

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE JUNE 2011 SESSION**

First Day

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 10:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Angenie McCleary, Vice Chairman Tom Bowman, Commissioner Lawrence Schoen; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; Chief Deputy County Clerk Leslie Londos; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Chairman McCleary called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

BUDGET REQUEST: PROSECUTING ATTORNEY – County Prosecutor Jim Thomas

FY2012 budget request is similar to last year's, with a few minor changes. The County Prosecutor's role is established by State Statute. In addition to official duties, the Blaine County Prosecutor and Chief Deputy Prosecutor currently serve on many advisory committees and task forces.

FY2012 staff needs are static. The FY2012 budget request includes a 10% salary increase for two deputy attorneys to keep them comparable with statewide salaries.

The Prosecutor's office is currently split between two buildings, which is inefficient and not the best customer service.

DEPARTMENT REPORT: BLAINE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE - McCleary

Also present: Blaine County Prosecutor Jim Thomas, and Chief Probation Officer Teresa Espedal.

The Blaine County Mental Health Task Force met with Wood River Medical Center Community Health Manager Erin Pfaeffle. Mental health needs in Blaine County are increasing, especially since the Health and Welfare office closed. The Task Force is hoping to find funding to open a mental health clinic in Hailey.

BUDGET REQUEST: PROBATION – Chief Probation Officer Teresa Espedal

FY2012 budget request is the same, with the exception of testing and monitoring felony offenders. This is currently funded through programming for misdemeanor offenders, but should be a separate line item. The Probation Department also requests consideration for a new car.

Probation continues to get tobacco tax; and recently received a large payment from the state from a lottery win. The State is trying to fund counties, which have saved the State money by doing a good job of helping kids at the local level.

The Probation Department:

- Is accountable to every citizen in the County, including the safety of every resident, and the welfare of offenders, victims, and their families.
- Strives for a greater level of community safety.
- Has the over-riding goal of changed behavior by implementing strategies to reduce recidivism.
- Has a solid team approach in exploring ideas and working together, and always remains mindful that it takes time to change norms and behaviors.
- Saves the county money by keeping kids and adults out of incarceration and hospitals.
- Struggles to establish fair fees for probation services, and to collect fees.

FUNDING REQUEST: BLAINE COUNTY FAIR BOARD – Blaine County Fair Board President Kyle Green.

Also present: Fair Board member Sara Mecham.

The Fair Board is working well together and making plans for the future. The 2012 budget request includes an additional amount for a Capital Improvement Plan to install restrooms and other repairs that may be necessary. The Fair provides an economic opportunity for Carey, but the Board wants to connect with the entire valley, and is looking for a Fair Board member from the north valley.

The Fair Board has planned a Friday Family Fun Day to provide many activities, competitions, and entertainment for all ages that will really draw people.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 1:28 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
JoLynn Drage Angenie McCleary
County Clerk Chairman