

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CASCADE, IDAHO  
October 22, 2012**

**PRESENT: GORDON L. CRUICKSHANK (CHAIRMAN)  
GERALD “JERRY” WINKLE (COMMISSIONER)  
RAY MOORE, (COMMISSIONER)  
ARCHIE BANBURY, CLERK**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cruickshank at 9:03 a.m.

Lori Hunter led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Claims were reviewed by the Commissioners. Commissioner Moore questioned the mobilization charge for the Road Department concerning the two projects that are contracted out. Chairman Cruickshank noted that Road Superintendent Robinson had no problem with them, and presumed they were appropriate. Commissioner Moore moved to approve the claims including the Board Ordered Claim. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried to approve the claims and authorize the Chairman to approve the Claims Approval Report. Claims amounted to \$428,883.52, and a board ordered claim of \$7,019.73 for a total of \$435,903.25.

Building Department - Anne Guarino is out of town attending training and accordingly, unable to report.

Court Services - Doug Miller noted he has one juvenile in custody from another county. There is a PREA summit he will be attending at the Post Academy, Building H Room 8 on October 30th. (PREA concerns rape prevention in jails and penal institutions.) Commissioners may attend if they wish. He also noted a constitutional amendment on the ballot that affects misdemeanor probation. He asked everyone to read it carefully before voting.

Vim Braak reported he will be having an Economic Development Meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>, and he expects a request for \$10,000 for from the County. Meeting will be at the Donnelly Community Center at 1:00 p.m. The Lifestyle and Education portion of the Horizons committee are still meeting and have absorbed the final stages of the other committees.

Human Resources - Pat Duncan reported that the Deputy Auditor and Recorder positions have been filled.

In addition she presented a revised policy concerning volunteers which requires that the County Commission to approve volunteer work performed by spouses and other relatives of elected officials, including County Commissioners. Such volunteers may not be paid, and may only work for short periods of time, as during the elections. It has been reviewed and approved by legal counsel. Commissioner Moore moved for adoption of the change and entry into the Personnel Manual. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

She discussed flexible benefit plans, and has identified two viable firms. Discovery Benefits and Benefit Managers. She discloses that Benefits is a former client of hers, and wants that fact known because of the potential for conflict of interest. AFLAC is divesting themselves of the unreimbursed medical plan, and will not be available from AFLAC after that time. A new firm will take over, and the fees will remain the same. She also notes problems in the recent past with AFLAC. The plan year expires on December 31<sup>st</sup>. A new plan would then start, but a new provider would take over in March of 2013. The board selected Benefit Managers. Pat will provide the agreement on 10/29 or the following meeting.

IT - David Crawford noted he had finished the 9-1-1 upgrade. He has a new work station in palace in preparation for the upgrade of the camera system.

Lori Hunter reported on behalf of Cynda as concerns Planning and Zoning. She notes no meeting in November, it has been moved to December, which will then consider Soulen Gravel Pit. Concerning Flat Creek Road, Cynda is working with Commissioner Moore and planning some meetings of affected individuals. Chairman Cruickshank asked Commissioner Moore to work with Cynda on developing the issues. She noted she will have Lori Hunter continue helping out in the Clerk's Office as much as she can.

Paul Fodrea, WICAP reported they have started the Energy Assistance Program for residents on a fixed income. It will be a big load in November when they will process all the applications. They went to McCall concerning energy assistance and a food distribution. They have a potential fund raiser for WICAP in the form of a concert at the Roxy. She will publish an e-mail containing details on the Energy Assistance.

June Fullmer, Assessor, reported asked to be on the agenda for next week, to discuss the McCall DMV and possible changes there. Commissioner assigned the time slot 10:00 to 10:15 for this discussion on October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Banbury reported on activity level in the Clerk's Office.

Sheriff Bolen reported the award of the 2012 EMPG award, as had been accepted by the board previously. Chairman Cruickshank signed the award of the grant.

Treasurer Glenna Young reported she is working on specials assessments and levies. She notes that there conflicting instructions on travel reimbursements. She can't find a copy on the Valley County website.

Chairman Cruickshank introduced Larry Laxson as the recently selected Snow Grooming Coordinator.

The minutes of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012 were approved on the motion of Commissioner Moore, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

The IAC Webinars are offered for a package deal of \$425 for all of them or \$75 each. After discussion, it was decided to purchase them one at a time.

The duties of the Snow Groomer Coordinator were discussed from an outline prepared by Commissioner Moore. The duties are consistent with the job description provided from HR.

Closed session for indigent at 10:44 a.m.

12-JW050-2	Request for Assistance Approved
12-JS068	Request for Assistance Denied
12-JK090	Request for Assistance Denied
12-SB083	Request for Assistance Denied
12-MT091	Request for Assistance Denied
12-MT091	Request for Indigent Lien
12-SM052	Request for Indigent Lien
12-JO069	Request for Indigent Lien
12-SB083	Request for Indigent Lien
12-SW065	Request for Lien Release on Denial

Reconvene regular session at 11:00 a.m.

Lori Hunter with Planning and Zoning appeared to discuss the shared driveway issue V-2-2012, received from applicant Robert D. Collins. It is noted that the easement for this driveway does not impact a prior easement. That being the only concern with this matter, and all concerned being satisfied, Commissioner Moore moved to approve variance application V-2-12. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried to approve Variance V-2-12.

A discussion was held on creating a sick leave bank or other mechanism whereby employees may donate a portion of their sick leave to other County employees who have exhausted their sick leave.

Commissioner Winkle began a discussion on a sick leave bank, and asked Pat Duncan to provide examples. He asked Harry Stathis, widower of Nancy Stathis if he could use her name to describe the proposed. Mr. Stathis nodded in the affirmative. Commissioner Winkle said he met with an Ada County Commissioner who endorses the program. He later identified the Commissioner as Sharon Ullman. He said he had also discussed it with Chief of Police Jerry Summers of McCall, who has no experience with it but supports the concept. He said that the U. S. Forest Service and Potlatch were two of the larger employers in Valley utilizing sick leave banks.

Pat Duncan then outlined a policy and her recommended parameters.

Bill Willey mentioned his experience with the sick leave bank at the school district. He also commented on the need to have an incentive to maintain an employee's sick leave.

It is noted that Valley County allows an accrual of 720 hours of sick leave.

A suggestion was made that an employee's time to be donated may be taken from either vacation or sick leave.

Treasurer Glenna Young commented that it would need some give and take by all to make this work. She also asked if the elected officials could work on a draft and bring something back to the commissioners as we were not going to decide this in 45 minutes.

Commissioner Moore explained that an employee can currently accrue four and one half months of sick leave and nearly an additional month of vacation time. Under the right circumstances, an employee to take over five months of paid time off during an illness. This would be in addition to any accrued comp time. He feels the County offers a competitive wage, and benefits that exceed that of most of the taxpayers in Valley County. He questions why we need to now expand upon this. He points out that this proposal is expanded even beyond the previous proposal as it is no longer just for a critical illness, but now includes a personal crisis. How many taxpayers have this level of benefits?

Todd Hatfield said this may be a noble thing to do, however as a private citizen who's taxes will fund this it is just too much. He is not able to provide the same for his family, and this would possibly impact his tax burden. He read a story about the principle of the issue. He also thought multiple year accruals was not needed as no one in the private market can afford to do this.

Maureen Hatfield comments that this looks like another taxpayer burden. She pointed out a report by the Idaho Freedom Foundation on wasteful spending and believes this is another example of waste.

Assessor June Fullmer asked to have the HR Director chair a committee. Use what we have and nothing more.

Commissioner Winkle stated he had talked to many other organizations. When asked, he replied that the Forest Service and Potlatch were just two of the larger organizations in Valley County.

T.J. Sayers asked why not ask that a committee explore ways to allow donations of vacation or overtime because those are compensated benefits, unlike sick leave.

12:30 Adjourned for lunch.

Commissioners attended a hearing in district court.

2:30 p.m. Reconvened as per agenda. Commissioner Winkle was absent.

Mike Lancaster appeared for the purpose of discuss rafting from Cabarton and his need for a “landowner’s statement” from the board as “owners” of the raft launch facility.

In 2003 Tamarack had a permit, which in 2006 was amended to include an Outfitters License.

He is functioning as Tamaracks designated agent. He hopes to get the landowner’s statement to resubmit to the outfitters and licensing board to permit his use of the launch facility at Cabarton, rafts to be taken out at Smith’s Ferry. Commissioner Moore moved to approve his application and authorize the Chairman to sign the same. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

Road Department, Lori Bateman substituting for Jerry Robinson due to inclement weather and major problems on Big Creek Summit.

The 319 grant is approved and road resurfacing will be continued next spring. Lori Bateman presented the grant for signature by the Chairman.

The Midas Gold Road Maintenance Agreement on Johnson Creek is deferred to a later date when further details become known.

They are adding snow removal on a portion of Paddy Flat Road. That fact causes the road service to be changed to Level “C.”. They would like to cease snow removal on the east Sixty Lane as there are no residents present on that on that portion of the road. Chairman Cruickshank and Commissioner Moore left the decision up to the Road Superintendent on snow removal activities of this nature.

Commissioner Moore moved to add Resolution 12-20 to the agenda as it was discovered that it was erroneously omitted. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and the motion carried. Motion to approve Resolution 12-20 by Commissioner Moore, second by Chairman Cruickshank and the motion carried.

Adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

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Gordon L. Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

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Archie N. Banbury, Clerk

AB/tme 11-5-12