

**THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE, IDAHO
December 27, 2012**

**PRESENT: GORDON L. CRUICKSHANK, CHAIRMAN
GERALD "JERRY" WINKLE, COMMISSIONER
RAY MOORE, COMMISSIONER,
ARCHIE BANBURY, CLERK and
TRUDY EIGUREN, DEPUTY AUDITOR (AFTER 2:00 P.M.)**

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Winkle seconded and the motion carried.

Pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Moore.

Claims and Junior College Tuition provided by Trudy Eiguren.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Claims in the amount of \$177,996.02, and Board Order Claims in the amount of \$35,382.25, for a Grand Total of \$213,378.27.
Commissioner Winkle seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the Junior College tuition applicants as residents of Valley County. Commissioner Winkle seconded and the motion carried.

Anne Guarino with the Building Department had nothing currently to report.

Douglas Miller provided a Juvenile Justice Commission grant request regarding underage drinking. He outlined the program which includes extensive participation by students. This will be effective for FY 2014, and will be a budget item for next year.
Commissioner Moore moved for approval, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

David Crawford, I.T. Supervisor reported the jail camera project has been completed and everything is up and running as planned. Additional cameras may need to be replaced. He will report on this camera replacement after more review at a later date. He replaced the server in the McCall Annex and provided security systems surrounding the installation of the server to better protect the equipment.

He has made improvements to allow the publishing of the snow grooming reports on the Valley County website.

A new printer was installed at the Weed Department for the ARRA grant program. The courthouse printers will be consolidated with a new agreement. Commissioner Moore moved to approve the printer agreements, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Vim Braak reported concerning extension matters. Regarding economic development, he learned that city or county funds cannot be used to help finance new businesses. He will try to get existing businesses to start this as the restrictions only apply to city/county government.

The permanent sign that was ordered this last fall for the Extension Office is nearly ready for installation.

Paula Fodrea reported on WICAP matters. She has been quite busy and has enjoyed considerable support from the community. The Tamarack event to support the local food banks was a great success, as folks brought food and received a day pass to ski at Tamarack. Her office has received ½ of their emergency food and shelter funds.

Cynda Herrick reported on Planning and Zoning matters. She read the legal description of the easement for a 10 foot wide easement for the Heartland Hunger property. This was needed as a result of changes in the McCall Building Code.

She reported that she had advertised extensively for a noise specialist for the Nisula Gravel Pit. She discussed a specific specialist, who suggested that there are no INCE certified engineers in Idaho, and recommended easing the requirement. Mr. Davis, one of the principles, agreed and she is now attempting to gain clearance from the opponents. If this is acceptable, it would be necessary to amend the Conditional Use Permit.

She has received some concerns on the Idaho Department of Lands Lease sites as a Lessee doesn't have access. She is attempting to contact the IDL on this issue.

Larry Laxson reported on snow grooming. They are grooming almost everywhere except where access is restricted by a lack of snow in the lower elevations.

The new groomer is proving to be quite effective. Two more new groomers may be made available next year. He noted a high incidence of expired snowmobile tags (licenses/permits). The snowmobile clubs have indicated that they will support the purchase of the new snowmobile trailer. They are ready for the fun run in Donnelly. There is some concern of the logging activity in the Smith's Ferry area. Larry will look into.

Chairman Cruickshank noted he has received no complaints about the grooming thus far this year.

Commissioner-elect Bill Willey mentioned the donation by the Pancake House of gift certificates handed out to all the McCall/Donnelly School students.

June Fuller reported and provided tax cancellations #6 through #12. Commissioner Moore approval of cancellations #6-12. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Clerk Banbury reported business as usual, and expressed thanks for Lori Hunter's help at busy times and expressed his appreciation to Cynda for making her available.

The Prosecuting Attorney was not in attendance to report.

The Sheriff reported regarding the gift of two buoys to Waterways, for replacement of existing buoys which were destroyed. The buoys are to be marked as gifts. Commissioner Moore moved to accept the donation of funds for the buoys. Second by Commissioner Winkle and the motion carried.

The Sheriff thanked the commissioners and David with IT for the new jail camera system that was installed.

Inmate medical costs can be billed to the Sheriff for the balance of insured but unpaid costs are then billed to the county. This results in a higher paid cost than the Medicare rate. She is working on a solution.

Glenna Young reported on her progress in posting taxes, she is a few days behind which is normal for this season. On the Credit Card usage she has been contacted by U. S. Bank and will forward the e-mail to the Commissioners.

The Chairman thanked all for their participation and wished us a Happy New Year.

Commissioner's discussion began with Commissioner Winkle moving to approve the minutes of December 10, 2012, second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

Back Country road report was discussed at a meeting with the Payette National Forest, local citizens, recreation interests, ICL, Senator Crapo's staff and others. It will move toward a series of small meetings so all interested can be heard.

Additionally, County input on regulatory agency issues was requested. The response was favorable and the process simply involves a letter from the Board of County Commissioners to participate. All agreed to do so.

Scott Erekson appeared and reported on his efforts. He noted the contract provides for one year extensions without further action if both agree. Commissioner Moore moved for approval of the contract, and Commissioner Winkle seconded. The motion carried with a slight change of the word salary to be deleted and replaced by the work "Fee" so as to ensure clarity as to Mr. Erekson's status as an independent contractor, and not an employee.

As concerns the 2011 EMPG grant, amendment to add additional funds amounting to \$513.19 to Valley County. Commissioner Moore moved for acceptance of the additional funds, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Commissioner Moore moved for approval of the STAG Grant request as submitted, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Commissioner Moore moved to set the mileage reimbursement rate for the use of personal autos on County business to \$.565 per mile for business travel using one's personal auto. This is consistent with the rate allowed with by the Internal Service for travel after December 31, 2012. Commissioner Winkle seconded and the motion carried.

Closed session for indigent. (Hearing was recorded)

12-LC053 Hearing Held

12-MV068 Request for Indigent Lien – New Application

12-LC070 Request for Indigent Lien – New Application

12-JT083 Request for Indigent Lien – New Application

Resumed regular session at 10:59 a.m.

Discussion of EMS contracts and potential consolidation. First, Clerk Banbury reported a clerical or administrative error which understated the tax levied for EMS to be understated by \$500,000. He assumed responsibility for the error. Further discussion of the availability of funding to temporarily replace the shortage disclosed that there is research to be done and a solution decided on as quickly as possible. It is known that the error in the amount of the levy can be corrected, and the taxpayers billed for the correct tax. This will ultimately result in money being collected. In the meantime, the problem is how to pay the Fire Departments. That will be fully explored and a decision made as soon as possible.

The discussion then turned to approving the contracts with EMS. Commissioner Moore then suggested the contracts should not be signed until the availability of funding is resolved.

The concept of "consolidation" of EMS was discussed. Jill Hiller, Cascade stated that the EMS Administrative Council had a small discussion regarding consolidation. As a result of that discussion, she recommended that the Board seek the input of others outside the County government to include the hospitals.

She asked why the sudden interest had occurred in consolidation. Commissioner Moore responded that it had carried over from the budget meeting in August of 2012 and the concern was for better service, as well as less money from the taxpayers. The budget discussion resulted in a decision to levy the same amount as in the preceding year, \$775,000. She noted her work on the origination of the present district, which is county wide. She favors having the money available in each locality and fears having control of the funds "up north." She further discussed cooperation, mutual aid and trust between the departments. She questioned why the concern?

Commissioner Moore responded that as commissioners we are to make sure funds are used appropriately. Jill replied that no commissioners had been attending the EMS meetings and requested this change in the future.

Mark Billmore, Chief, McCall Fire and EMS suggested hiring a consultant and offered \$10,000 from his department toward funding that approach.

Juan Bonilla, Chief, Donnelly Fire and EMS suggested the question to be answered is why is this discussion occurring now after only two years of operation and many issues yet unresolved? He further suggested the decision is all about money and power. This has not been brought to the Administrative Council for comment, suggestion or development of alternatives. He mentioned the accomplishments thus far and impetus moving forward.

Commissioner Moore commented we do not know all the answers and it appears people are afraid of asking questions. We did ask 5 months ago to look into consolidation and have heard nothing back.

Commissioner Winkle says he attended many meetings and agrees with Juan.

Lee Heinrich, Chairman, Cascade Rural Fire spoke at length about the history of fire and ambulance services in Valley County. He noted his agreement with Chief Bonilla and stated that this discussion was a solution looking for a problem. He spoke of the decline of volunteers, suggesting it was perhaps related to the economic downturn, but also that it is a very real, difficult matter to find volunteers. He is concerned on the affordability to meeting the full paramedic standard rural areas cannot afford more taxes. The current services provide what is required. He does not think that consolidation is for us. We need stability. He urges correction of the administrative funding error, using tax anticipation notes if necessary, or finding other money to move forward. If there is a problem with the contracts then let's sit down and discuss. The county made the mistake and it is not the Fire Districts responsibility to correct the levy error.

Some discussion was held on the amount of funding needed to meet the payment for EMS services in January and what options would be available. Both Clerk Banbury and Treasurer Young will look into what will be needed and report back at the next commissioner meeting.

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:02

Juan Bonilla and Stephanie Johnson appeared on behalf of the Valley County Fire Working Group. (CWPP update) They provided a revised Appendix A to the Wildland-Urban Interface Wildfire Mitigation Plan. They discussed the progress they had made and the strides Valley County had in leadership in this area. Commissioner Moore moved to approve the CWPP update, and Commissioner Winkle seconded. The motion carried.

Ben Thomas, representing Amerititle appeared for the purpose of discussing deeding the north 1.1 acres they own to Valley County as it fits with the Fair Grounds, with a reversionary clause to prevent Valley County from selling the property.

Further, this is conditioned upon Amerititle selling certain other properties. Amerititle desires assurance that a fence will be constructed by the County on the south boundary of the gifted property later this spring.

Commissioner Moore moved to accept the offer from Amerititle to deed the property described effective December 31, 2012. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Jerry Robinson appeared for the purpose of reporting on his activities.

He introduced Gene Drabinski and Carol Coyle. They are here to express their support for the Warren Wagon Road and their desire to add a pathway alongside the road. They indicated financial support for engineering and design work for the pathway on the part of the City of McCall. Jerry Robinson provided the costs for matching the grant application and requested an additional letter of support from the commissioners to submit with the application to Federal Highways on this project along Warren Wagon Road. Commissioner Moore moved to approve a letter of support to the Federal Highway Administration for the Warren Wagon Road Project. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

He then introduced David O'Brien who provided photographs of an existing well-site on Alder Way. An easement will be needed to allow the well to remain. Commissioner Moore moved approval for the easement to the well site on Alder Way, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried

Jerry then presented a closeout document for the Tennessee Creek RAC Project. Commissioner Moore moved for approval and Commissioner Winkle seconded the motion, which carried.

He provided a document styled as the State and Local Agreement for the East Lake Fork Bridge to start the process of replacing the bridge. Commissioner Moore moved for approval, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried

He presented a document styled as the Whisper Mountain Agreement for Dead Horse Bridge. The Dead Horse Bridge will be replaced and this is part of the process to accomplish. Commissioner Moore moved for approval, Commissioner Winkle seconded and the motion carried.

The Fair Board questioned a charge by the Road Department. Jerry Robinson explained the history of a water meter installed at the road department, and thereafter the \$69.00 charge for "winterizing" the shower water. The Road Department will forego the \$69.00 for now. The Fair Board will accept the responsibility for the water meter and shower house which it serves.

Jerry Robinson discussed the Idaho Power Agreement to install a new access line to the Gold Fork Complex. The old line has failed several times and Idaho Power wants to install a better line. Motion to approve the agreement by Chairman Cruickshank, second by Commissioner Winkle and motion carried.

Trudy Eiguren, Deputy Auditor assumed responsibility for recording the minutes as Clerk Banbury had to leave the meeting.

A discussion was then held concerning the purchase of new vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and Building & Grounds. Two vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and one for Building & Grounds were budgeted for. Also, ½ of a vehicle for waterways. The vehicles probably wouldn't be put into service until May or June. One of the current vehicles with 134,000 miles is used as spare; one vehicle with 120,000 miles is still active. Vehicles with 103,000 and 102,000 miles would be put as spare. Jerry Robinson would like to request to purchase 2 + ½ vehicles. \$105,000 is in budget for purchases including Building & Grounds. Crew cab vehicles should be put out for bid and not Quad cabs.

The Road Department has several surplus snow plows, culverts and bridge parts. They are asking to declare 6 snow plows as surplus or they may possibly be used for trade. Motion by Commissioner Winkle to declare the equipment as surplus and allow Jerry to dispose of them. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

Commissioner Moore moved to authorize the Road Department to put 3 Sheriff's patrol vehicles and 1 waterways vehicle out for bid and not purchase a vehicle for Building & Grounds. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Jerry Robinson also asked for an additional signature on the Road Department's Annual financial report. The report had already been approved at a previous meeting.

Ralph McKenzie, Solid Waste Supervisor, reported that bids for the Solid Waste RFP were opened at 1pm today. Two vendors responded, Lakeshore Disposal and Emmett Sanitation. It will take some time to analyze each proposal as there are 4 separate sections. A recommendation will be presented at a future meeting.

Ralph also reported on stumpage prices for logging the new property. They should wait until spring when the prices should come down. Chairman Cruickshank said that we need to work on the master plan as well.

Ralph also stated that he would like to present a new proposal for the purchase of propane from Ed Stahl and Sons. Kyle Baumgartner and Jim Carlson were present to make that presentation. It may be an opportunity to save a tremendous amount of money. The proposal is for 1 year – after that, there would be a guaranteed rate. Chairman Cruickshank asked the vendor to hold onto the proposal. It must be put out for bid since it is close to \$100,000. The Commissioners asked Ralph to put out an RFP.

Adjourn at 2:20 p.m.

Gordon L. Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

Archie N. Banbury, Clerk

Trudy Eiguren, Deputy Auditor