

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
SPECIAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAY 2015 SESSION**

Seventh Day

Wednesday, May 27, 2015

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Jacob Greenberg, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary, Commissioner Lawrence Schoen; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; Wood River High School Applied Government student Yisel Reigle; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

CANVASS ELECTION VOTES UPON WHETHER TO AUTHORIZE CREATION OF THE SOUTH VALLEY GROUNDWATER DISTRICT

Also present: Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves.

Idaho Code § 42-5213 requires The Board of County Commissioners to canvass votes within 10 days of an election. The County Clerk mailed out 124 ballots asking if the County should authorize creation of the South Valley Groundwater District. 76 ballots were returned. At least two-thirds of the votes, based on cubic feet per second, favored creation of a ground water district, meeting all statutory requirements, for creation of the South Valley Groundwater District.

Schoen read the canvass of votes, by cubic feet per second (cfs) owned.

South Valley Ground Water District	YES	NO
TOTAL	366.25	0.6
Percentage	99.84%	0.16%

SVGWD DIRECTORS	Sharon Lee	Brett Stevenson	Gerald Bashaw
Votes	67	65	54
CFS	352.59	305.09	301.62

Precinct	Total Number of Ballots Mailed	Total Number of Ballots Returned	Percent Voted
SVGWD	124	76	61.29%

Schoen moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve Canvass of Votes and Order Following Canvassing of Votes from May 19, 2015 Election to Form South Valley Ground Water District by the Blaine County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

AMEND AGENDA

McCleary moved, seconded by Schoen, to amend the agenda to include a discussion on the Road and Bridge Levy at today's meeting, at 9:10 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ROAD AND BRIDGE LEVY SURVEY, Discussion and Consideration

Also present: County Operations Director Char Nelson.

The BCC reviewed and revised survey questions in the proposed Road and Bridge Levy Survey.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S ORGANIZATIONAL ANALYSIS REPORT, Discussion and Consideration

• Organizational Review

Also present: Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves; County Public Information Officer Bronwyn Nickel; County Operations Director Char Nelson; Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; Land Use Office Manager Tina Lewis; Blaine County Grant Administrator Michele Johnson; Blaine County Senior Planner Kathy Grotto; County Code Compliance Specialist Diane Shay; County Building Department Office Manager Karen Osborne; Blaine County Indigent Services Manager Brooke Baird; County Elections Clerk Amy Rivkin; County Chief Deputy Clerk Leslie Londos; County Assessor

Valdi Pace; Chief Deputy Assessor Martha Heuston; Assessor's Roll Clerk Joann Freeman; Appraisers Tammy Robison and Erin Swanson; Assessor Customer Service Specialist Melissa Fry; Driver's License Clerk Cailin O'Farrell; and Jima Rice.

Blaine County Organizational Review by County Administrator Derek Voss

Blaine County government's vision is to provide efficient and effective public services, and stewardship of citizens' resources, while serving a diverse community with teamwork, integrity and commitment to excellence.

Voss presented the Project Scope of the 2015 Blaine County Organizational Review:

Staffing: Evaluate the organizational efficiency and effectiveness of Blaine County government.

Hours of Operation: Examine hours of operation to ensure we meet our customers' needs.

Key considerations:

- Diversity of stakeholders with potentially very different interests.
- Existing framework within the County's vision and strategic objectives.
- Staffing and customer needs are regularly evaluated through established budgeting process.
- Decisions regarding staffing and hours of operation should be evaluated within existing strategic framework.

Blaine County's strategic objectives are to create an organization and culture:

- which respects the whole community—all socio-economic groups—and its diverse parts and interests;
 - conserves the natural environment, including wildlife and significant, varied natural resources;
 - enhances public health, safety and welfare;
 - promotes economic vitality; and
 - optimizes public accessibility to county services and information by understanding its constituency and focusing on customer and client service,
- while balancing customer service with financial impacts, stewardship and staff impacts.

In its annual Outcome-Based Budget process, the BCC will review current staffing and consider requests for staffing changes. The BCC has authority to establish staffing levels and hours of operation that maximize value to meet customers' needs while maintaining a balanced budget. The County currently has 178 employees in 37 operational divisions, each with a unique mission; plus 20 public service agencies that perform mandated and supportive services that enhance the community's quality of life.

Hours of Operation

A special interest customer group has asked the County Recorder and Building Official to open their offices on Fridays. The BCC has authority to set office hours, and asked the County Clerk/Recorder to propose how to staff the Recorder's office five days a week. The BCC will provide resources, if necessary. Voss said roughly one-quarter of the County's current employees work less than 40 hours a week, but receive full benefits. He recommended the BCC consider increasing hours of existing staff before increasing the number of full-time employees. The BCC agreed.

Schoen sees people come to the Annex on Fridays. McCleary has heard from numerous people that losing the early and late hours would be extremely detrimental; and some customers would like office hours on Friday. Schoen would like all departments serving the public to be open on Friday if the County can afford it, but didn't want to pile more responsibility on existing employees.

STAFF COMMENT:

Michele Johnson (County employee, using personal vacation time to be present at this meeting), speaking as a taxpayer, said the most important part of being a County Commissioner is leadership. The Commissioners led by example five years ago to respond to climate change, and were awarded grant funds as a result. Johnson asked the BCC to continue to lead in considering the entire community before spending taxpayers' money on one group's demands.

RIGHT-OF-WAY MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKSHOP

Also present: Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves; County Operations Director Char Nelson; Blaine County Road and Bridge Manager Tom Duffy; Blaine County Engineer Jeff Loomis; Code Compliance Specialist Diane Shay; Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; and Jima Rice.

The County Administrator and Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney reviewed and edited the Right-of-Way Management plan. The Management Plan, including the BCC's Guiding Principles, is intended to educate property owners on why rights-of-way are important. Encroachment enforcement and penalties are according to State Statute.

The BCC suggested the Management Plan include cattle guards, which are maintained by the landowner.

The BCC discussed and revised the Guiding Principles.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Hulen Meadows homeowner Jima Rice said the document referred frequently to right-of-way maintenance by Road and Bridge, which had never happened in Hulen Meadows. She said Road and Bridge would have to add to their budget if they are going to take on maintenance in Hulen Meadows.

Rice asked who was responsible for culverts installed by the Hulen Meadows Association at the County's request.

Rice said Hulen Meadows landowners who applied for Land Use permits have never been told about right-of-way maintenance or road requirements.

Rice said Hulen Meadows homeowners could be hit with a huge cost and landscape impacts because regulations haven't been applied for 40 years, and asked the County to consider grandfathering right-of-way encroachments except for some things that really are in the right-of-way.

Rice said blanket creation of barrow pits throughout the neighborhood is not a reasonable request.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 11:40 a.m., with no more business before them, the BCC adjourned the meeting.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
JoLynn Drage Jacob Greenberg
County Clerk Chairman