

POWER COUNTY COMMISSIONER MINUTES

The Board of Power County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, December 15, 2003. Present were Commissioners Ken Estep, Chairman, Vicki L. Meadows and Ray Zimmerman. Also present were Power County Clerk Christine Steinlicht and Power County Prosecuting Attorney Paul Laggis.

APPLICATION FOR HARDSHIP EXEMPTION (I.C. #63-711): American Falls Theater Guild, Inc., Treasurer Amy Wynn appeared before the Commissioners to request that the 2003 Real Property taxes owing on the Katherine Davis Little Theater, parcel #RPA0749-00 in the amount of \$1,169.30 be forgiven pursuant to I.C. #63-711. Upon review of the evidence and testimony presented, it was moved by Commissioner Meadows, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman, to forgive the 2003 real property taxes owing on Parcel #RPA0749-00 in the amount of \$1,169.30 pursuant to I.C. #63-711. Carried.

500 POCATELLO AVENUE – RENOVATIONS: Architect Ken Douglass appeared before the Commissioners to report on the construction progress at the 500 Pocatello Avenue building. The Youth Center portion is nearly complete and ready for fire extinguishers to be installed. Construction Supervisor Jim Harveston then appeared before the Commissioners and the Commissioners presented him with a list of the finishing work that needs to be completed prior to occupancy.

SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Ed Marugg and Lisa Hill of the Southeastern District Health Department appeared before the Commissioners to present the Department's annual report for fiscal year 2003.

ENHANCED 911 DISPATCH CENTER: Power County Chief Deputy Sheriff Jim Jeffries appeared before the Commissioners to discuss adding a third dispatch station in the Power County Sheriff's Dispatch Center. Deputy Sheriff Jeffries will provide the Commissioners with cost estimates for upgrading the dispatch center. This matter was tabled until January 5, 2004.

AMERICAN FALLS YOUTH CENTER BOARD – 500 POCATELLO AVENUE LEASE: American Falls Youth Center Board members Jason Henderson, Gerald Fehringer, Bob Schreiber, Bobbie Mauch and Jane Mehlhaff appeared before the Commissioners to review and execute the Lease Agreement for 2004. The Youth Center Board is planning an open house sometime in January, 2004, and the Commissioners expressed their desire to assist with that. The Commissioners and Youth Center Board then discussed other potential uses of the Youth Center area of the Building.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – EASTERN POWER COUNTY: Commissioners Estep, Meadows and Prosecuting Attorney Laggis reported on the Economic Development Meeting they attended with the Pocatello Mayor and City Council regarding economic development within the common boundaries of Power County and the City of Pocatello. The Commissioners asked Prosecuting Attorney Laggis to research Tax Increment Financing District laws. This matter was tabled until January 5, 2004.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the claims as presented, amended and supplemented. Carried.

General	\$ 6,902.55
Ambulance	6,858.79
District Court	3,430.59
Justice	12,006.15
Indigent	692.08
Revaluation	1,836.00
Solid Waste	15,931.63
Weeds	1,769.02
Waterways	151.10
PILT	35,203.71

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO – POWER COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE: District #4 Extension Director Jim Schaffer appeared before the Commissioners with Power County Extension agent Stan Gortsema to discuss the extension program in Eastern Idaho and particularly Power County.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (I.C. #67-2345): Moved by Commissioner Meadows, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman, to move into executive session pursuant to I.C. #67-2345 for the purpose of taking up personnel issues. Carried.

HARMS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL: Harms Memorial Hospital Administrator Bob Brummond appeared before the Commissioners to present the Hospital's Financial Information Packet for September, 2003.

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

HARMS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BILLINGS: Power County Ambulance District Director Mark Love appeared before the Commissioners with Lois Akers of Medical Solutions to discuss outstanding ambulance billings owed by Harms Memorial Hospital. At the outset, Hospital Financial Officer Sandi Licause presented the hospital's accounting summary for the outstanding ambulance billings. Ms. Akers indicated that Medical Solutions and Harms Memorial are now successfully coordinating billings to prevent Medicare and Medicaid billing problems in the future. The hospital indicated that they would immediately pay the \$510.00 owing from November 4, 2002; however,

they are waiting for additional information from Portneuf Regional prior to billing the charges from October 21, 2002, February 7, 2003 and March 22, 2003. The Hospital is still negotiating with Medicare on the payments owing from September 13, 2002. The dispute between the Power County Ambulance District and Harms Memorial is on the charges from February 1, 2001, May 23, 2001, and September 7, 2001, which are all past the due date for Medicare billings and following discussion, Mr. Brummond and the Commissioners agreed to split the loss on those accounts.

MEDICAL SOLUTIONS CONTRACT: Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner Meadows, to approve the Service Contract Agreement for Billing Services from January 1, 2004, through June, 30, 2005, between Power County Ambulance District and Medical Solutions as presented. Carried.

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

DISASTER SERVICES – TRI-COUNTY/TRIBAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Power County Disaster Services Director Mark Love appeared before the Commissioners to advise them that Shoshone-Bannock Tribal Attorney Paul Echohawk is reviewing the Tri-County/Tribal Memorandum of Understanding and may be requesting changes. This matter was tabled until January 5, 2004.

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

INDIGENT CASE #2004-03-I: Moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner Meadows, to deny indigent medical application #2004-03-I since applicant is not a resident and also since application was processed as incomplete. Carried.

INDIGENT CASE #2004-04-I: Moved by Commissioner Meadows, seconded by Commissioner Estep, to approve indigent medical application #2004-04-I. Carried.

POWER COUNTY BUILDING ADMINISTRATOR: Power County Building Administrator Richard Wiles appeared before the Commissioners to present his building permit collections report and activity log sheets for November, 2003.

CONFINED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION (CAFO) ORDINANCE: Power County Planning & Zoning Administrator Richard Wiles appeared before the Commissioners to advise that the Power County Planning & Zoning Board had adopted a proposed CAFO ordinance for the Commissioners review. The Commissioners agreed that they would like to conduct a work session with the Power County Planning & Zoning Board

members during their regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 6th, 2004, at 7:00 p.m.

THREE RIVERS RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT: Project Director Paula Jones from Three Rivers Resource Conservation & Development appeared before the Commissioners to present their 2002-2003 Fire Needs and Capabilities Assessment of Power County, a copy of which has also been furnished to Disaster Services Director Mark Love for use in preparing the County's Fire Mitigation Plan. Ms. Jones then presented a topographical map showing the favorable areas within Power County to place cloud seeding generators. Cloud seeding expert Tim Henderson from California will be in Idaho next spring and is willing to meet with the Power County Commissioners to further discuss the potential benefits of cloud seeding. The Commissioners asked Ms. Jones to let them know when Mr. Henderson's travel arrangements and itinerary had been finalized and a meeting could be scheduled.

WEED ENFORCEMENT PROCEEDINGS: The Commissioners reviewed a copy of the written summary of the meeting between Power County FSA, Brent and Merrill Walker and Power County Weed Supervisor Curtis Munk regarding the condition of grass and noxious weeds on the Spring Creek Ranch property owned by the Walkers. The Commissioners agreed that the agreement reached between the parties, if followed, would prevent Power County from initiating any separate weed enforcement actions against the Walkers at this time.

COUNTY BOARD APPOINTMENTS: The Commissioners then discussed the appointments that need to be made to the various County Boards. This matter was tabled until January 5, 2004.

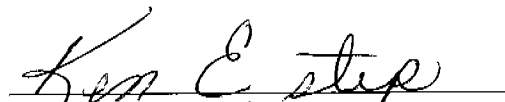
WESTERN BENEFITS SOLUTIONS – EMPLOYEE MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN: The Commissioners reviewed the medical plan submitted by John Guston of Western Benefits Solutions and agreed to continue to maintain the County's self-funded plan at this time.

IDAHO COUNTIES RECIPROCAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (ICRMP): Prosecuting Attorney Laggis indicated that Jim McNall of ICRMP will be traveling through American Falls on January 14th and will present supervisor training to County and City elected officials and supervisors. The Commissioners agreed all taxing districts should be invited to attend. Prosecutor Laggis will coordinate an agenda with Mr. McNall.

AMERICAN FALLS-ABERDEEN GROUND WATER DISTRICT: Tim Deeg of the American Falls-Aberdeen Ground Water District appeared before the Commissioners to discuss the American Falls-Aberdeen Ground Water District's efforts to expand Water District #120 to include all of Power County. Mr. Deeg and the Commissioners agreed that countywide groundwater regulation through Water District #120 might prevent ground water usage problems in the future.

QUARTERLY JAIL INSPECTION: The Commissioners then conducted their quarterly inspection of the Power County Jail.

Adjourned.


KEN ESTEP, Chairman


CHRISTINE STEINLICHT, Clerk