



POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes
Commission Chambers
543 Bannock Ave.
American Falls, ID 83211
www.powercounty.id.us

Monday, June 28, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 28, 2021, and called the meeting to order at the hour of 9:01 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 (Zoom) Chelsy Fehringer, Chief Deputy Clerk Flor Cardona, Deputy Clerk Lissette Aguirre, Deputy Clerk Cathy Miles, Deputy Auditor Anson Call, Legal Counsel
OTHER PARTIES PRESENT:	Erica Farnes Marria Gabriel Shantay Bloxham Daniel Moore Chet Taylor Lee Dille Bob Schreiber Assessor Mary Annen Terrel Sorensen Chief Deputy Assessor Laura Porath Chief Deputy Assessor Kirk Mottishaw Building Administrator Andi Higgins Jeff Rankin Gary Sorrells Josh Mansfield (Zoom) Sheriff Josh Campbell Chief Deputy Sheriff Kasey Kendall Gilbert Hofmeister

III. AGENDA

A. NOTICES/REPORTS

1. **Building Administrator/Weed Control Update**: Building Administrator Andi Higgins advised Kim Piper is studying for her commercial license and has already obtained her residential license. Ms. Higgins advised the Lamb Weston project is moving along. Ms.

Higgins advised the feed lot has paid the fees and met all conditions and advised the feed lot is running a lot of cattle and is a huge supporter of the 4-H Program. Ms. Higgins advised the Old Hill Top Motel is being renovated and advised Jeff Nelson told her the Old Hill Top Motel is within City limits.

Ms. Higgins advised the Russian Olive Ordinance is stalled at the Legislature and advised they are trying to limit the sales and purchase of them.

Ms. Higgins advised she purchased the trailer for the 4 wheelers. The Commission agreed to repurpose the old trailer for Facilities Manager Chet Taylor.

The Commission approved a written letter be mailed to the parents of the children who have been playing outside the County facilities. The Commission directed Ms. Higgins to clarify the city impact area to determine if the Old Hill Top Motel is under the jurisdiction of the City or County. The Commission further directed that if the County has jurisdiction to act according to permitting and inspection ordinances.

2. **Extension Office:** Terrell Sorensen, Extension Agent advised they finished the 3 day 4-H Camp last month and advised they had a good turnout. Mr. Sorensen advised 25 kids were from Power County.

Mr. Sorensen advised they have more 4-H leaders including cooking and sewing programs.

B. MOTIONS:

1. **Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda for Monday, June 28, 2021, was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.
2. **Cemetery Water:** Legal Counsel Anson Call advised Conrad Isaak emailed the quit claim deed for review for the water rights and advised that once the second portion of the payment is made then the quit claim deed will be executed. A motion to move forward and transfer the remaining funds to Alliance Title was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.
3. **Building & Grounds:** Clerk Sharee Sprague advised she would like to have access to the old Public Defenders office for election storage and advised if it's approved the locks should be changed. Clerk Sprague advised Chet Taylor, Facilities Manager would like to use the shed for storage and advised she would like to use the Payne House garage for all destruction of records and surplus items. Chet Taylor advised he has requested quotes for a steel door for the garage. A motion to relocate the election equipment to the old Public Defender's Office and use the 569 Bannock Ave. for destruction of records and surplus items and authorize Mr. Taylor put appropriate doors & locks, was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

Lee Dille, Design Place Engineer presented the plans for the courthouse front entrance. The Commission agreed to schedule a bid opening on July 19, 2021. A motion to authorize Lee Dille to move forward with the bidding process for the front entrance project and to include the finalizing of the electrical aspect was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

4. **Personnel Update:** Deputy Clerk Flor Cardona reports that Denise Ralphs has terminated from the Sheriff's Office. Ms. Cardona advises that the employee is eligible for separation benefits as follows;

- 9.5 hours of Compensation pay for a total of \$179.65
- 69.4 hours of Vacation pay for a total of \$1,312.35
- 32 hours worked during the last payroll for a total of \$605.12
- Employee is eligible for (0) month(s) COBRA Insurance Coverage through the County

A motion to approved the payout for Denise Ralphs was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

Ms. Cardona advised the Power County Ambulance hired a part-time paid per call employee, Sarah Miller and request that Ms. Miller receive compensation for calls. A motion to approved the salary rate approval for Sarah Miller was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

Chief Deputy Clerk Chelsy Fehringer presented a list of employees with vacation overage that was not used by June 27, 2021, in accordance with the extension from December 31, 2020 previously authorized by the Commission. A motion to forfeit the vacation balances as reported was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

Chief Deputy Clerk Chelsy Fehringer advised the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) unemployment Fund annual report was provided and advised the reserve account is at 16.08% and advised the Commission can choose to accept a rebate of \$17,374.53 or choose to leave the funds in the account. A motion to roll over the funds with the State was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

5. **Treasurer Updates:** Treasurer Deanna Curry presented the Board of Commissioners with a LGIP monthly statement, Treasurer's Cash Report ending May 31, 2021. Reports were discussed and reviewed by the Board and following discussion, a motion to accept the reports was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, motion unanimously carried.
6. **Estoppel Certificate:** A motion to authorize Commission Chair Ron Funk sign the Estoppel Certificate with Zions Bank for Lance Funk Farms to obtain a loan to secure his

properties at the American Falls Airport was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

7. **Landfill Update:** Landfill Supervisor Jeff Rankin advised the contract with Southern Idaho Solid Waste is up for renewal in September and advised the rates are going up. Legal Counsel Anson Call advised he will review the contract.

Clerk Sharee Sprague advises that the current cost thru Verizon for the county cell phone was \$41.74 at the highest month for this Fiscal year, dependent on taxes incurred. Clerk Sprague advises that all other Department Heads/Elected Officials that are get reimbursed for personal cell phones are receiving \$45/month. If the Commission authorizes monthly reimbursement at the same rate, the county would incur approximately \$39.12 extra per year and the budget line has been analyzed and can sustain such expense. Clerk Sprague advises that GASB standards direct public entities to utilize the lowest possible impact to the taxpayer. Clerk Sharee Sprague recommends that the cell phone reimbursement policy/allotment be re-evaluated and all reimbursements be the same as the cost to the county to provide a cell phone and allow for taxes and would recommend the allotment be set at \$42.00. The Commission tabled the discussion.

A motion was presented to purchase the 2007 Freightliner M2 Water Truck for \$48,000 from Global Remarketing contingent upon inspection of Jeff Rankin by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

8. **Search & Rescue Fuel Card:** Sheriff Josh Campbell advised Search & Rescue Commander Vince Harris would like 3 fuel cards; 1 for the Commander, 1 for the second Commander and one for the office. Sheriff Campbell advised Search & Rescue had 2 Wex Bank fuel cards previously. A motion to authorize 3 fuel cards with pins assigned upon receipt of a listing of volunteers from the Commander was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.
9. **Convene as Ambulance District Board at 3:02 pm:** A motion to adjourn as the Power County Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Power County Ambulance District Board was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.
10. **Power County Ambulance Administration & Financial Report:** Kami Chandler appeared before the Board and presented the accounts receivable reports from Amerimax for the date ending May 31, 2021. Following discussion, a motion to accept the Financial Reports as submitted was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.

A motion to approved a 15% discount on case no. 4281 by recommendation of the staff from \$826.00 to \$702.10 as long as it is paid in full within 30 days was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

Ambulance Chief Di Jones advised they have lost more personnel due to people moving away for other jobs. Chief Jones advised she has 4-part time employees that are handling all shifts and has a reduction in back up.

Commissioner Lasley advised he would like to receive the evaluation report from the State rather than meeting with them.

11. **Reconvene as Board of County Commissioners at 3:38 pm:** A motion to adjourn as the Power County Ambulance District Board and reconvene as the Power County Commissioners was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.
12. **Claims:** A motion to approve Anderson Auto Body Claim in the amount of \$55.00 was presented by Commissioner Lasley, with a second by Commissioner Funk. Commissioner Anderson abstained. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. A motion to approve the claims approval report in the amount of \$624,084.88 was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried. Upon approval of the Board, the summary of claims paid are as follows;

FUND	Paid
0001 GENERAL FUND (CURRENT EXPENSE)	\$ 177,375.87
0003 FAIR BOARD	\$ 2,450.00
0004 POWER COUNTY AMBULANCE DIST.	\$ 3,300.96
0006 DISTRICT COURT	\$ 61,150.28
0008 JUSTICE FUND	\$ 108,138.77
0009 DRUG COURT	\$ 1,734.40
0010 ENHANCED 911 SERVICES	\$ 41,650.00
0015 ELECTIONS	\$ 186.58
0016 INDIGENT	\$ 828.61
0017 JUNIOR COLLEGE TUITION	\$ 2,900.00
0023 SOLID WASTE (LANDFILL)	\$ 4,873.74
0027 WEEDS	\$ 86,630.68
0038 WATERWAYS	\$ 835.72
0050 PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$ 132,084.85
Total Amount Paid	\$ 624,139.88

13. **Board of Equalization (BOE)/Tax Exemptions:** Assessor Mary Annen presented three casualty loss exemptions for tax year 2021 on the following parcels;

Name	Parcel No.
Brad Huse	RPD 1260-00

Larry England	RPD 1256-00
Adan & Gloria Hernandez	RPA 1141-00

Upon recommendation of Assessor Annen a motion to exempt the taxes on RPD 1260-00 based upon the tragedy that occurred was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Commissioner Funk abstained. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

A motion to exempt the taxes on RPA 1256-00 based upon the tragedy that occurred was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

A motion to exempt the taxes on RPA 1141-00 based upon the tragedy that occurred was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

C. POINTS OF ORDER:

1. **SEICCA Budget Hearing:** Shantay Bloxham, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) advised she is requesting the same budget amount as last year. Marria Gabriel advised that the Power County office has helped 28 households with the indigent funds and used less last year because they utilized other funding streams. Ms. Gabriel advised the homeless prevention utilized \$3,027 for rent payments and helped 14 families and advised they helped 4 families with deposits to move into housing. Ms. Gabriel also advised they helped 5 families with utility assistance with city water. Ms. Gabriel advised they received CARES act funding.
2. **Youth Center Update:** Mary Annen and Bob Schreiber came before the Commission requesting the Commission allow the Youth Center be rented for additional revenue. The Commission advised they would like a formal written presentation and need to be advised of what the capacity is.
3. **Superior Physical Therapy:** Josh Mansfield from Superior Physical Therapy advised they would like to negotiate rent to rent next to Dr. Williams Office. Mr. Mansfield advised they would like to provide outpatient physical therapy 2 times per week possibly Tuesdays and Thursdays. Commissioner Funk advised the Commission agreed to \$450 a month for the use of the space for 2 days a week. Commissioner Funk advised the lease is an annual lease with the ability to opt out with notice. Mr. Mansfield advised the will reach back to the Commission.
4. **Emergency Management:** Chief Di Jones advised all COVID-19 meetings are cancelled. Chief Jones advised there is 1 active case in the County.

Chief Jones advised she should be receiving the after-action report on the Cold Creek Fire and hopefully copy of report would be available in the next month. Chief Jones advised they had an evacuation location during the Cold Creek fire at the high school. Ms. Jones advised the community brought in food and water for everyone. Ms. Jones advised she would like the ambulance phones that are with Verizon to be switched to

AT & T for better reception in Rockland. Ms. Jones advised she will look and compare prices and present to the Commission.

5. **Indigent Claims**: By consensus of the Board, Indigent claims were tabled to July 2 2021.
6. **Approval of Past Meeting Minutes**: Meeting Minutes for June 14, 2021 and June 23, 2021 were tabled to July 12, 2021.
7. **Great Rift Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**: By consensus of the Board, the MOU was tabled to July 12 2021.
8. **Gateway Project**: By consensus of the Board, the project was tabled to July 12, 2021.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. **Executive Personnel Session I.C. 74-206(1)(b) 11:17 am**: A motion to enter into executive session to consider personnel actions pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Clerk Sharee Sprague conducted roll call on the motion;
 - Commissioner Funk, AYE
 - Commissioner Lasley, AYE
 - Commissioner Anderson, AYEFollowing roll call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Upon conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Funk declared the meeting open at 11:41 am.
2. **Executive Session pursuant to I.C. §74-206 3:07 pm**: A motion to enter into executive session pursuant to I.C. §74-206, to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code, specifically indigent medical applications was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Clerk Sharee Sprague conducted roll call on the motion;
 - Commissioner Funk, AYE
 - Commissioner Lasley, AYE
 - Commissioner Anderson, AYEFollowing roll call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Upon conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Funk declared the meeting open at 3:17 pm.
3. **Executive Indigent Session pursuant to I.C. §74-206 5:16 pm**: A motion to enter into executive session pursuant to I.C. §74-206, to consider records that are exempt from disclosure under Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code, specifically indigent medical applications was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Clerk Sharee Sprague conducted roll call on the motion;
 - Commissioner Funk, AYE
 - Commissioner Lasley, AYE
 - Commissioner Anderson, AYEFollowing roll call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Upon conclusion of discussion, Commissioner Funk declared the meeting open at 5:32 pm.

V. ASSESSMENTS/CONCLUSIONS:

1. **Next Meeting:** The next regular session for the board to meet is slated for July 12, 2021, 2021.
2. **Adjourn:** Having no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 pm.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Board of County Commissioners during the Regular Board Meeting held September 13, 2021.



COMMISSIONER FUNK, Chairman

ATTEST:



FLOR CARDONA, Deputy Clerk