

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE, IDAHO
May 31, 2011**

**PRESENT: GORDON L. CRUICKSHANK (CHAIRMAN)
GERALD "JERRY" WINKLE (COMMISSIONER)
RAY MOORE (COMMISSIONER)**

ARCHIE N. BANBURY, CLERK

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cruickshank at 9:02 a.m. with Clerk Banbury taking minutes.

Commissioner Moore moved to accept the agenda as written. Second by Commissioner Winkle and motion carried. A letter of support was introduced which required signature. Commissioner Moore moved to add it into the agenda at 1:30 p.m. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Ken Postma led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country.

Todd Hatfield reported on his attendance at a training session which discussed County coordination with other governments.

County Coordination has gained a good deal of traction as a method to push back against the Forest Service and other federal agencies. The process involves the County Commissioners coordinating with the federal agencies on an equal basis. He discussed the history of the Forest Service.

An economic resource plan must be developed, and submitted to the agency involved. This is best affected through County Government. A collaborative effort is not coordination, but if substituted for coordination can have unforeseen results.

Ken Postma added that he had read the Kelly literature and concurs. He stressed that the word "coordination" is very important, and should not be replaced by cooperation or collaboration. The literature contains a resolution template and suggestions for an economic resource plan as well as appropriate citations in the federal codes and regulations.

Chairman Cruickshank advised that he has received a request from Senator Crapo's office for a brief economic analysis of what the impact of curtailment of the timber harvest means to Valley County. He will be preparing a response, which is due tomorrow.

Mark de Jong appeared together with Frieda Gabbert to discuss the effort to develop a facility for Heartland Hunger, a food bank, and provided a map of the requested space in the County owned property (annex) in McCall. He will provide a proposed drawing of the requested building site with dimensions included. We will review the agreement concerning the property and ensure that there is adequate room for the intended use, i.e., a food bank.

Al Wonenberg and Jason Speer appeared to discuss the exchange of a PWC, an older model for a newer. They would have been allowed \$1,200 for the older model as a trade-in. After inspection, the vendor has stated that the older model is essentially worthless and recommends that the older model be sold at the auction of surplus property. Also, a new trailer will be required. Waterways would like to sell the trailer and old PWC as one unit, and expect \$700 to \$800 for the combined units at auction. The prices for the new PWC and trailer are \$8050 and \$1699, respectively. Waterways asked permission to proceed with this acquisition as so outlined, having the old declared as surplus and selling the same at auction. The purchase of the new is budgeted at \$10,000. Commissioner Moore moved to proceed as above, declaring the old as surplus and purchasing the new at the prices quoted, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Sgt. Speer discussed the activities over the Memorial Day weekend and noted that it was relatively quiet. He also discussed buoys on Payette Lake, including the private buoys estimated at 40 or so, scattered around the lake and also the requests for maintenance he has received.

A discussion of the No Business radio tower site followed with Captain John Coombs presenting the Sheriff's view of the matter. The Sheriff's office had received complaints from the Ham operators concerning interference caused by the T-1 line. He had some repair work done in attempt to repair the situation and believed the problem had been solved. Early this spring a new antenna was installed and seemed to solve the problem. The Sheriff believes the site is overcrowded and noted hostility from the Ham group. They changed the locks on the building to secure the site. There being no site plan, the various users have placed their antennas wherever they wished. The Valley County Road Department, The Ham operators, Donnelly Fire Department, Comm World, Rathbun Communications, and the Civil Air Patrol use the site. There is also damage to the roof. Valley County is the landlord. There is about 8' of snow at the site.

The site houses Valley County's Emergency Communication System. Valley County has invested thousands of dollars in new upgrades to the radio system housed at this site. The commercial operators pay rent.

The Forest Service bills the County for rent charged to the commercial operations, Comm World and Rathbun. The Road Department of Valley County, Donnelly Fire and the Civil Air Patrol are not charged rent.

Martin Tushkowski and Kermit Peterson appeared and spoke on behalf of the Ham operators. They say they have been on the site for more than 30 years. They follow the rules set down by the FCC. They do nothing to the building except dump the trash, which has accumulated. They go up once or twice each year. Their equipment is in a rack, in a corner and out of the way.

They say they are Valley County's back-up communications and can pass radio traffic on behalf of the County and those who provide emergency services.

Chairman Cruickshank explained the costs of maintenance and asked for a sharing arrangement. Captain Coombs explained they cannot accept the hostility from the Ham operators demanding repairs. He is concerned for the security of the site.

Commissioner Moore added that the County's first concern is with the effectiveness of the emergency system without acrimony. We need to reach agreement on this situation. Kermit Peterson said he was upset because the County was messing with their repeater. The evolution of the dispute was reviewed. The Ham operators say they do not know the nature or extent of the problem with the interference. The problem was not solved in the fall.

Commissioner Moore there was obvious animosity from the HAM operators, that is not helpful in reaching a reasonable solution. Keith Rathbun, contractor with Valley County. He had set up the tower, and at that time placed the equipment optimally. Afterwards, more equipment was added, but the addition resulted in the less than optimal location. He explained the process of locating antennae to minimize interference. The interference started when a spare antenna was placed in service. Mr. Rathbun explained he tried to place the Ham equipment on another antenna. He replaced the connection and there has been no change since, and the interference is gone.

Sheriff Bolen questioned future plans for antennas. Chairman Cruickshank said no more commercial applications will be added. We will put together a site plan, and look out for the well being of our citizens.

Long ago, Sheriff Blair Shepherd and Leonard Crowe set it up and operated it on the valley floor. Captain Coombs emphasized that antenna location so as to minimize interference is a call to be made by Valley County.

Mr. Rathbun believes that all antennae should be moved to the tower, and not affixed to the roof as is the present configuration. An addition to the tower is needed to effect this separation of the various antennae. The tower is presently full. An extension of 10 feet is necessary.

Costs of extending the tower may be \$1,000 per section, which is 10 feet, according to Mr. Rathbun. Coordination with the U S Forest Service is required.

There will be no additional users added to this system. Mr. Rathbun will be the technical expert used to help make these decisions. (Building Site Plan and Tower Site Plan)
Valley County Sheriff's Office will be in charge of the keys to the building.

We need a new contract with Rathbun, as well as a contract with Comm World.

Commissioner Moore moved for an Executive Session as provided by Idaho Code section 67-2345(1)(b), concerning an individual agent. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried. Roll Call vote, Commissioner Winkle "aye", Commissioner Moore "aye", and Chairman Cruickshank "aye"

Executive Session convened at 11:17 a.m.

Re-convene Regular Session at 11:29 a.m.

Chairman Cruickshank had received a letter from John Blaye, wherein Mr. Blaye waives the remainder of this 60 day notice to cancel his agreement with Valley County. Chairman Cruickshank directed the Clerk to release Mr. Blaye's check for May which had been held. This terminates our agreement with John Blaye, Idaho Economic Development, LLC by mutual consent. Chairman Cruickshank moved to terminate the agreement, second by Commissioner Moore and the motion carried unanimously.

We will be discussing the future of economic development with the City of McCall on June 13th. Donnelly has also noted their interest. The City of Cascade would also like to participate, but have yet to ask for a meeting. The mayor of Cascade would like to set a date to meet with the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Moore thinks it is imperative to continue, but needs input from the cities. We need a decision quickly. Discussion followed on how best to proceed. Chairman Cruickshank will contact SAGE for their assistance.

11:55 a.m. Adjourned for lunch.

Regular Session reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Mark Wood representing Idaho Power appeared to request underground utilities be permitted per his previous submitted site plan and record of survey. There is nothing else planned for this area. The power to the County Annex in McCall must be turned off for 6-7 hours to effect the change. Cynda recommended acceptance of the easement as requested.

Commissioner Moore moved to grant the easement as requested by Idaho Power at the County Annex. Second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Doug Miller, present for the preceding discussion, inquired as to whether the Commissioners would like him to proceed to develop facts and information to facilitate a decision as to whether or not the Commission would entertain a request from a neighboring county to house juvenile detainees in Valley County. He was asked to proceed.

John Russell appeared and discussed the acquisition of real property. He provided sketches and discussed the property. There is a problem in ascertaining whether or not there are any existing easements. He needs to speak to another surveyor, Bob Fodrea, to perhaps clarify this possible problem. He also recommended locating the power lines, which are buried underground.

He was asked to check the power lines with Idaho Power. He was also asked to check with Mr. Fodrea as to the easement.

Commissioner Moore moved for acceptance of the minutes of May 23, 2011, second by Commissioner Winkle and carried.

Commissioner Moore reported his vote concerning Central District Health budget for FY 2012. Valley County facilities are smoke free, but not the surrounding property.

The group promoting the Federally Qualified Health Clinic will meet again on June 7, 2011. Commissioner Moore will attend this meeting and Clerk Banbury also intends to attend.

Assessor June Fullmer appeared to discuss appraisal results accompanied by Consulting Appraiser Greg Himes of the State Tax Commission.

Chairman Cruickshank reported on winter recreation matters.

Commissioner Moore moved to convene Executive Session as provided by Idaho Code Section 67-2345(1)(b), a personnel matter.

Roll call vote followed: Commissioner Moore "aye", Commissioner Winkle "aye" and Chairman Cruickshank "aye."

Convened Executive Session at 3:15 p.m.

Re-convene Regular Session at 3:48 p.m.

A discussion of sick leave as part of the benefit package followed. No final decision was reached, and various approaches were discussed. Tami will prepare the package and present it to the Board for adoption on June 6th, 2011.

Commissioner Winkle left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioner Moore moved to approve the support letter for a McCall Fire grant application. Second by Chairman Cruickshank and carried.

Adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Gordon L. Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

Archie N. Banbury, Clerk

AB/tme 6-3-11