

## POWER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

The Board of Power County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 10, 2002. Present were Commissioners Ken Estep, Chairman, Valerie Hoybjerg and Janet S. Chapman. Also present were Power County Clerk Christine Steinlicht and Power County Prosecuting Attorney Paul Laggis.

CRATERS OF THE MOON NATIONAL MONUMENT: Craters of the Moon Superintendent Jim Morris and BLM Outdoor Recreation Planner Rick Vander Voet appeared before the to discuss the American Falls community open house scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2002. Mr. Morris and Mr. Vander Voet indicated that the major area of public concern has been improving public access to the monument; however, in the meantime, visitors to the monument have been encouraged to use the North entrance. Commissioners advised Mr. Morris and Mr. Vander Voet of their concerns with increased public access, i.e. increased search and rescue, ambulance and law enforcement needs. Following discussion, the Commissioners agreed that once the BLM and the Forest Service have drafted a public access plan, the Commissioners would be better able to determine increased County needs. Mr. Vander Voet and Mr. Morris expressed their commitment to keep the Commissioners informed as a plan develops.

ELECTED OFFICIALS MEETING: Present for the Power County Elected Officials meeting were Commissioners Ken Estep, Valerie Hoybjerg and Janet S. Chapman, Power County Clerk Christine Steinlicht, Power County Assessor Doug Glascock, Power County Treasurer Bobbie Mauch, Power County Prosecuting Attorney Paul Laggis, Power County Sheriff Howard Sprague and Chief Deputy Sheriff Jim Jeffries, and Power County Coroner Bud Kelly.

COURTHOUSE/JAIL EXPANSION: The Commissioners and elected officials discussed the need for more space, particularly in the Treasurer's and Assessor's Offices. Options discussed included building on to the South side of the Courthouse or possibly moving the Assessor's office over to the Doctors Clinic. Commissioner Estep then indicated that an increase in inmate population might require the Commissioners to consider a bond election for a new jail. Sheriff Sprague and Chief Deputy Jeffries indicated that they would like to continue to monitor jail inmate populations for one year and then consider any jail expansion plans.

COUNTY EMPLOYEE MEDICAL INSURANCE BENEFITS: Commissioner Estep reported that the County's self-funded medical insurance funds have decreased dramatically over the past year, and there may be a need to increase employee contributions to stabilize the fund. The Commissioners asked for input from the other elected officials prior to any decision to increase employee or employer contributions to the Employee Medical Benefit Trust account.

AMERICAN FALLS YOUTH CENTER: Youth Center Board Member Bobbie Mauch appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the timeline for getting the Youth Center moved to the County's building at 500 Pocatello Avenue. Commissioners Chapman

advised Mrs. Mauch that she would arrange for the Youth Center Board to get into the building to begin demolition sometime this week.

CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION (CAFO) RESOLUTION: Following discussion, the Commissioners agreed that an emergency resolution limiting the size of new or existing CAFO operations in Power County is not necessary at this time. The Commissioners concluded that any increase in CAFO operations should be dealt with by the Power County Planning & Zoning Board and/or via civil proceedings between the disgruntled landowners.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER – SERVICE PROVIDER AGREEMENT: Prosecuting Attorney Laggis presented an amended Service Provider Agreement between Power County and Behavioral Health Center. Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the Service Provider Agreement between Power County and Behavioral Health Center as presented. Carried.

SUNSET AVIATION: Prosecuting Attorney Laggis advised the Commissioners that he had reviewed all Airport Board information on the previous Banvil contamination. Mr. Laggis reported that Sunset Aviation would have the duty to disclose the contamination information prior to any sale.

JOINT CITY/COUNTY MEETING: The Commissioners agreed to discuss having bi-annual meetings rather than quarterly meetings with the City of American Falls Mayor and City Council. Commissioner Estep will contact Mayor Weisenburger to set up the bi-annual schedule for joint City/County meetings.

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

General (Current Expense)	\$ 24,284.09
Ambulance	2,005.63
District Court	6,579.95
Justice Fund	28,701.07
Indigent	569.37
Revaluation	4,228.75
Solid Waste	31,410.04
Weeds	1,490.96
Waterways	4,153.05
PILT	1,197.12

Adjourned.

  
KEN ESTEP, Chairman

  
CHRISTINE STEINLICHT, Clerk