. Trial Court Administrator Suzanne Johnson has suggested that we look into putting an entrance buzzer on the back door to alert employees.

BAILIFF TRAINING: Power County Court Clerk Christine Steinlicht appeared before the Commissioners to discuss bailiff training for Bailiff Dan Thaxton. Fourth District Trial Court Administrator John Traylor has put together a bailiff training session tentatively scheduled for November, 2000.

COURTHOUSE WINDOW REPLACEMENT: Commissioner Rudeen indicated that he had received a bid from Yellowstone Glass to replace Assessor and Treasurer office windows at \$425 per window. Commissioner Rudeen will also get another bid from Bennett's Glass. The Commissioners then reviewed the bid submitted by Gerry Allen for blinds in the assessor's office, which total \$415.00. The Commissioners will reconsider the bid for blinds after the windows have been installed.

JAIL EXPANSION: The Commissioners reviewed the Statement of Support submitted by Howard Sprague to accompany his grant application for jail expansion. The Commissioners will draft their own letter of support.

POWER COUNTY DRUG DOG: Commissioner Hoybjerg reported that Sheriff Sprague has asked for Commissioner support to influence businesses within Power County to allow the Power County Drug Dog to inspect business premises in order to promote Power County as a drug free county.

LAW INTERN (PROSECUTION): Prosecutor Paul Laggis appeared before the Commissioners to advise them that his new law intern, Joel Beck, will be doing legal research on behalf of Power County and will need office space made available in the courthouse. The Commissioners approved Mr. Laggis' request to allow the law intern to use the Power County law library for research.

POWER COUNTY LANDFILL/TRANSFER STATION: The Commissioners reviewed the proposed Project Work Order prepared and submitted by Cascade Earth Sciences to prepare certified drawings of a surface water control system at the Power County Landfill. CES will also assist Power County in obtaining bids from qualified construction companies, if needed, and will perform several on-site inspections of the work to insure that design criteria are being met. Moved by Commissioner Rudeen, seconded by Commissioner Hoybjerg, to approve work order to be paid from PILT property improvements. Carried.

SPRING CLEANUP: City Clerk Carol Gilson and City employee Ron

Anderson appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the City's annual Spring Cleanup, which usually takes place the last week of April or the first week of May, depending on the weather. Also present was Transfer Station Manager Craig Heward. The discussion centered on the separation of garbage before it gets hauled to the transfer station.

LANDFILL PROPERTY OFFER: The Commissioners then reviewed the letter prepared by County Attorney Naftz and Commissioner Rudeen to offer the appraised price in exchange for clear and unencumbered title to the entire landfill property. No monies will be tendered until the transfer of the property has been completed. County attorney Naftz will prepare a proposed deed.

COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE (CARPET): Commissioner Estep reported that the new extension officer will be moving into the office currently used by Curtis Munk and Curtis will move into the back. The back needs carpeted before Curtis can move. Commissioner Rudeen reported that the Ambulance building had left over carpet, which might be enough to carpet the floor in the back room of the extension office. Commissioner Hoybjerg will instruct carpenter Mike Barnard to replace the carpet up on the walls in the back room of the extension office with the thick wood paneling which is being removed from the back of the Commissioners office.

TAX CANCELLATIONS: Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Hoybjerg, to approve the Order for Cancellation of 1999 Taxes as presented by Power County Treasurer Bobbie Mauch. Carried.

AUDITOR'S REPORT: Scott Jones, Power County's independent auditor, appeared before the Commissioners to discuss Harms Memorial Hospital's audit report for Fiscal Year 1999 and the hospital's financial situation.

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

Kari Garrison, Power County Ambulance Billing, appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the Ambulance billing and accounts receivable. Also present were Power County Ambulance director Mark Love and the County's independent auditor Scott Jones. Scott Jones indicated that he has not received enough information to conduct the necessary financial audit for the Power County Ambulance District. Mr. Jones will provide Ms. Garrison with a list of the information needed in order to conduct the audit. Ms. Garrison then informed the Commissioners of the changes coming on Medicare payments for ambulance billings which the federal government intends to phase in beginning September, 2000, to become fully effective January, 2001. Because of these changes, Kari feels it is necessary to increase ambulance mileage rates to \$7.50. County Attorney Rob Naftz will prepare a proposed ordinance to increase mileage fees, which will be published and public hearing will be

held. Ms. Garrison then discussed with the Board the amounts owed by Harms Memorial Hospital to the Ambulance District.

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

POWER COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY: The Commissioners then discussed the County's policy to allow accrual of comp time for travel time necessary to attend seminars and training. Commissioner Hoybjerg then questioned whether there needs to be a policy against smoking in County vehicles.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Hoybjerg, seconded by Commissioner Estep to move into executive session for the purpose of taking up personnel matters.

CENSUS 2000: Commissioner Estep indicated that he had enlisted five volunteers to assist with the Census 2000 Questionnaire Assistance Center at the Power County Courthouse from March 8th through April 14th, 2000. Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Rudeen, to approve the Census 2000 Donation of Services and Space Agreement as presented. Carried.

Adjourned.



KENT RUDEEN, Chairman



CHRISTINE STEINLICHT, Clerk