

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

**Third Day**

**Monday, June 6, 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; Operations Director Char Nelson; *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Jason Kaufmann; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Chairman McCleary called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

**County Clerk** – JoLynn Drage

- Focused on FY2012 budget requests and budget.

**County Administrator** – Derek Voss

- Drafting generic service agreement for outside agencies that receive funding from Blaine County.
- Met with Emergency Communications Partners Advisory Committee to discuss funding history and funding options for FY2012.

**Operations Director** – Char Nelson

- Received \$50,000 grant for Keller and Associates to do County Transportation Plan.
- Waiting for approval on the Adams Gulch bridge design Scope of Project (SOP).
- City of Hailey wants to widen the culvert on Buttercup Road. Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) and Corps of Engineers require a larger culvert, but that might increase flooding downstream.

**BCC REPORTS, DISCUSSION and CONSIDERATION**

**Sheep trailing discussion** – McCleary

Also present: Western Watersheds Project (WWP) Executive Director Jon Marvel, WWP Advisory Board member Martin Flannes, and representative John Whiting; and U.S. Forest Service District Ranger Kurt Nelson.

Western Watersheds and Blaine County Recreation Department are meeting to discuss issues and impacts of driving sheep through Blaine County. Sheep may carry and disperse noxious weed seeds from public lands to public and private lands, and their feces can carry zoonotic disease. The Rec District incurs costs in spraying for weeds and cleaning the bikepath after the sheep. Sheep trails predate formation of the Rec District.

By Statute, the County has authority to designate livestock routes and regulate animals moving through the county. WWP would like to engage the public in discussing sheep trailing routes with sheep producers to better understand the routes.

**Region IV Development Board meeting update** – Schoen

- Extensive presentation by China Mountain Wind Energy Project Community Relations Representative Laurie Lickley.
- Update on Region IV Development loans program.
- Annual report revealed that Region IV is currently operating at a loss. Board expressed concern over financial management and will revisit.
- Passed a resolution approving the Region IV Development Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

Region IV has loan money available at low interest rates. The BCC will begin providing office space once a month for Region IV to meet with small local businesses on their funding needs.

**Sustain Blaine meetings update** – Schoen

Updates on current efforts:

- Partnering on a study with the City of Hailey on business blockers.
- Application for an Olympic training center has been submitted to the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).
- Working with local jurisdictions to lay groundwork for economic activities studies.
- Jason Fry of Peak Productions introduced the plan for an annual Sustain Blaine music festival, which would allow local businesses to promote themselves to the community.
- Overview presentations by housing agencies—ARCH, Habitat for Humanity, Blaine County Housing Authority, and Ketchum Community Development Corporation.

**Solid Waste District Board meeting update - Schoen**

- Tentatively approved a new employee handbook. SISW Board discussed employee policy and a more updated approach to compensation and teamwork.
- Reviewed the budget, which includes provision for a half-time communications, education, and outreach coordinator.
- Discussed need for improved communication procedures within Blaine County and district-wide.

**State Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) meeting update - Bowman**

- Bowman requested appointment to the SIEC Operational Plan Subcommittee.
- Toured the State Communications Center at Idaho Police Center in Meridian.

**Interfacility Transfer meeting - Bowman**

- Contract with St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center does not require the contractors to provide interfacility transfers.
- St. Luke's Cost Recovery department will check to be sure transfers are being billed correctly.
- Subcontractors will reconcile monthly bills from the billing agency with call runs to be sure they correspond.
- Possible solution would be to have one responder employed by each Ketchum and Wood River Fire Protection District available on 24-hour shift for transfers. St. Luke's may be willing to fund additional stipend for the on-call responders.

**Baseline Percentage of Snow Water Equivalent - Bowman**

The average Snow Water Equivalent keeps rising because the snow is not melting; but the average melt line is decreasing. There could be a flood if all the snow melts at the same time.

**South Central Public Health Board meeting update - McCleary**

All South Central District counties have approved the public health budget.

**Behavioral Health Cooperative meeting update - McCleary**

The recent Behavioral Health Cooperative meeting focused on defining the role of the seven regional boards, which will focus on core services in their respective regions.

**Senior Care updates - McCleary**

Blaine Manor Board is researching alternative solutions in the event Croy Canyon Ranch Foundation doesn't open on the anticipated date.

**Blaine County Regional Transportation Board meeting update - McCleary**

- Highway 75 road improvements from Timmerman Hill to Bellevue begin this week.
- Highway 75 overall project Revised Environmental Impact Statement should be ready soon. All right-of-way plans have been approved, and appraisals are now being done.
- Blaine County Regional Transportation Committee will start prioritizing road projects.
- Blaine County website will link to Transportation Committee's up-to-date highway information.

**Commissioners Travel and Education Budget discussion - McCleary**

Commissioners' travel budget is getting tight. Commissioners will look for under-budget items to compensate for the travel budget.

**FUNDING REQUEST: EXTENSION OFFICE**

Present: Blaine County Extension Educator Lauren Hunter.

This year's budget request is less than the past two fiscal years. County funding provides the Extension Office space, an administrative secretary and 4-H coordinator. The Extension Office provides:

- An agricultural environmental outreach program, focused on transformative learning. The goal is a change in behavioral and management agricultural habits and lifetime leadership skills.
- Programs and mentoring for 500 4-H Blaine County youth; and assistance at the County Fair.
- Alignment with the County's strategic objectives in partnering with other groups—the Hunger Coalition and Advocates, etc.—to provide economics classes and programs on family nutrition.
- Programs, classes and research projects featuring Extension and University of Idaho specialists.
- A model farm project collaboration with The Nature Conservancy at Silver Creek that will examine water flow, fish habitat, etc.
- Crops and alternative crops studies for the Blaine County area.

The Extension Office tallies phone calls and walk-ins to provide better information on clientele and their needs. The Extension office aligns with the County's BE<sup>3</sup>ST Committee in being conscious of power and fuel use.

**FUNDING REQUEST: WOOD RIVER WOLF PROJECT**

Present: Defenders of Wildlife Wood River Wolf Project spokesperson Suzanne Stone and representative Lawrence Goelman; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative Susannah Woodruff; U.S. Forest Service District Ranger Kurt Nelson; Lava Lake Land and Livestock President Mike Stevens; Wood River Wolf Project representative Daniel Anta.

The Wood River Wolf Project implemented non-lethal methods of deterring predator-livestock conflict. There have been zero wolf losses in the over 8,000 sheep in the project area when these management techniques have been employed over the last three years. The next step is expanding and promoting the project outside of Blaine County.

The BCC expressed appreciation for the project, and agreed that it aligns with Blaine County priorities.

PUBLIC COMMENT supported the Wolf Project's non-lethal public land management methods. The project successfully balances grazing with recreational and other resource values.

**FUNDING REQUEST: ANIMAL SHELTER OF THE WOOD RIVER VALLEY**

Present: Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley Executive Director JoAnne Dixon.

The FY2012 contract request is for same amount as last year. Contributions from each jurisdiction are based on the number of impounds they bring in.

The BCC expressed appreciation to the Animal Shelter for a remarkable job.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- Beverage License Renewal for Pascual Cano dba Taqueria al Pastor #1
- New Beverage License for Food Thought Collective dba della Mano

Schoen moved, seconded by Bowman, to approve the Consent Calendar for June 6, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BCC MEETING MINUTES**

- May 23, 2011 Regular Blaine County Commissioners meeting

Schoen moved, seconded by Bowman, to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2011 Regular BCC Meeting minutes, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURN**

At the hour of 12:22 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
JoLynn Drage  
County Clerk  
Angenie McCleary  
Chairman