

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE DECEMBER 2014 SESSION**

Third Day

Tuesday, December 16, 2014

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 Jacob Greenberg, Commissioner Angenie McCleary; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Chairman Schoen called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

AMEND AGENDA

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to move Wooden Hills Subdivision Minor Plat Amendment to the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS, Discussion and Consideration

County Administrator - Derek Voss

- Ketchum would like to have a city-county meeting for mayors and county commissioner chairman to discuss local state of affairs in early 2015.
- Blaine County Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers has been working with emergency communications agencies in Region IV to form a four-person Region IV Emergency Communications committee. The committee's priorities are to reestablish a Region IV District Interoperability Governance Board (DIGB), which will eventually report to a newly-established emergency communications governance board; create a statewide or regional funding model and amend statutes to allow for creation of a new emergency governance board. Members of the six Idaho regions, plus other stakeholders, will join together to form a statewide steering committee. The committee will meet in January to set up their 12-month objectives and devise a plan to create shared goals and seamless continuity in a consolidated governance structure for public safety communications.
- Commissioner Greenberg and Blaine County CAD Administrator Chris Corwin are on the Idaho 911 Emergency Communications Commission (IECC) subcommittee, called "Idaho Next Generation Working Group", which is focused on NextGen communications and whether the backbone will be regional or statewide. The IECC is focused on funding NextGen; the Southern Idaho Emergency Communications Commission and technology steering committee are focused on radio interoperability. It is hoped that the groups can eventually converge toward a common effort and reduce duplication.

Road and Bridge 2014 Project Report - Tom Duffy

Also present: County Operations Director Char Nelson; County Road and Bridge Manager Tom Duffy; Road and Bridge Carey Shop Foreman Greg Peterson; Road and Bridge Glendale Shop Foreman Doug Swaner; Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Tony Evans.

Duffy, Peterson and Swaner presented a photo essay of 2014 major road projects.

- The BCC noted that several of the 2014 major projects were very rural south county roads that access remote ranches, and are also heavily traveled by recreationists. Nelson said average daily count on Little Wood Reservoir Road is 400 vehicles per day.
- Road and Bridge occasionally has to enforce utilities lowering and moving underground cables farther off the roadway.
- Road and Bridge occasionally has to raise the elevation of gravel roads where road shoulders have built up higher than the actual roadway.
- The state inspects Blaine County bridges every year. Occasionally one is deemed unsafe and closed until it is upgraded.
- Although people want Trail Creek Road open as soon as possible in the spring, Road and Bridge delayed clearing it this year until most of the snow was melted and avalanche danger was minimal.
- Crews reestablished drainage ditches and culverts where flooding occurred, particularly in Glassford Heights and Hulen Meadows.

The BCC complimented Road and Bridge employees on their knowledge and the superb work they do with limited funding and aging equipment that frequently fails.

Road and Bridge's decreased funding in FY2015 will result in less dust guarding and chip sealing. Less maintenance results in road deterioration, making maintenance more expensive.

ROAD AND BRIDGE LEVY DISCUSSION

The BCC is considering a two-year override levy on the May 2015 ballot. The BCC has to decide how much revenue is needed and what residents will support. If BCC approves local jurisdictions' participation in the levy, 50% of the revenue collected in each city will be returned to that city.

County Operations Director Char Nelson presented detailed information on levy options. The FY2014 Road and Bridge budget was about \$2 million, including money set aside for federal projects. The FY2015 budget is about \$1.7 million; plus Blaine County will have to provide about \$150,000 in match funds for two federal grants for the design of Adams Gulch Bridge and Glendale Road upgrades in the next couple of years.

Some of Blaine County's heavy equipment is over 30 years old and susceptible to failure, which slows crews down. Blaine County has 325 miles of gravel roads, 125 miles of asphalt roads, and 54 bridges. In order to get County roads back in shape, Road and Bridge has to chip seal at least 30 miles of roads each year and crack seal at least 35 miles each year. Crews must also stripe, patch and sweep asphalt roads and upgrade and dust guard gravel roads.

Blaine County projects that could be done with levy funds:

- \$1,445,000 modernize heavy equipment
 - 150,000 facilities need to be repaired and possibly purchase some new generators
 - 125,000 repair and upgrade bridges
 - 300,000 snowplow
 - 1,500,000 chip seal and crack seal 125 miles of asphalt roads – this would begin to protect roads from further deterioration caused by delayed maintenance
 - 1,300,000 upgrade gravel roads
 - 150,000 in matches for federal grants
 - 30,000 flood and disaster mitigation stockpile to protect road and bridge infrastructure
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- \$5,000,000

Nelson presented priority project lists for levy revenue of \$3.5 million, \$2 million levy and a \$1 million levy.

BLAINE COUNTY AMBULANCE DISTRICT

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to convene as the Blaine County Ambulance District. Motion carried unanimously.

Communicable Disease Preparedness Equipment

Also present: Wood River Fire Protection District Chief Bart Lassman; Ketchum Fire Chief Mike Elle; Blaine County Disaster Services Coordinator Chuck Turner; and Ambulance District Budget Officer JoLynn Drage.

Chief Elle asked the Ambulance District to approve funding not to exceed \$5,000 for the purchase of communicable infectious disease personal protective equipment out of reserve if there is not adequate funds in the line item. The Level B suits can be used for hazardous materials incidents.

The Ambulance District has an older ambulance that will be decommissioned but can be converted for use specialized transport, i.e., individuals with communicable diseases and hazmat purposes.

Infectious disease preparedness and procedures were recommended by a coalition of emergency communications, the School District, Blaine County Sheriff, St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center, South Central District Health, etc. Emergency personnel will be trained in how to don and doff and use the special suits.

Lassman suggested the Ambulance District include a line item in future budgets of \$1,000 to be used when necessary to upgrade pandemic preparedness supplies.

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to authorize the Ambulance District to expend up to \$5,000 for personal protective gear. In the event there aren't sufficient funds in the current Equipment budget, to authorize a transfer from Ambulance District Reserve Funds and direct staff to prepare a resolution to that effect. Motion carried unanimously.

Blaine County Ambulance District Network Discussion

The Blaine County Ambulance District is not an in-network provider for any insurance company. Being a network provider would result in the Ambulance District receiving lower reimbursement rates for services provided. Ambulance District Budget Officer JoLynn Drage said the patient is responsible for payment of an ambulance transport, or the balance of payment after their insurance provider pays. The BCC will discuss this further next budget year.

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to reconvene as the Blaine County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS, Discussion and Consideration

- **2011 Homeland Security Grant Program EMW-2011-SS-00018**
- **2012 Homeland Security Grant Program EMW-2012-SS-00136**

Also present: Blaine County Disaster Services Coordinator Chuck Turner; and County Grant Administrator Michele Johnson.

This is wrap-up of these two grants for 2011 and 2012. The 2011 Grant forfeits \$83.55 since local Disaster Services did not spend that money. The 2012 Grant forfeits 81¢.

McCleary moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve 2011 Homeland Security Grant Program EMW-2011-SS-00018 in the final amount of \$56,360.62; and 2012 Homeland Security Grant Program EMW-2012-SS-00136 in the final amount of \$30,795.32. Motion carried unanimously.

- **Janitorial Agreement for Search & Rescue Quarters** Record #623603

This is a standard agreement with an existing contractor for additional cleaning service in the Search and Rescue training space. Funding will be absorbed by the Operations budget.

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve All-Star for extra cleaning of Search and Rescue space for \$1,488 annually, payable monthly. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- **Resolution 2014-50 Sheriff Budget Adjustment** Record #
- **Resolution 2014-51 Capital Improvement Fund Budget Adjustment** Record #
- **Beverage License Renewal for Irvings Red-Hots**
- **Wooden Hills Subdivision Minor Plat Amendment**

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve the Consent Calendar dated December 16, 2014. Motion carried unanimously.

ROAD AND BRIDGE LEVY UPDATE

- McCleary met with Sun Valley Mayor, Administrator and Community Development Director. Sun Valley is developing a transportation plan and considering a bond. A joint levy with the County would apparently not cover all of Sun Valley’s transportation needs. The Mayor will put the County Road and Bridge Levy on a Council agenda in January, and would like to know the levy amount by then.
- Schoen met with the Carey Mayor and City Council President, who said Carey can use the levy revenue, but felt the levy amount last time was too much. Carey residents frequently feel left out of County benefits so there needs to be a lot of outreach and education.
- Schoen had to postpone meeting with Bellevue Development Services Director Craig Eckles, but Bellevue did a great job of communicating with their residents last time and have said they would support the levy again.
- The BCC needs to educate residents on county roads, which are necessary to access city streets, jobs and recreation.
- Hailey supports a county-city levy and thinks the levy would have a hard time passing if the cities aren’t included. Hailey will also likely pursue some kind of additional funding for their own capital improvements.

Greenberg suggested the BCC meet with key city personnel by the end of January to get their preferences and devise a uniform marketing strategy to promote the levy.

Nelson said it was important to realize that \$3.5 million is necessary to get County roads back to standards after years of falling behind. Not only will it cost more in the future to maintain roads that are below standard, it takes more time and personnel resources to do so. It is more cost-effective to use trained County employees to do road maintenance and reconstruction and hire seasonal labor to haul materials. Occasional technical consultants are hired for special projects.

BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS, Discussion and Consideration

Associated Taxpayers of Idaho Meeting – Greenberg and Schoen

Primary discussion was about transportation funding at the state level and if there’s enough political will to bring it forward. Guest speakers advocated for investment in infrastructure because the future depends on it, but the governor and Idaho legislators made no commitment.

Soil Conservation Districts Legislative Meeting – Schoen

All three district legislators and County Commissioners from each county were present. Discussion was about conservation and funding issues, particularly drought and water concerns.

South Central Public Health District Board Meeting and Region 5 Behavioral Health Community (BHC) Board Meeting – McCleary

Both meetings were in one day. BHC focused on creating a new mission and mission statement. SCPHD discussed formulating a strategic plan and how to do a better job providing services throughout the region.

5B Restoration Update – McCleary

5B Restoration was formed to address restoration after a fire and resiliency to future fire potential. 5B Restoration subcommittees are currently working on recreation and ecology in cooperation with public agencies and environmental and recreational non-profits.

Correspondence

- Predator Derby - Greenberg: Email from Western Watersheds Executive Director Travis Bruner asked the County to consider writing a letter to the Forest Service and BLM about the upcoming predator derby on Forest Service land. A lot of people have strong feelings on the issue, but the question is if it has an impact on Blaine County. Ketchum feels it has a negative impact on their tourism economy. The derby’s sponsor is based in Salmon and last year’s hunting area was three million acres, outside of Blaine County.
- Close the Gap Idaho – Schoen: Information about the Healthy Idaho plan that would change Medicaid to promote participant responsibility and reorient payment to healthcare providers toward value rather than quantity of services.
- Western Governors Association is collecting survey data for the fourth annual inventory of conservation initiatives for sage grouse – Schoen: The WGA is trying to ascertain how well volunteer actions are meeting needs of this species. Schoen will complete the survey for Blaine County.
- Safe Haven CEO Scott Burpee asked the BCC to support a letter to Idaho Medicaid requesting modification to the Medicaid payment schedule. Safe Haven requests a higher reimbursement rate based on the higher cost of living in a stressed community. The BCC wants Safe Haven to receive as much revenue as possible to provide the best care possible. Schoen will draft a letter for BCC review.

LAND USE and BUILDING SERVICES, Discussion and Consideration

Comprehensive Plan Update – Tom Bergin

- The Comprehensive Plan team met to work on the first draft of the Agricultural section. The room was full and people were engaged in discussion about present and future changes in the local agricultural economy.
- Comp Plan Steering Committee member Will Miller resigned.

Bellevue City Council Repealed Bellevue’s Area of City of Impact

Bellevue Council voted unanimously to repeal their 2008 Area of City Impact Agreement. The County had not ratified it. The Bellevue City Attorney does not believe Bellevue needs an ACI for a Category A annexation. He told Council they should update the City’s Comprehensive Plan to address the city’s ACI.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 12:33 p.m., with no more business before them, McCleary moved to adjourn, seconded by Greenberg. Motion passed unanimously.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
 JoLynn Drage
 County Clerk
 Lawrence Schoen
 Chairman