

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE APRIL 2013 SESSION

Third Day

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Lawrence Schoen, Vice-Chairman Angenie McCleary, Commissioner Jacob Greenberg; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; Operations Director Char Nelson; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Chairman Schoen called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS, DISCUSSION and CONSIDERATION

Operations Director – Char Nelson

- Road and Bridge recommended awarding the gravel bid jobs for cover coat and roadmix to Anderson Asphalt.
- Road and Bridge recommended awarding the magnesium chloride bid jobs to Ag Express. The County tests the magnesium chloride to be sure it meets specs.

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve accepting the bid from Anderson Asphalt Paving for 1/2" cover coat and 3/4" roadmix gravel in the amount of \$45,100; and approve accepting the bid for magnesium chloride from Ag Express in the amount of \$42,773.50. Motion carried unanimously.

- The Recycle Center recommended awarding the bid for welding services to repair 10 bins at the Recycle Center to D Swaner Welding.

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve bid from D Swaner Welding for \$3,527.29 for repairs at the Recycle Center that were specified in the bid. Motion carried unanimously.

- To celebrate Earth Day, Blaine County will show the documentary film *Trashed* at the Ketchum Community Library, Wood River High School, the Sage School and the Community School.
- Greenberg suggested Blaine County have a special service on Memorial Day for veterans and victims of recent tragedies in the U.S.
- Parts of the parking lot east of the Old County Courthouse will be under construction and cordoned off for certain times this summer. Much of the parking lot will be cordoned off during the OCC retrofit.

AMEND AGENDA

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to amend the April 16, 2013 agenda to include Benchmark Associates Professional Services Agreement under Contracts; and to add an additional topic for Executive Session for Real Property Acquisition, I.C. 67-2345 1(c) at 3:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

- **Memorandum of Understanding with The Nature Conservancy of Idaho for Evaluation of Silver Creek Macroinvertebrate Populations**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin, and Grant Administrator Michele Johnson.

Blaine County is proposed as the government pass-through agency for the Nature Conservancy for funding a US Geological Survey study on macroinvertebrate populations in Silver Creek on an annual basis for the four-year study.

The BCC wants to establish a standard policy for this kind of pass-through relationship.

The BCC asks should the USGS be included in the MOU agreement with The Nature Conservancy and Blaine County, or should there be an additional agreement between the USGS and Blaine County? The revised MOU document will be added to a future BCC agenda.

- **Benchmark Associates Professional Services Agreement** Record #608559

This contract is for Benchmark to survey and flag the road rights-of-way in Hulen Meadows. The contract has been revised to relieve Blaine County of liability for survey workers in the roadway. The survey was done to facilitate locating utility lines; identify right-of-way edges and to give residents visual confirmation of their encroachments. Operations has a line item for engineering costs.

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve Benchmark Associates Professional Services Agreement to locate flags for the county rights-of-way for the estimated amount of \$2,000; plus \$300 for resetting critical missing right-of-way pins if necessary; and, on a per lot basis, provide professional surveying services to prepare a report and exhibit certifying existing right-of-way locations. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD REPORTS, DISCUSSION and CONSIDERATION

BLM Cooperating Agency Conference Call on Sage Grouse – Schoen

A conference call on BLM’s Land Use Plan Amendment for sage grouse brought numerous state and federal agencies and interested people together to review project status and current work efforts. Six alternatives are included in the first public document; with no preferred alternatives at this time.

Craters of the Moon – Schoen

The BLM will initiate scoping meetings on the Craters of The Moon Management Plan.

Local Emergency Planning Committee – Greenberg

- The Idaho Geological Survey is seismic testing in Blaine County, particularly in proximity to commercial buildings. Test results will inform emergency services of earthquake areas of concern.
- Snowpack and water levels are relatively low this year, so very little danger of flooding.

Drought Emergency Declaration – Schoen

It may be advisable to request Drought Emergency Declaration for Blaine County this year.

Idaho Association of Counties – Schoen

The Capital Crimes Defense Board’s two new representatives are Doug Zenner from Nez Perce County and Greg Shenton from Clark County.

Blaine County Housing Authority – Schoen

BCHA Executive Director David Patrie is looking for ideas to diversify their funding base.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

- **March 19, 2013 Regular Meeting**
- **April 2, 2013 Regular Meeting**

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve the Board of County Commissioners minutes for March 19, 2013 and April 2, 2013, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATION OF POLLING PLACES FOR MAY 21, 2013 ELECTION

The County Clerk read the list of polling places for the May 21, 2013 election.

BLAINE COUNTY POLLING PLACES		
PRECINCT #	PRECINCT NAME	POLLING PLACE
001	North Blaine County	Hemingway School 111 8 th Street West, Ketchum, ID
002	Sun Valley	Sun Valley City Hall 81 Elkhorn Road, Sun Valley ID
003	North Ketchum	Hemingway School 111 8 th Street West, Ketchum, ID
004	South Ketchum	Hemingway School 111 8 th Street West, Ketchum, ID
005	Quigley	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
006	Deer Creek	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
007	NW Hailey	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
008	NE Hailey	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
009	SW Hailey	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
010	NW Woodside	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
011	SE Woodside	Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey ID
012	Poverty Flat	Bellevue Elementary School 305 North 5 th Street, Bellevue ID
013	Bellevue	Bellevue Elementary School 305 North 5 th Street, Bellevue ID
014	Carey	Carey City Hall 20482 North Main, Carey ID
015	Gannett / Picabo	Silver Creek Convenience Store 18918 Highway 20, Picabo ID
016	Yale	Mail Ballot Precinct
017	Absentee	Blaine County Courthouse & Mail 206 1 st Ave South, Hailey ID

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve the designation of polling places as read into the record. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY BENEFITS INSURANCE BROKER, DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

Also present: Blaine County Human Resources Generalist Susan Potucek; County Payroll Clerk Barbie Royal; County Assessor Valdi Pace; Chief Deputy Assessor Martha Heuston; County Treasurer Vicki Sisiam; Department of Motor Vehicles Supervisor Carma Angelo; County Planning Assistant Michele Johnson; Wood River Insurance Chairman Mark Balcos and Vice President Hailee Blomquist-Mintz; Western Benefits Solutions VP and Benefits Consultant Cindy Smart-Tealey; Intermountain Agency brokers Kelly Inman and Charlotte Hildebrandt; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Kate Wutz.

DISCLOSURE: Blaine County Commissioner Larry Schoen's personal insurance coverage is brokered by Wood River Insurance, but that would not influence his decision.

Potucek sent out 12 Scope of Service Requests, ten of which went to local agencies within Blaine County. Responses were received from Wood River Insurance (local), Western Benefit Solutions division of Gallagher Insurance, and Intermountain Agency.

Blaine County's Human Resources wants to partner with a company that can provide professional assistance in planning, brokering and implementing the County's employee benefits program, which affects the County's team members, internal process and budget.

Potucek summarized the three proposals to the BCC.

Western Benefits Solutions and Intermountain Agency submitted samples of the reports they would provide. Potucek rated Western Benefits Solutions' reports as excellent and Intermountain Agency's reports as very good. Wood River Insurance uses a dynamic reporting tool developed by Blue Cross, which the County's HR personnel could access.

Western Benefits Solutions' proposal includes analysis of Blue Cross's underwriting, which would provide Blaine County and its team members with an explanation of premium adjustments. WBS would discuss any suspected discrepancies with Blue Cross. Wood River Insurance and Intermountain Agency would provide reports that would project the upcoming year's premium adjustment.

Royal has depended on Western Benefit Solutions to answer health benefit-related questions. The Affordable Care Act will involve more complex rules and regulations in upcoming years. Idaho limits what information is available to users, so easy access to accurate answers for HR and payroll is crucial.

The BCC would prefer to work with a local company if possible. Potucek said preference for a local provider was included in her scoring system.

Blaine County is currently paying Wood River Insurance 2% commission for Blue Cross and 3% for Delta Dental. Intermountain Agency said they would negotiate commission. Western Benefits Solutions proposal was for 3% commission, but they would match what Blaine County is currently spending. WBS would save Blaine County and its employees additional health insurance money by providing underwriting analysis and negotiating with Blue Cross.

PROPOSERS' COMMENTS:

Intermountain Agency is one of the largest agencies in Idaho, with a great deal of experience with negotiation in the renewal process. Kelly Inman said both she and Hildebrandt worked with actual insurance companies for years and understand them well.

Western Benefits Solutions VP Cindy Smart-Tealey said relationship is most important. She would always question something that seems unreasonable, whether it produced income or not. Thoroughly understanding healthcare reform and being able to explain it will be important in upcoming years.

Wood River Insurance has represented Blaine County since 1995. Blaine County's representative Rhiana Macaya-Mitchell negotiated a proposed Blue Cross 13% premium increase down to 0 for 2013. WRI values Blaine County as an account, and feels their experience matches their competitors.

The BCC asked staff to re-evaluate the proposals, including the possibility to separate dental insurance from health insurance.

FISCAL YEAR 2013 FIRST HALF BUDGET REVIEW

Postponed to the next BCC meeting.

SKILLED NURSING TRANSITION PLANNING

Also present: Blaine Manor Administrator Gail Goglia and Finance Director Stephanie Jaskowski, Blaine Manor representative Linda Haavik, Blaine Manor Director of Nursing Margaret Gartner, and Blaine Manor advocate Ursula Hulbert; Safe Haven representative David Hennessy; Croy Canyon

Ranch Foundation (CCRF) Executive Director Kathleen Eder and CCRF Campaign Chairman Anita McCann.

Voss offered a draft timeline and cross-functional flow chart to identify key elements and supporting actions. Key components of the transition are the service agreement that will describe all elements of the transition; team selection; and confirmation that all permits are in place and Safe Haven has secured financing. The final component is the transfer of Medicare license and ownership of Blaine Manor.

The BCC suggested the transition team—representatives from Blaine Manor, Safe Haven and Blaine County—meet every two weeks to work through details of the transition. The BCC directed staff to develop the service agreement with Safe Haven as soon as possible.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Safe Haven design review was approved by the City of Bellevue. Construction documents are basically complete and are out for initial pricing. An executed Service Agreement is necessary to secure financing. Expect to break ground July 1.

BREAK

**LAND, WATER, WILDLIFE LEVY PROGRAM –
LOVING CREEK FISH PASSAGE PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST**

Also present: Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves; Land Use and Building Services Director Tom Bergin; Blaine County Land, Water and Wildlife Levy Advisory Board Coordinator Clare Swanger; Loving Creek Ranch managers Keith and Wendy Jones; and Trout Unlimited Southern Idaho Project Manager Chad Chorney.

DISCLOSURES:

- Clare Swanger and LAB member Will Miller visited the site on April 1 with Trout Unlimited Southern Idaho Project Manager Chad Chorney and Loving Creek Ranch manager Keith Jones.
- Clare Swanger and County Commission Chairman Larry Schoen visited the site a week ago.
- Chairman Schoen disclosed that he lives in the vicinity of Loving Creek Ranch.

This is a request for conceptual approval by Trout Unlimited on behalf of the owners of Loving Creek Ranch. The request is for about \$14,000, or 50% of the project cost, to construct a fish bypass panel and fish ladder on Loving Creek at a point adjacent to an irrigation diversion where there is a 3-ft vertical drop that most fish are unable to pass. This project is intended to improve upstream and downstream fish passage and improve the Silver Creek watershed.

Proposed construction must be done during low water, and is planned for the fall 2013. IDWR indicated a water right is not necessary; and the landowner supports the project.

The Loving Creek Ranch is held under a Conservation Easement by The Nature Conservancy, which supports the project. All stream alteration permits have been granted. Construction is waiting for financial arrangement with Blaine County. Revegetation of disturbed areas will deploy native species. The ranch manager will monitor operation and maintenance of the fish ladder and channel.

Construction costs will be reimbursed after construction is complete, with a certain percentage withheld until it is confirmed that fish are using the passage. Trout Unlimited will monitor that the channel and bladder are installed according to plan and that the fish are using it.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to conceptually approve a proposal by Trout Unlimited for a fish passage on Loving Creek as a Land, Water and Wildlife Levy project as proposed in LAB materials and subject to required due diligence, including reviewing the Stream Alteration Permit, how the permit is implemented, monitoring and other necessary review in due diligence. In discussion, the BCC thanked Trout Unlimited for representing the Loving Creek landowners in this Land, Water and Wildlife levy proposal. The BCC thanked the LAB and staff for their effort in preparing LAB applications for the BCC. **Motion carried unanimously.**

LAND USE AND BUILDING SERVICES, DISCUSSIONS AND CONSIDERATION

• Smiley Creek Fire Station Fee Waiver

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; and Smiley Creek Fire Protection District President Gary Thietten.

Smiley Creek Fire Protection District is requesting waiver of all or part of their fire station building permit fees. Other fire districts have received waivers of fees for their building permits.

The Smiley Creek Fire District previously remodeled a building to be their temporary fire station. The District is now applying to further remodel the building as a permanent fire station. The Land Use

Administrator recommends charging 1/3 of the plan review cost and 1/3 of the permit fee, totaling \$225.74, to cover staff costs. The Fire Fee and Energy Code fee can be completely waived.

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to waive two-thirds of the fee for the Smiley Creek fire station building permit; and to collect the usual refundable deposit of \$1,500.00 and the remaining one-third of the building permit fee (\$225.74) for a total of \$1,725.74. Motion carried unanimously.

ELECTED OFFICIALS SALARY POLICY, DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

Also present: Blaine County Human Resources Generalist Susan Potucek; County Treasurer Vicki Sisiam; and County Assessor Valdi Pace.

The County Clerk reported that the current Compensation Kinds and Levels Chart may result in internal inequity, with a chief deputy making more than the elected official s/he works for. The BCC discussed if elected officials should be included on the Kinds and Levels Chart; and if County Commissioners should be included with other elected officials.

Individual Commissioners' comments and policy questions:

- Should elected officials be evaluated like other employees and included on the Kinds and Levels chart? It's difficult to compare the job County Commissioners do to jobs of other County employees.
- Should elected officials move up steps on the chart from Hiring to Proficient to Market to Superior level?
- Should elected officials be considered Midmarket level? Would Intro range be more appropriate for a newly-elected official? Most Blaine County elected officials except for County Commissioners currently make the Midmarket level. The Clerk considers all elected officials in the Midmarket range, which is the equivalent of an eight-year experienced employee. Elected officials are expected to be at 100% proficiency almost immediately after they take office without any kind of training period.
- Exempt employees tend to work a 40-hour week. Most Blaine County employees work a 35-hour week.
- Blaine County cost of living should be considered in compensation discussions.

County Commissioners by State law set their own salaries, which puts them in a difficult political position. The BCC agreed they need, as best as possible, to take a scientific approach and keep politics out of compensation discussions.

The BCC agreed they should make a policy decision about whether elected officials should be included on the chart before budget discussions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION §67-2345 1(c) Property Acquisition, §67-2345 1(f) Pending Litigation, and §67-2345 1(j) Risk Management

At 3:52p.m., McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to go into Executive Session for Property Acquisition, pursuant to §67-2345 1(c), to conduct deliberations to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency; Pending Litigation, pursuant to Idaho Code §67-2345 1(f), to discuss with legal counsel the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation; and Risk Management, pursuant to Idaho Code §67-2345 1(j), to discuss with the County's risk manager the adjustment of a pending claim or prevention of a claim imminently likely to be filed. McCleary (aye), Greenberg (aye), and Schoen (aye). Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

ADJOURN

At the hour of 4:30 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____

JoLynn Drage
County Clerk

Lawrence Schoen
Chairman