



POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

Monday, August 11, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in Emergency session Thursday, August 11, 2022, and called the meeting to order at the hour of 9:00 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
Chelsy Fehringer, Chief Deputy Clerk
Casey Annen, Deputy Clerk
Laura Porath, Assessor
Chet Taylor, Facilities Manager
Nate Cuoio, Legal Counsel

OTHER PARTIES PRESENT: None

III. AGENDA

A. MOTIONS:

1. **Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda for Thursday, August 11 2022, was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Chairman Funk states the reason he called for this emergency meeting was due to the urgency in getting an Ad put together for the new director of the ambulance services into the next edition of The Press with a publication deadline today at noon. Commissioner Anderson rescinds his previous motion to approve the agenda and moves to amend the agenda to include an emergency Board of Equalization (BOE) session on the grounds that the State Tax Commission recommends a correction to the valuation on a property and its taxes thru the BOE was presented would be most appropriate by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the board, Motion unanimously carried.
2. **Convene as Board of Equalization at 11:26 am:** A motion to adjourn as the Power County Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Power County Board of Equalization was

presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

3. **BOE Hearing:** Assessor Laura Porath advised that in December JK Merrill was placed on to the tax roll as transient property as the majority of their equipment does not leave the county. Pursuant to legislation lead by Representative Moyle, the definition of State Code 63-602KK was amended, which would now exempt all of JK Merill's property. By advisement of the State Tax Commission Assessor Porath requested the BOE reopen and remove JK Merill from the tax rolls and close the BOE. Assessor Porath reports corrected abstract will then be submitted to the State. Commissioner Anderson inquires on how much the evaluation was lost. Assessor Porath reports the removal equates to \$1.6 million dollars of value. Elected Clerk Sharee Sprague reports that statute requires a motion for extension of the Board of Equalization be granted by the State Tax Commission, which was filed and an order granting the same was received by Commissioner Tom Katsilometes this morning allowing Power County to reconvene no later than today and directing the Power County Clerk to resubmit abstract values to the state by tomorrow. Commissioner Lasley clarifies the discussion is about the rock crushing and gravel pit that is out in the industrial area. Commissioner Lasley states there are others that have a rock crushing pit and inquires if they have been corrected as well. Assessor Porath reports that to her knowledge all the other parcels were corrected, with the exception of this one. Commissioner Anderson clarifies with Assessor Porath that the \$1.6 million is for just equipment and has nothing to do with the property value. Assessor Porath clarifies that it appears the parcel has been classified as agriculture and receiving a big exemption for the last 10 years. Assessor Porath states that when that error was found it was corrected to commercial and added, but the change in the definition now exempts. Assessor Porath reports the State is aware of the history this parcel. Assessor Porath advises that the state abstract will show on Power County's section 56 Construction Equipment which was at \$1,673,000.00 and will now be at zero. Assessor Porath reports there is some equipment valued at \$16,000.00, however, would be exempt under \$250,000.00 exemption limit. Once a motion is made a decision needs to be sent to JK Merill. Upon the recommendation of the Assessor and the Clerk and the changes in the Idaho Statutes a motion to exempt JK Merill's property identified in parcel number PPD 0213-00 with a valuation of \$1,673,000.00 was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the board, motion unanimously carried. Upon conclusion, Commissioner Funk closed the BOE.
4. **Reconvene as Board of County Commissioners at 11:39 am:** A motion to adjourn as the Power County Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Power County Commissioners was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.
5. **Ambulance Services:** The Commission discussed the details to be included in the Director of Ambulance Services Ad for publication. The Commission discussed the viability of separating the Emergency Management role from the Ambulance Chief position, with no motions to finalize. Commissioner Funk reported on discussion with a candidate to take on the Emergency Management portion of that position, however, it may not be viable for later. Commissioner Funk advises that Frances Beitia advised of some upcoming grants and requested some assistance getting the grants finished while she gets settled in her new job. Commissioner Funk requested Commissioner Anderson reach out to SEICOG to coordinate assistance, and Commissioner Anderson concurred. Commissioner Funk invited opinions on waiting until the new ems director is chosen. Commissioner Lasley wants to separate the duties between separate people and discontinue the dual role. Commissioner Funk states that there has always been a second in command or deputy for the Emergency Services position.