



POWER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

Monday, May 8, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, May 8, 2023, and called the meeting to order at the hour of 9:03 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 Cathy Miles, Deputy Auditor Nate Cuoio, Legal Counsel	
OTHER PARTIES PRESENT:	Assessor Laura Porath Treasurer Deanna Curry EMS Chief Kristi Permann Chester Taylor Steve Stringham Francisca Vidales Maggie Mann	Tyler Butler Chris Petersen Kim Obele Mike Taylor JP Kruckeburg Dan Bartel Clint Bastian
CITY OF AMERICAN FALLS:	Mayor Rebekah Sorensen Chief Brandon Wilkinson	Jason Povey

III. AGENDA

A. NOTICES/REPORTS

1. **IT Update:** IT Director Steve Stringham appeared before the Commission and reported that he has disconnected the Veteran Service Officer (VSO) cell phone and is working with the county phone provider to set up a dedicated number that would automatically forward to the VSO's cell phone. There will be some required set-up to make this work, however the monthly fee would be less than \$15.00. Mr. Stringham advised that once we are on FirstNet, he will be installing an app on the Emergency Management Service (EMS) director's phone that would allow push to talk radio

communication at a \$10.00 monthly fee. Mr. Stringham updated the board on VSO setup, copier leases, planning and zoning virtual meeting set-up, museum needs, FirstNet transitioning and software evaluation. Mr. Stringham provided connectivity options for law enforcement and upon conclusion, the Commission directed Mr. Stringham to collaborate with the Sheriff clarifications and best recommendation to move forward.

2. **US Forest Service Wild Fires:** US Forest Service District Ranger Kim Obele, District Ranger, USDA Forest Service Westside District appeared before the commission to discuss wildfire management coordination on Power County and US Forest Service lands. Also in attendance were AF Rural Fire Commissioner JP Krukenburg, and Eastern Power County Fire Commissioner Michael Taylor. Dan Bartel, Caribou-Targhee NF/Portneuf Zone Fire Management Officer, and Clint Bastian, Caribou-Targhee NF/Portneuf Assistant Zone Fire Management Officer presented some mapping and regional updates on fire management over the past few years and projections moving forward. Commissioner Funk inquired of training opportunities for citizens to assist in an emergency. Dan Bartel advised they would fully support that and offer the same.
3. **South East Idaho Health Dept.:** Tyler Butler and Maggie Mann appeared on behalf of South East Idaho Health Department and presented FY2024 Budget needs. Ms. Mann advised that this will be the first full year of funding for Health Departments by counties. Ms. Mann advised that the Chairman of each Commission within the district must be present for the public budget hearing on May 18, 2023. Ms. Mann presented the budgetary composition, summary of changes, and population and market changes that affect the budgetary obligations for the counties. Ms. Mann advised that the Power County share and request for FY2024 is \$120,631.00.

B. MOTIONS:

1. **Agenda:** A motion to approve the agenda for Monday, September 8, 2023, was presented by Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried.
2. **Convene as Ambulance District Board at 9:09 am:** 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 Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.
3. **Power County Ambulance Administration & Financial Report:** Director Kristi Permann appeared before the Board and presented the accounts receivable reports from Amerimax for the date ending March 31, 2023. Ms. Permann reports that calls seem to be trending upwards advising that in March they had 58 calls with 30 transports and in April they had 62 calls with 35 transports. Ms. Permann reports that the billing accounts seem to be corrected as revenues are coming in more consistently now. Ms. Permann reports that she met with American Falls Rural Fire (AFRFD) and they are requesting a revision of the MOU last updated in 2012 to provide \$50 per call instead of \$20 and would like additional training funding. Ms. Permann advised they are also requesting more money for equipment specifically genesis cutters. Ms. Permann advises that AFRFD are trying to secure a used truck from Fort Hall. The Commission

directed Ms. Permann to do a budgetary analysis if the fees increased and report back. Ms. Permann reports that she is working on getting all the District licensing renewed. Following discussion, a motion to accept the Financial Reports as of March 31, 2023, as submitted was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Ms. Permann reports she is working to getting all the District licensing and agreements renewed. A motion to authorize use of digital signatures to execute of the medical director agreement upon direction of legal counsel Nate Cuoio was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Ms. Permann advises that the city advised that they do not have the man power to take care of the lawn in front of the building and that they are looking to update it to a zero scape area. Ms. Permann advised that a sprinkler pipe broke and flooded the lawn over the weekend and she reported the same to the City. She also advised that she got a quote for \$1,300.00 to remove the tree, but that would not include removal of the stump and the City advised that they would not pay for removal of the tree. Ms. Permann requests the naloxone grant funds be processed and paid and advised that more remittals should be coming soon. Clerk Sprague advised that she met with Katherine McQuain and verified that we have all the grant information. Clerk Sprague reported that Ms. McQuain confirmed that the Department and Health and Welfare grant does not require the reimbursements be paid thru payroll and confirmed that other entities are paying reimbursements thru a 1099 process. The Commission directed legal counsel Nate Cuoio to verify if payment thru a 1099 process would be appropriate or if it would be required to be paid thru payroll. A motion to authorize payroll for Melanie Jennings for eight (8) hours on Thursday and Friday was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the Board, motion unanimously carried. Upon conclusion, the Board reviewed the payroll reporting sheet for Ms. Jennings verifying all hours and signing as the elected official.

4. **Reconvene as Board of County Commissioners at 10:55 am:** 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.
5. **City of American Falls:** The city and county resumed discussions regarding IT infrastructure and dispatch services rendered on behalf of the city. The City of American Falls is represented by Mayor Rebekah Sorensen, Police Chief Brandon Wilkinson, and councilmembers Gilbert Hoffmeister Jr. and Jason Povey. Commissioner Lasley provided an update on the Spillman presentation. Chief Wilkinson reported that he and the Sheriff are working on setting up a meeting with the Bingham County Sheriff and Blackfoot Police Chief to discuss their experience and unforeseen changes and charges as they are entering into the second year of shared Spillman services. Chief Wilkinson reported that all surrounding counties are joining Spillman thru the Bannock County hub and Power County would be the only ones that do not. Clerk Sprague reported that she was advised that there had been interest, but

counties have not signed on with Commissioner support. Upon conclusion, a motion to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding for shared IT Services at a rate of \$7,200.00 for FY2023 with credit for CAI services already paid in the amount of \$4,707.31, leaving a balance of \$2,492.70 for the remainder of the year, have the IT Director finish the separation of internet connectivity and stop billing the City for internet services was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

6. **Personnel:** That court interpreter Francisca Vidales appeared and advised that she has been placed on the roster of conditionally approved interpreters by the Idaho Supreme Court. She is requesting that she could get a bump in her pay closer to what the previous interpreter was making. Clerk Sprague reports that the current hourly rate per Idaho Supreme Court guidelines for conditional interpreters is \$27.50 per hour. Ms. Vidales reports that she reached out to Idaho Supreme Court Language Access Director Santiago Barrios who advises that he believes that is in error and should be at least \$29.00 and reports that Sixth District Deputy Trial Court Administrator Jason Dye advised he would pay her \$42.00 per hour to come interpret. Clerk Sprague advises that the current certification graduation passage is 9% the conditional approval roster provides the interpreter a period of two (2) years to reach Certified or Master Level interpretation. Clerk Sprague advises that Ms. Vidales is guaranteed ten (10) hours per week and requests that the hourly be increased to \$27.50, which would have an impact to the budget of \$5,775.00 for the remainder of the fiscal year and leave a balance of \$5,725.00 to cover additional services rendered over the 10 hour per week guarantee. Following discussion, a motion to set the hourly interpreter service rate for Francisca Vidales to \$27.50 for the remainder of the fiscal year was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following an audible call of the board, motion unanimously carried. Clerk Sprague will ask for written confirmation and/or recommendations from Santiago Barrios and Mr. Dye and work with Ms. Vidales for FY2024 budget recommendations.
7. **Assessor Update and Tax Exemptions:** Assessor Laura Porath advised that they now have all their ag exemptions filed. Assessor Porath presented exempt property tax applications for the Catholic Church and the Franciscan Sisters. Assessor Porath recommends denying Catholic Church RPD0315-00 as the parcel is being rented out and approving Franciscan Sisters MHZ0396-03. Upon conclusion, a motion to deny the Catholic Church application on Parcel No. RPD0315-00 was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following audible call of the board, motion unanimously carried. A motion to approve the Franciscan Sisters application on Parcel No. MHZ0396-03 in the amount of \$569.59 was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following audible call of the board, motion unanimously carried. Commissioner Anderson inquired on the accuracy of Pictometry advising that the lines on the map don't match up correctly. Assessor Porath reported that the Pictometry system is accurate to within a few feet as per the contract advising that it is cost prohibitive to have the mapping done at 100%

accuracy. Assessor Porath reports that the state has reviewed and approved all the Pictometry mapping.

8. **Claims:** A motion to approve Anderson Auto Body Claim in the amount of \$4,974.84 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 demand checks as reported and approve payment of claims as reported in the amount of \$110,472.27 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)	\$ 50,450.36
0002 SICK BANK COMPENSATION	\$ -
0003 FAIR BOARD	\$ 250.00
0004 POWER COUNTY AMBULANCE DIST.	\$ 5,495.03
0005 POWER COUNTY ABATEMENT DIST.	\$ -
0006 DISTRICT COURT	\$ 2,844.17
0008 JUSTICE FUND	\$ 14,171.59
0009 DRUG COURT	\$ 602.12
0010 ENHANCED 911 SERVICES	\$ 2,206.61
0011 HEALTH DISTRICT	\$ 735.90
0015 ELECTIONS	\$ 1,396.97
0016 INDIGENT	\$ 2,359.00
0017 JUNIOR COLLEGE TUITION	\$ -
0020 REVALUATION	\$ 8,734.49
0023 SOLID WASTE (LANDFILL)	\$ 12,085.42
0024 TORT	\$ 3,173.04
0027 WEEDS	\$ 2,718.04
0038 WATERWAYS	\$ 1,351.25
0039 MUSEUM	\$ 919.95
0041 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT	\$ 818.70
0050 PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$ 5,134.47
0051 BOND - WATER RIGHTS	\$ -
Total Amount Paid	\$ 115,447.11

9. **District Board of Health Representative:** A motion to re-appoint Ron Funk as Power County representative to the Southeastern Idaho Public Health Board for a period of five (5) years pursuant to IC 39-411 was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Commissioner Funk abstained. Following an audible call of the board, motion carried.
10. **Personnel:** The Commission reviewed Ambulance scheduled shifts and time reported for Melanie Jennings. Upon conclusion, a motion to authorize payment to Melanie Jennings for 70.5 hours worked for this pay period was presented by Commissioner

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

11. **Surplus Property:** A motion to surplus property as reported from the Sheriff and Clerk at a zero value was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following an audible call of the board, motion carried and the following items were authorized for disposal;

Item	Serial	Reason	Location	Action
40" TV LED	442C00100477403640	Broken	Jail	Dispose
50" HDLCD TV	65310201532	Broken	Jail	Dispose
50" HDLCD TV	57811200954	Broken	Jail	Dispose
Laserject M4555MFP B/W Copier	TTDHP-B008-0418	Out of service & Repair	Court	Dispose

12. **Building and Grounds:** Building Director Chester Taylor reported that he had concerns about the exterior of the Annex and requested the contractor working on the Gardener Motel to come and provide recommendations. Chris Petersen of CP Integrity Construction appeared advising that his company focuses on the restoration of old buildings. Mr. Petersen explained the structure and construction of buildings in the early 1900's in which the bricks did not adhere to the foundation, which causes them to separate and fall off. Mr. Petersen reports he believes sub-base has separated from the studs. Mr. Petersen recommends removing the top (4) feet of the bricks and save them for rebuild.

Advising the brick is un-reinforced masonry so we can re-attach and secure the brick to the building upon reinstallation. Mr. Petersen estimates the cost of \$38,000 would allow for the removal of the brick and roof and rebuild the roof and reinstall the brick. Commissioner Anderson inquired if it would be possible to encapsulate soffit and fascia in metal. Mr. Petersen reported it was possible, however the roof may need to be rebuilt differently. The Commission reported that they had an engineer with Meyers Anderson inspect the building for stability. Mr. Petersen reported he knows the firm well and has contacts that works there and recommends having the engineer come back after the bricks are removed and assess the foundation and structure and determine if the trusses need to be re-built. By consensus, the Board requested Mr. Petersen contact Richard from Meyers Anderson and review the analysis they conducted on the annex years ago and return with recommendations and costs.

Mr. Taylor reported to the Commission that the stairwell to the basement at the Sheriff's Office is leaking and it is now molding and seeping into the bricks. Mr. Taylor advises that the entire Sheriff's Office roof needs some attention. Mr. Taylor advises that the portion of the roof that is not leaking is still warrantied, but inquired if he should contact Wilson Roofing for suggested repairs and bid. Mr. Taylor advises that called some references on Mr. Petersen and they were all very favorable, therefore, he thought he would have him provide a suggested repair and bid on the same. Mr. Taylor advises that Mickelson's has some boulders that would match the landscape

and inquired if the Commission would like him to install some into the landscape. By consensus, the Board directed Mr. Taylor to move forward with the boulders and incorporate some into the Memorial Park and to follow-up with installation of the Wheeler tree. Paint is peeling off brick of the shop. Mr. Taylor inquired if he could install a steel door on the outside stairwell to the Courthouse.

Treasurer Deanna Curry reports that the drop boxes have been blocked off all day. Commissioner Anderson will contract Darren Dahlke from the City and discuss options to mark the area as no parking.

Clerk Sharee Sprague advised that when the ADA doors were installed, they failed to install catch latches and other equipment necessary to make the doors operate correctly. Clerk Sprague advised that the error was reported by Neal Timmerman of M2 Security and she had requested he present a quote to correct for consideration. Clerk Sprague presented a quote from M2 to correct the installation of the ADA Doors in the amount of \$3,837.92. Upon conclusion, a motion to approve the quote from M2 in the amount of \$3,837.92 was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Lasley. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

Lee Dille called before the meeting asking if the County wanted compact testing completed. Mr. Dille advised that he only has 1 bid and is working on a couple more. Commissioner Funk advised if he got more information, he could email Clerk Sprague or call in to get a decision today. *POST MEETING NOTE: Mr. Dille sent in some information and then called Clerk Sprague the following day. Mr. Dille had received 3 quotes ranging from \$3,000 - \$15,000 however there was nothing presented in writing to explain what was included in each bid and what caused them to differentiate so much. Clerk Sprague polled each Commissioner individually presenting the information received and seeking direction to see if Mr. Dille should move forward with written bids. Upon conclusion, the consensus of the Board was that no action can be taken without written bids, the construction, which had been delayed from last fall, was to begin the date of the meeting, May 8, 2023, and therefore, the presentation of this recommendation step came in too late to include in this job and Clerk Sprague was directed to advise Mr. Dille of the same.*

13. **Resolution 2023-06:** Resolution 2023-06 A Resolution to change precinct 2 polling location for the May 16, 2023, election came before the Commission at 4:09 pm. The following parties acknowledged roll call of attendance;

- Bill Lasley
- Ron Funk
- Delane Anderson
- Sharee Sprague

Clerk Sharee Sprague recited Power County Resolution 2023-06 A Resolution to change precinct 2 polling location for the May 16, 2023, election. Upon conclusion, Chairman Funk called for discussion. No discussion having been offered, a motion to approve

Resolution No. 2023-06 as read into record by Clerk Sharee Sprague was presented by Commissioner Anderson with a second by Commissioner Funk. Following roll call vote, motion carried unanimously and the record concluded at 4:13 pm.

14. **Approval of Past Meeting Minutes:** A motion to accept minutes as presented for meetings held on March 20, 27, 28, April 3, 6, 10, 13, and 24, 2023, was presented Commissioner Funk with a second by Commissioner Anderson. Following an audible call of the board, the motion unanimously carried.

C. POINTS OF ORDER:

1. **Mental Health First Aid Class:** By consensus, this matter was tabled to May 15, 2023.
2. **Elected Officials Institute Update:** By consensus, this matter was tabled to May 15, 2023.
3. **Policy Discussion:** By consensus, this matter was tabled to the May 22, 2023 meeting.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. **Executive Personnel Session I.C. 74-206(1)(b) 9:48 am:** A motion to enter into executive session to consider personnel actions pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) was presented by Commissioner Lasley with a second by Commissioner Anderson. 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 10:52 am.

V. ASSESSMENTS/CONCLUSIONS:

1. **Next Meeting:** The next regular session for the board to meet is slated for May 22, 2023.
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 5:08 pm.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Board of County Commissioners during the Regular Board Meeting held June 12, 2023.

ATTEST:



SHAREE SPRAGUE, Clerk



COMMISSIONER FUNK, Chairman