



POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

Monday, February 27, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, February 27, 2023, 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 Casey Annen, Deputy Clerk Cathy Miles, Deputy Auditor Jason Mackrill, Legal Counsel
OTHER PARTIES PRESENT:	Andi Higgins Bob Wetzel Brandon Collins Britney Herrgesell Deanna Curry Doran Lambson Frances Beitia Gilbert Hofmeister Jeff Rankin Josh Campbell Paul Laggis Laura Porath Nate Cuoio Nathan Anderson Patrick Sullivan Ron Anderson Ryan Robinson Stace Gearhart Wade Povey

III. AGENDA

A. NOTICES/REPORTS

1. **Fish & Game MOU:** The Power County Highway District Commissioners along with The Power County Waterways Board met with commissioners to discuss the Fish & Game MOU along with concerns presented of the Pipeline Access. The Waterways Board and the Power County Highway District has been working with Fish & Game and discussed the option of fencing off along the property line with a Buck Rail Fence to make the area look better. This would delineate a clear boundary as to make the property line more visible. The land owner's current property fence is down in multiple areas. The Waterways has an agreement with the Highway District to utilize the easement. The Waterways has an agreement with the Bureau of Land

Management to take care of the boat docks and restrooms. The waterways department checks the grounds twice a week. The Highway District maintains the access road. The waterways discussed designated campgrounds and fire rings to make the area more viable. The waterways board is highly concerned about the area closing for the many sportsman in the area that use this land. All parties agree the area should be open for public access for the residence of Power County. Commissioner Funk inquires how big of a problem are the items listed of concerns and if they are occurring right now. Waterways Chairman Ron Anderson states he has been more involved with randomly driving in the area checking the area periodically and have not acknowledged this activity. Waterways explained they did have a transient that overstayed the County Ordinance 14 day, stay by a few days and the Waterways was able to get the transient to move along. It is reported this is not a frequent occurrence. Upon further discussion, the parties agreed to hold another meeting after which time legal counsel has had time to review the materials provided to them today.

2. **Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections:** District 6 Liaison Stace Gearhart presented the IDJC update. In Power County 24 youths were arrested in 2022. There were 9 youth admitted into an Idaho detention facility excluding IDJC holds and out of state youths. This number is down from 2021. Total Youth Petitions filed in 2022 totaled 36. Seven (7) Felony charges were filed in Power County which is lower than those filed in 2021. Thirty-Eight (38) Misdemeanor charges were filed which was an increase from eighteen (18) in 2021. Seven (7) Status Offense were filed and is a decrease from the (14) in 2021. Power County has a 100% Probation Success Rate. The Average youth offender in Power County in 2022 was a 14-16-year-old Hispanic male. 96% were Male and 4% of offenders were female. 52% Hispanic, 41% White, 4% Black or African American & 4% American Indian or Alaskan Native. A total of 661 Hours of Community service was completed in 2022. Mr. Gearhart states this is fantastic to see in our County. Youth in State Custody (Facilities) totaled only 1 this year. Mr. Gearhart reports that Jv Probation Director Britney Herrgesell has done a fantastic job of utilizing local resources and is very impressed. Diversion cases are listed as 0 due to not being able to give a completely accurate number. The program will be up and running soon. Mr. Gearhart states that the IJAWS system is moving to a web-based system instead of the current format. Previously rural counties use VPN and it has not worked well. Juvenile Probation Secretary Jessica Deagle is spending 15 minutes to upload one or two documents. The new web-based system will be a more seamless process. Mr. Gearhart reports both Britney and Jessica have been utilizing the system to its full capacity. The reports going forward should be excellent as well. Mr. Gearhart reports they are looking into having the restitution number being taken out of the annual report. The restitution amount does not indicate if it is a good number or bad number as there is no additional information to compare it to. The State of Idaho is contributing 24% of the Juvenile Justice Budget.
3. **Legislative Update Pat Sullivan:** Lobbyist Pat Sullivan reported during the last session at this time there were 368 bills introduced this session we have 337 bills introduced. So far, the Governor has signed eight (8) bills. Everything seems to be starting to move along but there was a little delay in getting going. The commission will give Mr. Sullivan a list of bills they would like to receive updates on and Mr. Sullivan will give a status update on those bills. Mr. Sullivan reports there are a lot of people showing interest and concern on property tax reform.

B. MOTIONS:

1. **Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda for Monday, February 27, 2023, was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.