

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE, IDAHO
April 21, 2014**

**PRESENT: GORDON L. CRUICKSHANK (CHAIRMAN)
ELTING G. HASBROUCK (COMMISSIONER) –Excused Absence
BILL WILLEY (COMMISSIONER)
DOUGLAS MILLER (CLERK)**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cruickshank at 9:06 a.m.

Captain John Coombs led the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Willey made a motion to approve the agenda has presented for April 21, 2014. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Commissioners agenda for April 21, 2014, as presented.

Commissioner Willey made a motion to approve the Commissioner Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2014. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Commissioner Meeting Minutes from April 14, 2014.

Chairman Cruickshank presented the TIGER grant that the City of McCall is applying for. The City of McCall is requesting a support letter from the Valley County Commissioners. Commissioner Willey made a motion to have the Chairman sign the letter of support for the TIGER Grant. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to have the Chairman sign the letter of support for the TIGER Grant which will be applied for by the City of McCall.

Chairman Cruickshank presented the applicants for the open positions on the Edwards Mosquito District Board, Mr. Steven Case and Mr. Justin Reiswig. Commissioner Willey made a motion to appoint Mr. Steven Case and Mr. Justin Reiswig to the Edwards Mosquito District Board. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion

passed to approve the appointments of Mr. Steven Case and Mr. Justin Reiswig to the Edwards Mosquito District Board.

Chairman Cruickshank discussed the meeting that he attended in front of the Idaho Department of Transportation Board. Chairman Cruickshank advised that Valley County Road Superintendent, Curtis Bennett and he voiced their concerns to the ITD Board. They provided the ITD Board with some solutions and would rather work towards getting the restrictions relaxed and the repairs done immediately. Chairman Cruickshank explained the idea of using flaggers to flag the trucks across the bridge or the signal lights. He believed that the signal lights would impact the traffic in Cascade. Chairman Cruickshank also explained to the ITD Board that semi-trucks headed north are usually loaded and the freight trucks headed south are unloaded. Chairman Cruickshank reported that the ITD Board listened to the concerns presented and the ITD Board asked if Valley County would dedicate funds to the options? Chairman Cruickshank advised the ITD Board that the County does not have the funds at this time to assist with the cost. It was again stated that the North Bridge in Cascade is scheduled to be replaced in 2016 but ITD has moved up the project to 2015. ITD reported that they are still waiting for environmental clearance. ITD informed Chairman Cruickshank that the piers need to be stabilized and the estimated cost would be \$500,000. ITD wanted to wait until September of 2014 but has agreed to research completing the stabilization of the piers sooner than September 2014 if the repairs can be done. Chairman Cruickshank advised that he touched lightly on the corners in Smiths Ferry that limit the length of semi-trucks. ITD advised that the corners would be addressed in the 2016 Transportation work. Chairman Cruickshank also asked ITD Board about the corners on Goose Creek. Chairman Cruickshank indicated that he met the new District 3 representative for ITD Board, Julie DeLorenzo. Chairman Cruickshank advised that he heard from Franklin Building Supply and they have to lighten the semi-truck loads when bringing supplies to Valley County. Franklin Building Supply reported that this has increased the cost. Chairman Cruickshank reported that it appeared that the ITD Board understood the impact that the situation is having on Valley County. Curtis Bennett stated that ITD Board is in contact with Bureau of Reclamation and hoped that ITD would work on getting the issue resolved in a timely manner.

Captain John Coombs advised that the propane line at the Valley County Emergency Operation Center needs to be relocated in order to construct the new tower. He explained that the cost would be \$1,300 for the relocation of the propane line. Commissioner Willey asked when the construction of the tower would be completed? Captain Coombs advised that within the next couple of weeks the project would start. Captain Coombs reported that the Road Department would assist with the project but advised that there is a strict timeline. Captain Coombs advised that because of the cost of the project, he wants to make sure that it is done correctly.

Chairman Cruickshank discussed the proposed Valley County Cancellation of taxes for parcel #RP14No3E139700. Mr. Phil Davis explained that he has been working with Valley County Treasurer, Glenna Young and Valley County Assessor, June Fullmer regarding the issue. He indicated that he purchased a parcel of land in April of 1990. It was discovered in 2010 that there was a three acre area that had been excluded in his original purchase. Mr. Davis is in the process of purchasing this three acre area from the current owner. Mr. Davis explained that the three acres is a landlocked parcel. Commissioner Willey made a motion to approve cancellation of taxes for RP14No3E139700 for the years 2012, 2013 and upcoming 2014.

Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to cancel taxes for the years of 2012, 2013 and upcoming 2014 for parcel #RP14NO3E139700.

Valley County Public Defender, Scott Erikson was in attendance to advise the Commissioners about the legislation regarding the public defense reform bill that was passed contained an emergency provision that resulted in it taking effect immediately with respect to the restrictions on flat fee contracts. The restriction is currently in effect with respect to contracts entered into after the act was signed in March 2014. He advised that he has discussed the situation with Valley County Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Jay Kiiha. Mr. Erikson presented some options that he believed would be allowed. The first option that was presented was to have Valley County bring the Public Defender's office into the County as its own department. Mr. Erikson believed that this would be the most expensive. Mr. Erikson indicated that another option is the possibility that the State of Idaho would manage all public defenders. Chairman Cruickshank advised that a motion was passed at the Idaho Association of Counties conference to support having the State of Idaho run the Public Defender system and allocating the funds that counties currently pay for contracts to the State. Mr. Erikson opined that another way would be to contract with a private attorney but having a tiered contract based on the amount of cases that are handled. Mr. Erikson advised that he tried to prepare a comparable budget to what has been budgeted for the Prosecuting Attorney's office. Mr. Erikson presented to the Commissioners that he has a need for another attorney to assist him with the cases. Mr. Erikson advised that he would like to continue to have private clients but because of the increased public defender cases, he does not have the time to take on private clients. Commissioner Willey asked if an associate was hired to help, would the County hire the attorney or would Mr. Erikson? Mr. Erikson advised that he would be responsible to hire an attorney. Mr. Erikson informed the Commissioners that it would be his preference to enter into a tiered contract and be allowed to hire another attorney. The Commissioners decided to have Mr. Erikson attend a budget workshop and discuss with the Valley County Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Jay Kiiha.

Mr. Randy Heffner with the Squaw Creek Soil Conservation District wanted to give an update of what Squaw Creek has been doing in Valley County. He reported that the amount of funds that have been expended for Valley County is \$34,000 and the services that were provided were for forest stand improvement, riparian forest buffer, fuel break and pumping plant. Chairman Cruickshank advised that it was nice to see that there were projects being done on this area of Valley County. Mr. Heffner explained that there is a match of 2 to 1 from the State. He advised that it has been cut back in the past. Mr. Arthur Beal advised that if they find weed infestation in Valley County, Squaw Creek would let Valley County know about the area. Mr. Heffner provided some information to the Commissioners regarding the education programs that are offered. It was explained that Squaw Creek District has sponsored students to participate in camps. Chairman Cruickshank asked if there are any 319 grants available for High Valley? Mr. Beal reported that he would research the possibility of applying for these grants.

Ronda Bishop with the Boise National Forest discussed the campgrounds along the canyon on Highway 55 which are in the Emmett district. Mr. Richard Newton the Emmett District Supervisor, would like a letter submitted to him outlining the specific concerns of the campgrounds. Ronda advised that they are still going forward with the Valley County snow grooming Environmental Assessment. Chairman Cruickshank asked if this is for the extended

miles? Ronda advised that is correct and the Forest Service is still moving forward. In regards to the routes, Ronda reported that in 2016, the Forest Service will be starting all over with the five year plan. She indicated that the Forest Service would like the County to take a look at the current routes and determine if the routes are needed. She explained that the current routes expire in 2017. Ronda advised that their RAC grants were approved and will be able to have Youth Conservation Corps. Ronda wanted to know if there are projects in Valley County in the Boise National Forest that the youth crews could help with? Chairman Cruickshank suggested that there might be some work needed at the transfer site in Yellowpine and in Warm Lake. Chairman Cruickshank also asked if the crew could work on signage? Ronda indicated that she would check. Ronda thanked the Cougar Mountain and West Mountain snowmobile clubs for cleaning up at the trailheads of their snowmobile trails. She reported that she will be presenting at the Waterways Committee meeting on May 6, 2014, for a grant that would put up docks at Rainbow Point. The Boise National Forest will be asking for matching dollars from the Waterways Committee. Chairman Cruickshank wanted to talk about OHV Rangers grant that was submitted to the RAC. Chairman Cruickshank explained that the Commissioners supported the trail work but not the law enforcement component of the grant. He explained that they wanted to support long term benefits to the forest. Ronda did not know if the grant was funded and believed that it might not have been funded. Chairman Cruickshank suggested that that in the future, the Forest Service grant application should separate trail work from Law Enforcement. Chairman Cruickshank reported that there was \$1.4 million dollars in grant applications and only \$500,000 in available funding.

Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Gordon Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

Douglas A. Miller, Clerk