

- 1 • Restructured the western embankment on the Croy Creek Road bridge over the Big Wood River.
2 Crew cleaned out debris and filled the embankment with concrete.
3

4 **County Administrator – Derek Voss**

- 5 • Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves is drafting a resolution to dissolve
6 Blaine Manor Board of Trustees.
7 • Blaine Manor personnel and computer files will be stored and accessible in a Blaine County
8 building.
9

10 **ESTABLISH BLAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS (Idaho Code 34-1405)**

11 **Discussion and Consideration**

12 The County Board of Commissioners, by Idaho Code, must establish Commissioner Districts. The
13 County Clerk suggested they adopt the Commissioner Districts and Election Precinct Boundaries as
14 set in 2012, which were based on 2010 Census.
15

16 **ESTABLISH ELECTION PRECINCT BOUNDARIES (Idaho Code 34-301)**

17 **Discussion and Consideration**

18 **McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to reaffirm County Commissioner District and
19 Precinct Boundaries as set in 2012. Motion carried unanimously.**
20

21 **CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS, Discussion and Consideration**

- 22 • **Renewal No. 2 to MOU between State of Idaho Military Division and
23 Blaine County, Idaho** Record #616096

24 Also present: Blaine County Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers.

25 There are no changes to this renewal contract for T1 connectivity to the master site for the 700MHz
26 radio system.

27 **Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the MOU Renewal #2 between the State
28 of Idaho Military Division and Blaine County, Idaho for development of a shared P25 compliant
29 radio system with repeater radio sites located at Ketchum Baldy, Picabo and Dollar Mountain,
30 for FY2014. Motion carried unanimously.**
31

- 32 • **MOU between the Department of Health & Welfare, Division of Welfare and
33 Blaine County** Record #616095

34 This agreement enables Blaine County Indigent office to access indigent application records at Health
35 and Welfare.

36 **McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve MOU between Blaine County and the
37 Department of Health and Welfare which allows our Indigent department to view indigent
38 records. Motion carried unanimously.**
39

40 **BLAINE COUNTY EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AMENDMENTS Discussion and Consideration**

41 Also present: Blaine County Human Resources Generalist Susan Potucek; Blaine County Land Use
42 Administrator Tom Bergin; and County Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers.

43 Potucek reviewed revisions and amendments made to the Employee Handbook.

- 44 • Donated sick leave is only good for a specific employee and specific purpose. If unused, donated
45 sick leave is not returned to the donor.
46 • The BCC discussed jury duty reimbursement for County employees and a new policy on social
47 media.
48 • The BCC set a new policy on providing a smoke-free workplace by requiring smokers to be 50ft
49 from a County building.
50

- 1 Discussion on revisions in the Employee Handbook was continued to later in the meeting:
2 • New forms in the handbook include an Employee Calendar that supervisors can use to document
3 attendance and communications with employees.
4 • Employees should only use County logos and emblems in official capacity.
5 • When operating under a County disaster declaration, department heads, elected officials and the
6 county administrator are automatically authorized to make disaster response-related purchases
7 without a Commissioner's signature and the normal claims process.
8

9 **Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the Employee Handbook, as presented,**
10 **with amendments.** In discussion, McCleary supported the handbook, but disagreed with the 50ft
11 restriction for smokers. **Motion carried unanimously.**
12

13 **BEAVER CREEK FIRE RECOVERY: REPORT by US ARMY CORPS of ENGINEERS**

14 **Conference Call on Study of post-fire hydrologic effects in certain drainages**

15 Also present: Blaine County Sheriff Gene Ramsey; County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin;
16 County Engineer Jeff Loomis; County Code Compliance Specialist Diane Shay; Blaine County Clerk
17 JoLynn Drage; St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center representative John Gaeddert; and *Mountain*
18 *Express* reporter Greg Moore.

19 This discussion was a conference call and web-based PowerPoint presentation facilitated by Army
20 Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District Outreach Manager/Silver Jackets Coordinator Ellen
21 Berggren.

22 Also present on the conference call were:

- 23 • US Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) Hydraulic Engineer Darrell Eidson, who led the discussion;
24 hydraulic engineers Brandon Hobbs and Ghanuni Heitem; Hydrology and Hydraulics Section
25 Manager John Heitstuman; and Regulatory Project Manager James Joyner.
26 • U.S. Geological Survey hydrologist Ken Skinner.
27 • Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Area Wildlife Biologist Deb Koziol; and Civil
28 Engineer Doug Higbee.
29 • National Weather Service Hydrologist Corey Loveland.
30 • U.S. Forest Service Aquatics Program representative Erica Phillips.
31 • Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security State Hazard Mitigation Officer Mark Stephensen; Senior
32 Mitigation Planner Susan Cleverly; Central Area Field Officer Gary Davis; Risk MAP Program
33 Manager Ryan McDaniel; and Fred Abt.

34 State and federal agencies visited Blaine County after the Beaver Creek fire to assess risks of debris
35 flows off the mountains, flooding and other environmental hazards and life-safety dangers that may
36 occur in the future. Representatives of the agencies are participating in this conference phone call to
37 share the results of various surveys and site-based risk assessments in the Big Wood River and its
38 drainage.
39

40 The Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) and U.S. Forest Service Burn Area Emergency Response
41 (BAER) team did hydrologic assessments throughout the area. They anticipate water flows about 30%
42 higher after the fire; and even higher if the County experiences an unusually heavy rainfall event this
43 summer. The ACE modeled a debris dam, illustrating how flow would push through the debris and
44 affect the river and floodplain downstream. A USGS report said potential for debris flow in tributaries
45 was high. Blaine County must be vigilant in monitoring weather and temperature forecasts for rainfall
46 and snowmelt through spring and early summer.
47

48 ACE doesn't have a mechanism to pre-authorize permitting in anticipation of an emergency event, but
49 is available to work with IDWR to anticipate immediate concerns. IDWR and Homeland Security can
50 work with the County to prepare for heightened flood risk and devise strategies to retain sediment
51 outside floodplain areas.
52

1 **RESOLUTION 2014-03**

2 **McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to remove Resolution 2014-03 establishing Yale as**
3 **a mail-out precinct from the Consent Calendar. Motion passed unanimously.**

4
5 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 6 • **Beverage License Transfer for A Taste of Thai**
- 7 • **Resolution 2014-01 Forfeited Cafeteria Funds Transfer** Record #616166
- 8 • **Resolution 2014-02 Destruction of Election Records** Record #616167

9
10 **Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the Consent Calendar for January 14,**
11 **2014. Motion carried unanimously.**

12
13 **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS Discussion and Consideration**

14 Commissioners attended several meetings in the last week, but had no new reports.

15
16 **BREAK**

17
18 **LAND, WATER AND WILDLIFE LEVY ADVISORY BOARD**

- 19 • **Wildlife Winter Range Educational Sign project, with partner, City of Hailey:** A public hearing on
20 and consideration of an application for funding from the Land, Water & Wildlife Levy for \$3,776 (43% of the total
21 cost) to design, produce and install educational signs near Old Cutter’s Park and at the entrance to Quigley Canyon
22 for the purpose of educating the public about recreating in winter range, in order to reduce the impact on wintering
23 wildlife. The Bureau of Land Management and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game support and are contributing
24 financially to this project. The City of Hailey will be responsible for monitoring and reporting about the project and
25 for ongoing maintenance of the signs.

26 Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Senior Planner Kathy
27 Grotto; Blaine County Land, Water and Wildlife Levy Advisory Board (LAB) Coordinator Clare
28 Swanger and LAB members Lili Simpson and Ben Sinnamon; Hailey Community Development
29 Director Micah Austin, BLM Shoshone Field Office Outdoor Recreation Planner John Kurtz; Roger
30 Olson; and Nexis Gonzalez.

31 The City of Hailey doesn’t want to close off the Old Cutters area and would like to post educational
32 signs on how to recreate in sensitive wildlife areas. All inconsiderate users can be threatening to
33 wildlife. Harassment of wildlife is against the law, and dogs that harass wildlife can be shot on sight.
34 The Agreement with Old Cutters stipulates that the trails be three season. All trails in the area are
35 unofficial trails created by public use. The signs include maps of nearby trails and wildlife winter
36 range. They instruct people to stay on trails, move away from wildlife in the area, and keep dogs on
37 leash; and have contact information for people who witness wildlife harassment.

38
39 The City of Hailey is requesting \$3,776 from Blaine County Land, Water and Wildlife Levy program for
40 the signs. Hailey has committed \$1,000, plus \$1,500 in-kind to install the signs and provide materials.
41 Idaho Fish and Game committed \$500 and BLM \$2,000 to the project. Hailey will install the signs as
42 soon as possible and track grants, expenses, labor and contributions. Lili Simpson has agreed to
43 track trail surveys, phone calls and an online survey to determine if the project is a success.

44
45 The BCC suggested Hailey collect baseline information now to gauge success of the program after
46 the signs are in place. Monitoring will begin the first winter after installation of the signs.

47
48 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- 49 • **BLM Shoshone Field Office Outdoor Recreation Planner John Kurtz said signs showing trails**
50 **before BLM does its travel plan could be a challenge. Private entities can’t close public land**
51 **without going through a federal public process. Pets can be regulated, but only in developed**
52 **recreation sites.**

- 1 • Hailey resident Kathy Grotto, who has hiked the area with her dog and seen wildlife, supported the
2 signage.
- 3 • Roger Olson said this is a low-snow winter, but animals all come down when there's more snow.
4

5 Schoen felt \$9,000 for two signs was a lot of money, especially with two other government
6 jurisdictions involved that always have had the authority to limit or control access in this area.
7 Greenberg felt there were benefits to Blaine County citizens who encroach into wildlife areas and are
8 responsible for protecting wildlife. McCleary felt the signage project fit into the broad language of the
9 levy to protect land, water and wildlife. She appreciates the collaboration between state and federal
10 organizations, Hailey and Blaine County.
11

12 **Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve Blaine County Resolution 2014-04**
13 **Wildlife Winter Range Educational Sign Project with Land, Water and Wildlife Levy Project**
14 **funding, amended to state that unexpended funds from this project will be returned to the**
15 **Land, Water Wildlife Levy project, and that monitoring and reporting will be provided for a**
16 **minimum of five years, and that the Blaine County logo or a future Land, Water and Wildlife**
17 **logo will be added to the signs. Motion passed unanimously. Record #616252**
18

19 **BLAINE COUNTY ROAD and BRIDGE FUNDING—NEEDS and OPTIONS**
20 **Presentation, Discussion and Consideration**

21 Also present: Blaine County Operations Director Char Nelson and Operations Administrative
22 Assistant Lynn Timm; County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; Blaine County Road and Bridge
23 Manager Tom Duffy; County Public Information Officer Bronwyn Nickel; Sun Valley Councilman Keith
24 Saks; Mountain Rides Transportation Authority Executive Director Jason Miller; Len Harlig; Dale
25 Ewersen; Dick Fosbury; Jima Rice; Barbara Browning; KECH News Director Dayle Ohlau; *Mountain*
26 *Express* reporter Greg Moore; and KMVT Channel 11 reporter Joey Martin.

27 Blaine County's 1994 Comprehensive Plan stated that Road and Bridge was funded by property tax
28 (40%) and state and federal gas tax (60%). In 2007, the BCC adopted Resolution 2007-01 stating that
29 mitigation fees paid by developers would replace property taxes in funding county roads and the
30 County would only adopt new roads that had general county use.
31

32 The 2013 Blaine County Transportation Plan documents all County roads and bridges; and
33 anticipates future road maintenance and repair, equipment and facilities needs. Currently, Blaine
34 County's Road and Bridge Department revenue comes from state gas tax, Forest Service Rural
35 Schools funding, and reserves.
36

37 In the last few years, County Road and Bridge funding has declined nearly 40%. State and federal
38 gas tax rates are the same as the mid-90s and more fuel-efficient cars use less gas, so gas tax
39 revenue has declined. Development in Blaine County slowed drastically during the Recession,
40 resulting in minimal mitigation fees collected. Federal budget cuts may reduce or eliminate the 4%
41 Secure Rural School funds, which can be used as local grant match, making Blaine County ineligible
42 for state and federal grants. Road and Bridge Reserves have made up revenue shortfall the last
43 couple years, but can't continue to do that.
44

45 While revenues have decreased, the cost of crude oil and gas has gone up, so the County expends
46 more to buy road materials and operate heavy equipment. The FY2014 funding shortfall is \$416,000.
47

48 If Blaine County continues to fund Road and Bridge at its current rate, County roads will continue to
49 decline and cost over \$11 million to bring up to standard:

- 50 • Well-constructed and maintained asphalt roads should have 20 years of life. Frequent chip and
51 crack sealing will add up to five years of life to a road that has a Remaining Service Life (RSL) of
52 7-10 years. Sixty percent of County roads have an RSL of 7 years or less. Chip-sealing roads with
53 less than an RSL of 7 years only adds about 3 years to their lifespan. Road and Bridge suggests

- 1 annual funding for asphalt roads be increased to \$1.4 million in each of the next two years to get
2 and maintain them in good shape.
- 3 • Gravel roads deteriorate more rapidly, and are rated 1 to 5. Only 8% of Blaine County roads are
4 rated 4 or 5. Gravel roads in bad condition can be nearly impassable in the winter, even with 4WD.
5 Road and Bridge suggests an annual gravel road budget of \$1,410,000.
 - 6 • Blaine County has 54 bridges, which are inspected annually by the state. A number of County
7 bridges are aged and need substantial work.
 - 8 • There are over 400 culverts in Blaine County, many of which need to be replaced. Water on the
9 roadway is a road's worst enemy.
 - 10 • Blaine County Road and Bridge facilities need to be updated. The Carey shop is too small for road
11 equipment, has no room for staff amenities or for staff to input data. There is no generator, so
12 diesel equipment can't be started if there is a power outage. Road materials are stored outside,
13 uncovered, and leach into the ground when it rains
 - 14 • Road and Bridge's heavy equipment is 30-40 years old. Operations are frequently interrupted
15 when equipment breaks down, and staff has to interrupt jobs to repair it. Parts for aging equipment
16 are not always readily available. Road and Bridge would like to budget \$900,000 to purchase
17 good equipment.
 - 18 • Road and Bridge trucks need radios so crews can maintain contact in outlying rural areas.
 - 19 • Road and Bridge currently dust guards in front of homes. Dust guarding, chip sealing and
20 sweeping the entire road system would protect roadways, keep them in better shape, lessen chips
21 damaging cars and allow cyclists to ride on the roads.

22

23 Road and Bridge Funding options:

- 24 • The Road and Bridge budget could take \$400,000-\$500,000 out of the County's general fund.
25 This would save Road and Bridge reserves, but would short other County departments. Roads
26 would continue to deteriorate due to inadequate maintenance, and there would not be adequate
27 funding for equipment replacement and facilities improvement.
- 28 • Form a highway district, which could levy its own taxes. A separate taxing district would cost
29 taxpayers money to operate.
- 30 • Issue a bond, which would probably be very specific and not cover all Road and Bridge needs.
- 31 • A permanent levy, which requires a super majority. All funds could go to the County or be shared
32 with the local cities.
- 33 • A two-year override levy, which requires a simple majority. The County has the option to share
34 money collected within each jurisdiction with that jurisdiction for their road needs. Four cities—
35 Ketchum, Hailey, Bellevue and Carey—would like to share the levy. The maximum levy amount is
36 .2%, which would produce \$16,170,69, more than the County needs. Staff suggests a .1% levy,
37 which would deliver \$8,085,000 total revenue. Blaine County would receive \$5,400,000 and the
38 rest would go to the cities.
- 39 • The County could levy a .067% two-year levy, without the cities' participation, and realize \$5.4
40 million, enough to fulfill Road and Bridge needs.

41

42 QUESTIONS:

- 43 • Sun Valley Councilman Keith Saks asked whether a joint levy shared with local jurisdictions would
44 give half the money collected within each jurisdiction back to the jurisdiction for their road and
45 bridge needs. If the levy is not shared with the cities, none of the proceeds received from the levy
46 will be used on roads within the cities.
- 47 • Mountain Rides Executive Director Jason Miller said Blaine County and local cities are developing
48 a Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan. Blaine County can use levy funds to improve roads and widen
49 shoulders to accommodate bike lanes. Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim
50 Graves suggested bike/ped improvements within cities would be up to cities.
- 51 • Jima Rice asked why Blaine County discontinued using property taxes for Road and Bridge and
52 has the County considered reinstating property tax funding for Road and Bridge? Rice said the
53 State is also having difficulty funding its road system and may increase the gas tax.

1 The BCC wasn't sure why the decision was made to not use property tax for funding Road and
2 Bridge; but a temporary levy is another way to collect property tax for a short term. The County can
3 lobby the state to raise the gas tax rate; but can't base its budget decisions on the expectation that will
4 occur.

- 5 • Barbara Browning said 72% of Blaine County's property tax goes to the School District, which has
6 an \$80 million FY2014 budget with minimal input from the public. Browning suggested the BCC
7 discuss budget issues with the School Board, on behalf of Blaine County residents.

8
9 Blaine County roads need funding as soon as possible. The BCC looks forward to getting countywide
10 support of a temporary override levy ballot at the May election.

11
12 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

13 There was no need for Executive session today.

14
15 **ADJOURN**

16 At the hour of 4:18p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

17
18
19

20 Attest: _____ Approved _____
21 JoLynn Drage Lawrence Schoen
22 County Clerk Chairman