

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE, IDAHO
March 21, 2011**

**PRESENT: GORDON L. CRUICKSHANK, (CHAIRMAN)
GERALD “JERRY” WINKLE (COMMISSIONER) excused absence
RAY MOORE (COMMISSIONER)**

ARCHIE N. BANBURY, CLERK

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cruickshank at 9:01 a.m. with Clerk Banbury taking minutes.

Commissioner Moore moved to accept the agenda as proposed, second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried. Commissioner Winkle is home recovering from his surgery. Chairman Cruickshank asked Todd Hatfield to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country, which he did.

Chairman Cruickshank began the scheduled Public Hearing concerning the proposed repeal of Ordinance No. 90-1. Neither he nor Commissioner Moore had any ex-parte contacts regarding the matter. The hearing had been duly announced and published. The ordinance has never been used; no permits for animal drawn conveyances have been requested nor issued since its enactment. There were no opponents, proponents or undecided individuals present. Cynda Herrick is the applicant and stated that the ordinance was no longer necessary. Commissioner Moore moved to adopt Ordinance No.11-1 repealing Ordinance No.90-1. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried. The new ordinance will be published and thereafter be effective.

Chairman Cruickshank began a Public Hearing concerning the Valley County Building Ordinance. The issue concerns adoption of the International Building Codes of 2009. Specifically, the codes are: 2009 International Building Code; 2009 International Residential Code, parts I-IV and IX, including Appendices G, J, and L; 2009 International Energy Conservation Code; 2009 International Fire Code as adopted by the State of Idaho; and, Idaho Code 54-5209, the Idaho Contractor Registration Act was also adopted.

Commissioner Moore noted that the building permit fee set at 65% of the plan check fee is the subject of further research, and that the rule may have been intended to be applicable to the State Building Safety Department as opposed to County Government. A reading of the code "...shall be 65%", may well set the maximum rate that sets the maximum charge, and not the minimum.

Proponents:

Cynda Herrick, Valley County Planning and Zoning Commissioner discussed the effect of invoking the 4" high building numbers as compared with the present 3 1/2" high rule. To make said change to 4" would involve changing another ordinance.

Juan Bonilla, Donnelly Fire Chief, cautioned the Wildland Urban Interface insurance rules are strict, and recommended consideration of those rules. He also recommended adoption of the Fire Code as a minimum requirement.

Uncommitted:

None

Opponents:

None

Public Hearing closed by Chairman Cruickshank.

Commissioner Moore moved to table the adoption of Ordinance No.11-2 until April 11th at 1:00 p.m. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

A discussion with Elected Officials and Department Heads on the upcoming FY2012 budget was held.

Sheriff Bolen discussed adjustments she would be making and looking for grants. Further, she asked her staff where they could cut back on positions and condense the number of employees.

The Jail is bound by State standards for personnel on duty 24-7, so it's hard to cut there.

Chairman Cruickshank and Commissioner Moore explained the areas where the Commission felt discussion is needed:

Budget review on both FY2011 and the upcoming FY2012.

Large expenditures are asked to be reviewed with the Commissioners prior to purchase.

The use of Motor Pool vehicles and using the IRS reimbursement rate for using personal vehicles for primarily out of town County business.

Hiring of employees to fill vacant positions needs review prior to advertising the position.

Treasurer Young made the comment “It’s not the things that run the County, it is the people and we should take care of staff first”.

Greg in IT mentioned the technology that is needed to be more efficient.

Jerry with the Road Department discussed that purchasing of new equipment helps his crew be more efficient and would like to discuss the pay schedule. There is no way to reward employees.

Commissioner Moore commented that to reward employees, we need to have funding to do so. That is why we are asking for the department’s assistance in finding ways to do this.

Vim with the Extension office commented that we tend to only look at our own department.

Doug with the Court Annex asked for information on when we will know what the funding levels will be for the future.

Chairman Cruickshank commented that your help in looking at the budget will help prevent the Commissioners from saying all expenses are cut by a percentage.

Commissioner Moore commented it is not our intent to tell you to share employees, we just want departments to work together to help us look at solutions.

Comments were made in many areas on how to help cut costs, including sharing vehicles and employees. All departments will continue to work together to see if they can share some of their duties.

Commissioner Moore moved to enter Executive Session per I.C.67- 2345(b), a personnel matter. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

Convened Executive Session at 11:20 a.m.

Reconvene Regular Session at 12:12 p.m. The Commissioner’s decision was to terminate the employee discussed in Executive Session.

Recess for Lunch at 12:13 p.m.

Reconvene Regular Session at 1:00 p.m.

Everette Arter, Lakeshore Disposal Site Manager and Jeff Brewster, Vice President, appeared with Valley County MRF Manager Ralph McKenzie to discuss recycling. They proposed two plans and asked that Valley County choose between them.

In looking over both proposals, Commissioner Moore and Chairman Cruickshank had many questions, and asked for more data.

Need to revisit this proposal on April 4th, for an hour. The Clerk will place on the agenda

Commissioner Moore expressed his disappointment that Michael David could not be here to discuss VARHA in terms of representation on the Board and general progress on objectives. Representatives from Adams County, Donnelly and an at large member have been appointed to the Board, leaving but two who were elected. We need a better understanding of where we are in this market. Housing seems abundant at this time.

Gary Swain, 13675 Farm to Market Road, McCall, spoke on rental units generally. There is a high level of vacancy in McCall rental properties. He doesn't want VARHA competing with property owners who have rentals in the area. There will be no further payments to VARHA until we have some answers. Mr. David is to be placed on the Agenda for April 4th.

Sheriff Bolen discussed Jail Standards. The Standards require two staff members on duty at all times. She has been using a jail tech with a jailer when necessary, with additional law enforcement personnel in the building. She has not filled a ½ time position in the jail. Her jail cook frequently works overtime and needs help.

PREA, Prison Rape Elimination Act, if implemented at the current requirements, would present financial burden. Standards include having a full-time person checking to see the standards are met.

The Sheriff will assist Commissioner Moore in preparing a letter for the Chairman's signature at the March 28, 2011 meeting which will address our concerns for these standards. It appears to be another unfunded mandate which Valley County cannot afford.

Mel Mohr, Mike McLaughlin, Sam Shoemaker, Ronn Julian, Todd Wernex, Ron Platt and Rick Ridenour appeared to report on the Snow Grooming activities for this year. President's Day weekend was a full house, with a need for overflow parking. Some space is available near the Titus lot. Many people have asked for guide services. There would be a need for guide permits from the Forest Service.

The budget is balanced, but there is need for filling the fuel and propane tanks.

Todd Wernex reported area 43A sold 1566 snowmobile registrations; 43B, 995; 43C, 267; and 43D, 212 from what has been counted so far. A more accurate count is forthcoming when all the registrations have been received from the vendors. These are normal levels from reviewing prior years at this time period.

Commissioner Moore moved for approval of the March 14th meeting minutes of the Board, second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

The Commissioners approved a reimbursement rate of 51¢ for the use of personal automobiles on County business effective April 1, 2011. The rate will be revised each January 1st in the future.

Adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Gordon L. Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

Archie N. Banbury, Clerk

AB/tme 3-25-11