

**IN THE OFFICE OF THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CASCADE, IDAHO
August 25, 2014**

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

Meeting called to order by Chairman Cruickshank at 9:02 a.m.

Chairman Cruickshank led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the agenda for August 25, 2014 as presented. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the agenda as presented for August 25, 2014. Chairman Cruickshank wanted the record to reflect that Commissioner Willey was not in attendance and it was an excused absence.

Deputy Auditor, Alysa Morrison presented to the Commissioners the Claims, Board Order Claims and Junior College Certificate of Residency. Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the Claims and Board Order Claims as presented totaling \$326,653.81 and also Junior College Certificate of Residency for Zachary Allen. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Claims and Board Order Claims totaling \$326,653.81 as well as Junior College Certificate of Residency for Zachary Allen.

Senior Deputy Appraiser, Sue Leeper informed the Commissioners that Assessor, June Fullmer is out of the office attending the Assessor's Conference. Sue presented a 2014 Market Value Cancellation for Parcel RP002590000200. The market value cancellation is for \$75,780. Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to cancel the market value for Parcel RP002590000200. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in

favor. Motion passed to cancel the market value for Parcel RP002590000200 in the amount of \$75,780.

Clerk, Douglas Miller presented to the Commissioners that he will make a presentation this afternoon regarding Fiscal Year 2015 budget.

Treasurer, Glenna Young presented to the Commissioners that she had a tax cancellation scheduled because the property was turned back to the State. Glenna did not have the ability to confirm that the property went back to the State and until she can confirm she did not feel comfortable presenting the tax cancellation. She advised that the property was a cottage that was on State leased ground.

Building Department, Anne Guarino reported that the Building Department has been busy receiving new permits and she has been in the field conducting inspections.

Alysson Statz with the University of Idaho Extension office presented that the Valley County Fair was a success. She would like to have the Commissioners meet with the Valley County Fair Board at some time. She explained that there needs to be discussions regarding plans for the future. Alysson stated that there will be an afterschool program in Cascade and she would be partnering with Southern Valley County Recreation District, Lake Cascade State Park and Cascade Culture Art Center. Alysson advised that she is partnering with St. Luke's Hospital for afterschool program in Donnelly. She provided information regarding sales of 4-H animals at the Valley County Fair. Chairman Cruickshank asked when the fair review meeting was going to take place? Alyson advised that the meeting would be on August 26, 2014. Chairman Cruickshank suggested that the Valley County Fair Board be placed on the agenda for the Commissioner meeting on September 22, 2014.

Court Services Director, Skip Clapp informed the Commissioners that the Juvenile Detention Center currently has two juvenile residents. He advised that since the contract was signed with Washington County, Valley County has had two juveniles from Washington County. Skip presented a contract with Gem County to hold juveniles at the Valley County Juvenile Detention Center. Skip also advised that he is pursuing three other counties. Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the contract with Gem County and authorize all of the Commissioners to sign the contract with Gem County. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the contract with Gem County to hold juveniles at the Valley County Juvenile Detention Center and authorize the Commissioners to sign the contract. Skip advised that he was asked to be the Secretary for the Idaho Juvenile Justice Administrators and he accepted. Skip reported that he received a bid to have the juvenile detention fenced in the back in order to have a closed in sally port. He reported that the cost would be about \$10,000. He presented that the Idaho Department of Juvenile does have funds to reimburse for the cost of the construction of a fence. Skip advised that the construction of the fence would be for security and safety. Chairman Cruickshank suggested that the Commissioners need to take a site visit and review a master plan to determine if the County needs to pursue the construction of a fence. Skip asked the Commissioners for permission to purchase a security door for the inside of the Annex which would prevent the general public from having the ability to enter staff's offices without an escort. Chairman Cruickshank advised that the Commissioners would need to review actual

cost of the proposal. Skip advised that Sylvia Ryan has resigned her position as the Community Service Coordinator.

Human Resource Director, Ken Arment reported on some Sheriff's Office radio equipment that was damaged during a lightning strike. He advised that the Community Service Coordinator position has been posted internally. Ken reported that there are two individuals who are in background for the dispatch openings. He also presented that there is one dispatcher who is resigning which would create another open position. Ken stated that he is in developing an employee benefit list which provides information regarding the County's benefits. He advised that New York Life would like to conduct a presentation to the Commissioners. He informed the Commissioners that Elected Officials and Department Heads have been working with him regarding open positions. Ken presented that he attended a meeting with Ada County Indigent and he would like to get on the same terms with Intermountain Hospital related to mental holds.

Planning & Zoning Administrator, Cynda Herrick presented that she still working on the Payette River Basin Water Trails. Cynda stated that P&Z has received some conditional use permits. Commissioner Hasbrouck advised that there might be some funding for Payette Water Basin Water Trail through RC&D. Cynda will be presenting a management plan for the Payette River Basin Water Trails to the Commissioners at a later date. Commissioner Hasbrouck advised that the Idaho Power meetings have concluded and there will be a meeting with the Planning & Zoning Commission at a later date.

Recreation Director, Larry Laxson reported that the Van Wyck Bridge should be completed by the end of the week. He stated that the tank at Cougar Mountain will be installed this week and the Donnelly Fuel tank should be completed this week. Larry advised that he will be attending Idaho State Snowmobile Association meeting. Larry presented a report which shows registrations for snowmobiles from out of state residents. The report will be appended the Commissioner meeting minutes. Larry believed that the Recreation Department should look at getting a list from the snowmobile clubs in the West and send a brochure to the clubs. Commissioner Hasbrouck suggested the possibility of attending other snow shows in the western states.

Chairman Cruickshank started the Bloxsom Road Closure discussion. Mr. Allan Bloxsom advised that a road agreement is being prepared. It was discussed that an easement with Idaho Department of Lands is for timber harvest and is not a public easement access. Chairman Cruickshank asked for clarification of where the State Land was? Chairman Cruickshank presented that the access to the State public land is not one of the county roadways. Chairman Cruickshank stated that from his standpoint he cannot make a decision if there is an agreement with the State. Chairman Cruickshank made a motion that there is no objection with the installation of gate on the road to access State land through Mr. Bloxsom's property and requests the documentation from the State which allows Mr. Allan Bloxsom to install a gate. Commissioner Hasbrouck seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to allow Mr. Allan Bloxsom to install a gate on the road accessing the State Department of Lands through Mr. Allan Bloxsom's property.

Chairman Cruickshank presented the Commissioner Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2014. Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the Commissioner Meeting Minutes from

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August 18, 2014. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Commissioner Meeting Minutes from August 18, 2014.

Chairman Cruickshank presented the letter of support for Brighter Smiles which provides funding for dental services for indigent individuals. Chairman Cruickshank made a motion to approve the letter of support for Brighter Smiles. Commissioner Hasbrouck seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the letter of support for the Brighter Smiles Grant.

Chairman Cruickshank presented Resolution 14-09. Transfer funds from Road Department to Weeds. Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to have the Chairman sign Resolution 14-09. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to have the Chairman sign Resolution 14-09.

Chairman Cruickshank presented a Homeland Grant #DR-1927-ID. Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to have the Chairman sign the HMGP Grant #DR-1927-ID. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to have the Chairman sign the HMGP grant #DR-1927-ID.

Chairman Cruickshank advised that the Commissioners would be going into closed session for Indigent/Charity at 10:45 a.m.

Chairman Cruickshank brought the Commissioners out of Indigent/Charity at 11:02 a.m.

No decisions were made regarding Indigent/Charity.

Treasurer, Glenna Young presented tax deeds to the Commissioners. Chairman Cruickshank advised that there would be an audio recording of the hearing. She advised that the Treasurer's Office has complied with State Code. She presented on Parcel RP000040000480 which owes \$4,133.28 in total taxes. The second parcel that was presented was Parcel RPC0028016016A which owes \$412.81 in total taxes. Glenna advised that there is an issue with this property because the property crosses on to this parcel. The individual who owns the property was contacted via phone Ms. Julian Berg who owns the adjoining property. Glenna explained the process and advised the individual that the tax payments could be made but it would not change ownership of the property. The third parcel presented is Parcel RPC0031027002A which owes \$10,772.16 in total taxes. The Commissioners were informed that the owner is deceased. Glenna advised that Key Bank informed her office that they would overnight a check. Glenna advised that as of 10:30 a.m. a check had not been received by the Treasurer's Office. The fourth parcel presented was Parcel RP005150140350 which owes \$13,785.32. The Commissioners were informed that the owner is deceased. The fifth parcel presented was Parcel RPC0031026022A which owes \$2,322.51. It was advised that the owner of the parcel is in a nursing home. Chairman Cruickshank reported that the 2013 taxes on PRC0028016016A have been paid. Chairman Cruickshank made a motion to have Parcel RP00004000480, Parcel RPC0031027002A, Parcel RP0051505140350 and Parcel RPC0031026022A go into the tax deed process and instructing the Treasurer to place the properties into the name of Valley County. Commissioner Hasbrouck seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed. Chairman Cruickshank advised that the Tax Deed sale would take place on October 6, 2014 at 1:00 p.m.

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Prosecuting Attorney, Jay Kiiha presented on TJ Properties. There was an easement that was removed once the property was foreclosed on. Jay presented the easements and quit claim deed. The Commissioners pre-approved signing these documents to clean up the easement issue on West Mountain Road in the area of the junction of Smylie Lane North for the realignment that occurred several years prior.

Commissioners adjourned for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Commissioners returned from lunch at 1:10 p.m.

Chairman Cruickshank discussed the dispatch vacancies and possible solutions. Chairman Cruickshank stated that there currently are two individuals who are in backgrounds for the dispatch openings. Commissioner Hasbrouck had requested this agenda item as he understood that the vacancies were not being filled as of last week. Human Resource Director, Ken Arment advised that he has also received four applications if another position opens.

Chief Deputy Clerk, Trudy Eiguren presented on the Gem Plan Insurance costs. She reported that the employee currently pays 40% of the dependent medical insurance premium and 35% of the dependent dental and vision insurance premium. Trudy advised that in September we will be paying the increase for October coverage. Trudy advised that the Commissioner need to decide what percentage the employees will pay for the dependent coverage for 2015. Chairman Cruickshank recommended that the County continue to pay 60% percent and have the employee pay 40% of dependent coverage and increase the employee contribution for dental and vision from 35% to 40%. Chairman Cruickshank supported having the County pay the increased cost in September dependent premiums and pass the cost along to employees in October. Ken Arment presented that he is looking into raising the amount that can be saved for flexible spending accounts. Commissioner Hasbrouck asked if there are employees who do not receive the counties insurance? Trudy explained that there are employees who opt out of the insurance and the funds are deposited into a 401k plan. Commissioner Hasbrouck supported that the County continue to pay 60% of the dependent medical insurance and 60% of the dependent cost for dental and vision.

Commissioner Hasbrouck made a motion to go into Executive Session per I.C. 67-2345(1)(b)-Personnel at 1:33 p.m. Chairman Cruickshank seconded the motion. All voted "aye". Motion passed to go into Executive Session.

Chairman Cruickshank brought the Commissioners out of Executive Session at 2:00 p.m. The decision after the executive session was that the Commissioners approved that Valley County Court Services Director, Skip Clapp conduct interviews for the Community Service Coordinator Position.

Solid Waste/Facilities Supervisor, Ralph McKenzie provided solid waste statistics which will be appended to the Commissioner meeting minutes. Chairman Cruickshank asked Ralph if he has been able to get some estimates regarding moving 911 over to the EOC building? Chairman Cruickshank also asked Ralph to obtain specific quotes regarding getting a security door for the Valley County Annex. Chairman Cruickshank asked about the repairs that were done in the alleyway and wanted to know if he was making contact with Granite Excavation to

see if they would be willing to cover a portion of the cost? Ralph indicated that he would follow up with Granite Excavation. Ralph provided an update about the air conditioner repairs that needed to be done. Ralph also presented on the replacement of the water heater at the EOC building. He advised it is a gas water heater. Ralph advised that he will be selling recycled metal on October 2014. Commissioner Hasbrouck asked if the culvert pile at the Road Department could be sold? Ralph will ask the recycle people on the possibility of taking the old culverts. Ralph advised that he usually grinds the heavy wood, construction wood and picks through the light wood at the MRF and would look into grinding the Road Departments piles. Ralph concluded his presentation.

Chairman Cruickshank opened the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Discussion. Clerk Miller, presented to the Commissioners that the county budget has decreased over three million dollars in ten years while expenses have continued to increase. He also presented that the mill levy rate for 2015 (.002127342) would actually be lower than last year's levy rate (.002210723). Clerk Miller also presented that not knowing if the Payment In Lieu of Taxes would be received has created a significant shortfall. The shortfall is approximately \$338,000. Clerk Miller reported that he recalculated the cash forward amounts and was able to decrease the proposed balance to be levied by \$113,925. Clerk Miller reminded the Commissioners that the budget was not developed over night and that they have been working on the Fiscal Year Budget 2015 since April. He commended the Commissioners for working directly with the Department Heads and Elected Officials to determine the needs of each department and believed that developing the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget was a true team effort.

Mr. Gary Swain was concerned that the General Public was not provided with enough time to review the entire budget. Mr. Swain believed that the published budget print was not big enough to read. Mr. Swain felt that the tax increase is unacceptable. He believed that if Valley County was collecting less in revenue, Valley County needed to reduce spending. He is concerned that the budget is increasing. Mr. Swain was also upset that the solid waste tax was going to be increased. Mr. Swain did not believe that County employees should be getting raises and was concerned that the raises were being put on the back of local tax payers. He requested that the Commissioners take another look at the budget and make significant reductions.

Mr. Phil Davis questioned how much of the lack of road funding would be covered by the current taxes? It was explained that the current budget does not include taxes for the Road Department. Mr. Davis recommended that the Commissioners sue the Federal Government in order to receive Payment In Lieu of Taxes and Secure Rural Schools funding. He believed that there is a case to be made and he does not want to let it go easy.

Mr. Swain was concerned about how the budget was published and did not believe that it was published according to code. Valley County Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Jay Kiiha believed that the budget was published according to Idaho Code.

Commissioner Hasbrouck commented that the average salary for a County employee is \$28,000. Mr. Swain believed that the Commissioners need to hold the line on any tax increases.

Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

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Gordon Cruickshank, Chairman

Attest:

Douglas A. Miller, Clerk