

POWER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

The Board of Power County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, October 22, 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.

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

General (Current Expense)	\$ 3,265.31
Ambulance	1,612.63
District Court	5,003.38
Justice Fund	7,050.45
Indigent	782.46
Solid Waste	14,654.61
Weeds	757.25
Waterways	450.44
PILT	61,797.34

POWER COUNTY PROBATION/COURT SERVICES: Power County Probation Office Supervisor Russ Wheatley and Parent Project Administrator Connie Shepherd appeared before the Commissioners to request that the Probation Office be allowed to utilize tobacco carry over funds to train two more Parent Project facilitators. Commissioner Hoybjerg indicated that it may be possible to bring a Parent Project facilitator training session to the State of Idaho, which would result in substantial cost savings to train facilitators. Commissioner Hoybjerg will investigate this possibility. Mr. Wheatley then requested that he and Drug Court Administrator Max Sprague be allowed to attend a substance abuse inventory program being offered in Boise on Friday, November 8, 2002, which request was granted. The Commissioners and Mr. Wheatley then reviewed the Department of Juvenile Corrections Statewide Report on Juvenile Recidivism.

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

Power County Ambulance District Director Mark Love appeared before the Commissioners to advise them that Lois Akers of Medical Solutions, the Ambulance District's billing service provider, will meet with the Commissioners on Friday, November 8, 2002, to discuss the Ambulance Districts billing services.

Mr. Love then presented the Commissioners with a copy of EMT report prepared by American Falls Ambulance District EMT Vicki Morse concerning an accident on Highway 39 and Idaho Street on October 15, 2002. Commissioner Chapman also reported that former EMT Sherry Wallace had contacted her with complaints on how the call was handled. Prosecuting Attorney Laggis reviewed the reports and indicated that the procedures followed by the Power County EMS followed the District's protocol and were not improper. Prosecutor Laggis indicated that all further complaints or grievances from Sherry Wallace or any other person regarding the incident in question, should be referred to him.

Mr. Love then presented the Commissioners with a draft Medical Control Plan, which provides for on-line medical control to be provided through the emergency room physicians at Portneuf Medical Center in Pocatello. Portneuf Medical has agreed to provide these services to Power County EMS and a formal written agreement is currently under development. Dr. Sherwin D'Souza, M.D, will provide off-line medical control for Power County EMS. Mr. Love expects to have the formal written Medical Control Plan in place by December 1, 2002, and Dr. Shaw will continue to serve as EMS Medical Director until that time.

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.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS – PREPAID LEGAL SERVICES, INC.: Bonnie Stanger and Kent Tew with Prepaid Legal Services, Inc., appeared before the Commissioners to discuss offering Power County employees the option of purchasing legal insurance via monthly premiums paid through payroll deduction. Mrs. Stanger asked for the opportunity to present a fifteen-minute or less presentation to County employees on the benefits of participating in a legal fees insurance plan. The Commissioners authorized Mrs. Stanger to contact the various County departments to discuss a time she could visit with County employees in their office.

500 POCATELLO AVENUE – AMERICAN FALLS YOUTH CENTER BOARD: Bobbie Mauch, Bob Schreiber and Gerald Fehringer of the American Falls Youth Center Board appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the renovation progress at the 500 Pocatello Avenue building. Mr. Fehringer advised the Commissioner that he had removed the ceiling tiles in the Youth Center portion of the building, and the Commissioners advised Mr. Fehringer that any further demolition should be done only if the workers were wearing dust masks. Commissioner Chapman indicated that she had informed the SCILD crew to use dusk masks while they are working in American Legion Building. The Commissioners and Youth Center Board agreed that all costs of renovating the Youth Center portion of the building should be paid by Power County from PILT funds and then the Youth Center Board could reimburse the PILT fund for any of the renovation costs that they are responsible for. The Commissioners advised the Youth Center Board that a heating and cooling systems is scheduled to be installed in the building. The Youth Center Board expressed their desire to get all plumbing and

electrical work done in that portion of the building so that they can get to work on the walls. The Commissioners then contacted Gary Ferguson of BGM Builders and Pete Ramsey of Ramsey Electric Repair by telephone. Both Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Ramsey will meet the Commissioners and Youth Center Board at the 500 Pocatello Avenue Building tomorrow morning at 9:00 o'clock a.m. to work up quotes for construction and electrical work. The Commissioners will also continue to make contact with Les Howell of Howell Plumbing to obtain a quote for any plumbing repairs needed. Commissioners discussed the possibility of hiring Gary Thomson as the primary contact person during these renovations. Commissioner Estep will discuss this with Mr. Thomson. The Commissioners advised the Youth Center Board that they have not yet received any reports from architects Myers & Anderson.

IDAHO ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES – CAPITAL CRIMES BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Hoybjerg, to vote for Latah County Commissioner Jack Nelson to serve as the At-Large representative on the Capital Crimes Joint Powers Board of Directors. Carried. Clerk Steinlicht will return the ballot to the Idaho Association of Counties.

THREE RIVERS RC&D – CLOUD SEEDING: Commissioner Estep reported that he had discussed cloud seeding options with Paula Jones at Three Rivers RC&D. Commissioner Estep would like to have topographical maps analyzed to determine which parts of the County might benefit from cloud seeding. Commissioners Hoybjerg and Chapman questioned whether cloud seeding had been proven to be a credible program.

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT – WEST NILE FLU VIRUS: The Commissioners discussed the possibility of the West Nile Virus being introduced into Idaho and the potential costs of implementing a mosquito abatement program in Power County. The Commissioners agreed that the Bureau of Reclamation, the State of Idaho, Power County and the City of American Falls should cooperate in any mosquito abatement program. This matter will be addressed at the next joint City/County meeting. Commissioner Hoybjerg reported that the Idaho Association of Counties is putting together a task force to investigate mosquito abatement in Idaho.

WEEDS – BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT: Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to approve the amended weed assistance agreement #DAA000205 between Power County and the Bureau of Land Management as presented. Carried.

COUNTY BOARDS: The Commissioners discussed the appointments to be made in January, 2003, to the various County Boards. The Commissioners instructed Clerk Steinlicht to publish a notice of the County Boards that will have vacancies to be filled in January, 2003.

DISASTER DECLARATION – EMERGENCY FARM SERVICE AGENCY DROUGHT ASSISTANCE: Commissioner Estep reported that he had been contacted by Norm Wright of the Power County Farm Service Agency requesting that the Board of

Power County Commissioners petition Dirk Kempthorne, the Governor of the State of Idaho, to request that the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture declare Power County, Idaho, to be a drought disaster area and eligible for any assistance relating thereto. This matter will be referred to Prosecuting Attorney Laggis to prepare a proposed Petition.

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPPA): Clerk Steinlicht reported that she had completed the HIPPA extension application process as suggested by the Idaho Association of Counties. Commissioner Hoybjerg reported that Idaho Association of Counties is working on a task force to assist the Counties in implementing the HIPPA standards.

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

POWER COUNTY LANDFILL/TRANSFER STATION: Commissioner Estep reported that there is a landfill administrators association meeting in Arco, Idaho, tomorrow morning; however, Power County Landfill Supervisor Craig Heward is unable to attend. Following discussion, the Commissioners agreed that Mr. Heward should attend the meeting via speaker telephone if possible. The Commissioners reached Mr. Heward by telephone and requested that he make the necessary arrangements to call in to the meeting.

COMMUNITY BUILDING – FAIRGROUNDS: Commissioner Estep reported that construction is underway on the new Community Building at the Fairgrounds.

POWER COUNTY COURT SERVICES OFFICER: The Commissioners reviewed the employee evaluation on Court Services Officer Max Sprague presented by Power County Probation Office/Court Services Office Supervisor Russ Whealtes. Moved by Commissioner Estep, seconded by Commissioner Chapman, to remove Power County Court Services Officer Max Sprague from introductory employment probation. Carried.

Adjourned.


KEN ESTEP, Chairman


CHRISTINE STEINLICHT, Clerk