

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE JANUARY 2022 SESSION**

Fifth Day

Tuesday, January 18, 2022

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Dick Fosbury, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary, and County Commissioner Muffy Davis; Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves; Administrative Services Manager Stephanie Carlson; Human Resources Generalist Justin Highhouse; Administrative Services Support Specialist Kay Draper; Deputy Assessor Melissa Fry; Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers; Sustainability Manager Lynne Barker; Administrative Assistant Morgan DeWitt; Wood River Fire and Rescue Chief Ron Bateman; Idaho Power Local Area (Blaine County) Energy Advisor Amber Larna; and Sarah Michael. Minutes written by Sunny Grant.

Some participants in this meeting were by webconference or teleconference.

Chairman Fosbury called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS

- **Amendment No. 1 to Idaho Department of Commerce Contract CARES1-VII-04-PS Senior Connection's Meals on Wheels Delivery Vehicle** Record #6
County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham said this amendment is a pass-through for additional funds from Idaho Department of Commerce to the Senior Connection to cover the increased price of the Meals on Wheels delivery vehicle.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve Contract CARES1-VII-04-PS Amendment No. 1, between Idaho Department of Commerce and Blaine County, for a Senior Connection Meals on Wheels delivery vehicle, to account for an additional \$12,696, from Department of Commerce, for a total of \$62,607. Motion carries unanimously.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Blaine County Treasurer John David Davidson said they've received the first half of 2022 property taxes. Delinquent notices started going out last week.

- Davidson planned to attend a National Association of Counties (NACo) Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers conference this week in Washington, D.C., but the conference has been relocated to South Carolina, and he hopes he can attend remotely.
- Davidson continues to review alternate software options for Computer Arts and Point and Pay.

Fosbury said Harris Group, the new owner of Computer Arts, will make a presentation at the upcoming Association of Idaho Counties meeting.

Assessor's Report – Blaine County Assessor Jim Williams said there was another 2 to 3% per month increase in property value in 2021.

- Assessor is currently preparing Blaine County's 5-year plan that must be submitted every five years for review by the State Tax Commission.
- An appraiser must visit each property in the County every five years.
- Assessors, in partnership with the Association of Counties and Associated Taxpayers of Idaho, held a tax symposium for legislators.
- Idaho Association of Counties offers an online video explaining Idaho's property tax system.
- The State of Idaho is taking over Internet and mail DMV transactions; which will start to reduce the County's fee revenues that support County DMV department. Assessor Williams is tracking Department expenses and revenues, and looking for ways to support the County DMV when there is no longer any state revenue.

Clerk - Stephen McDougall Graham said the Clerk's office is analyzing the Supplemental Request for the Ambulance District, and will be making a recommendation at the BCC meeting next week.

- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds Update**

Also present: Chief Deputy County Clerk Leslie Londos.

County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham said U.S. Department of Treasury released the final American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) rule, which allows counties to take a standard deduction of up to \$10 million for government services, such as in-kind grant matches, Road and Bridge projects, housing projects, etc.

- Fosbury asked for a list of community service organizations for 2022, 2023 and 2024; and a plan for how they could be used.
- McDougall Graham said the county had spent or obligated about \$250,000 in ARPA funds so far.
- McCleary said more than \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 was likely needed for county projects.

• **Public Defense Commission FY2021 County Expenditure Report Change Sheet**

The County Expenditure Report, as submitted, excluded the Capital Crimes Defense Fund (CCDF) Premiums because the County combines this fund in a pool with other counties to defray the costs of various capital crimes cases. Blaine County contributed \$10,437.66 to the combined CCDF this year.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the PDC FY2021 County Expenditure Report Change Sheet, to include Capital Crimes Defense Fund Premium of \$10,437.66. Motion passed unanimously.

COVID-19 Update

The Commissioners reported on COVID-related issues and committees they were involved in:

Blaine County COVID-19 Risk Level Plan – The Risk Level was increased to Critical Risk Level. Several Blaine County employees are self-quarantining with concerns about COVID; but County operations continue without much impact.

School Board Policy – Davis updated the BCC on state School Board policy changes to mitigate the financial impact of loss of attendance and enrollment.

BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

South Central Behavioral Health Board Meeting

- SCBH has about \$100,000 in grant funds available.
- They discussed resources available for someone in mental health crisis, including Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for law enforcement and first responders.

Glendale Road Intersection – There is a subdivision development planned for the east side of State Highway / Glendale Road intersection, and a truck depot planned for the west side. Land Use staff and County Engineer Jeff Loomis discussed what improvements ITD plans to make to the intersection and how County Road and Bridge can work with ITD. ITD will revisit existing traffic impact studies with their engineers and get back to the County.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Meeting – South Central Public Health District reported on their program to the LEPC.

Housing – Fosbury said Ketchum’s Housing Strategist Carissa Connelly will be meeting with Boise-based consulting firm Agnew-Beck on Ketchum’s Housing Action Plan on February 1, and hopes County Commissioners will participate.

REVIEW AND UPDATE BCC LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS

Also present: Administrative Services Manager Stephanie Carlson; and Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers.

Fosbury explained the liaison structure. The Commissioners reviewed the current assignments, adding new liaisons and deleting old liaisons, and reassigning most of those that were former Commissioner Greenberg’s to new Commissioner Davis.

- **District Interoperable Governance Board (DIGB)** - Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers suggested County Disaster Services Coordinator Chris Corwin be appointed as the Blaine County liaison, and Commissioner Davis as an alternate representative. Stellers will contact DIGB to see if a resolution is necessary.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to reappoint Robin Stellers as County Representative on District Interoperability Governance Board, Chris Corwin as the other voting member on the DIGB, and Commissioner Davis as alternate. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Land, Water and Wildlife Levy** - The Land, Water and Wildlife Levy Advisory Board (LAB) is independent, but submits all recommended projects to the BCC for approval, since the grants are taxpayer funds – The Blaine County Commissioners are joint liaison.
- **County Leadership Team** (consists of department heads, elected officials, and sometimes department Chief Deputy staff) – The Blaine County Commissioners are joint liaison.

McCleary said the County Administrator is considered liaison for County department heads; but County Commissioners liaison with elected officials. Commissioners may find it useful to meet with their elected officials liaisons prior to budget time.

Elected official liaisons with new Commissioner Davis:

- **County Clerk** - Commissioner Davis.
- **Sheriff** - Commissioner Davis.

The BCC reviewed and described each of the County’s **Funded Community Service Agencies and Outside Agencies**, Davis was appointed as liaison or co-liaison to many of former Chairman Greenberg’s organizations.

BREAK

LAND USE and BUILDING SERVICES

- **Review of a Request by Catherine Sullivan for Reconsideration of the Board's decision upholding the Blaine County Hearing Examiner's conditional approval of an Outdoor Recreational Conditional Use Permit at 98 Broadford Rd. Megan Gruver is the conditional use permit applicant. The 17.5 acre property's legal description is Lot 2C, Silver Bell Ranch.**

Also present Blaine County Land Use and Building Services Director Tom Bergin; Code Compliance Specialist Kristine Hilt; and applicant’s representative, architect Mark Pynn.

The applicant has asked to postpone this agenda item.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to continue the review of a request by Catherine Sullivan for reconsideration of the BCC’s decision upholding the Blaine County Hearing Examiner’s conditional approval of an Outdoor Recreational Conditional Use Permit to February 8, 2022 at 1:30. Motion passed unanimously.

- **P&Z Discussion: Exit interview with retired Mark Pynn, Planning & Zoning Commission Member**

Fosbury said he’d worked with Mark Pynn over the years, and had served with Pynn on the Blaine County Planning and Zoning Commission.

Pynn said he’d been on the P&Z for two and a half terms, and wanted to share some observations that might be helpful for the future of the County. Pynn submitted written comments to the BCC, including the following, which he said were his opinion only, and while perhaps not politically correct, were true:

- He felt the P&Z had treated all applicants with respect and all applications with fairness, in a timely manner.
- It was interesting to watch special interests attempt to gain approval for projects that, in the long run, would not be in the best interests of the County, i.e., Idaho Power and Camp Rainbow Gold.
- The existing Hillside Ordinance should be upheld. Sun Valley is an example of erosion of the hillside.
- Blaine County, through its elected and appointed officials, should make ITD accountable and responsible for improvement and upkeep of roads. Highway 75, from Bellevue to north of Ketchum, is in poor shape and addressed with band-aid solutions. Pynn said he felt ITD “turned a deaf ear” to Land Use requests for project input and information.

Pynn said Blaine County’s Land Use staff does an excellent job with meeting preparation. The seminars available through the State are helpful and should be mandatory.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

- **December 14, 2021 Regular Meeting**
- **December 21, 2021 Regular Meeting**
- **December 28, 2021 Regular Meeting**
- **January 5, 2022 Special Meeting**

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve Board of County Commissioner minutes of December 14 and December 21, 2021, regular meetings, as amended; December 28, 2021 regular meeting, and January 5, 2022 Special Meeting, as presented. Motion passed 2/0. Davis abstained, since she was not a Commissioner for these meetings.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Idaho Code Section 74-206(1)(b) - Evaluation, Dismissal or Disciplining of Employees

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis to go into executive session, pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(b), to consider evaluation, dismissal, or discipling of a County employee. Roll Call vote: McCleary (Aye); Davis (Aye); Fosbury (Aye). Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 3:07 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
 Stephen McDougall Graham Dick Fosbury
 County Clerk Chairman