

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JANUARY 2020 SESSION**

Fifth Day

Thursday, January 30, 2020

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; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.

Commissioner Fosbury was not present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – §74-206 (1)(f) PENDING LITIGATION - to discuss with legal counsel the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, Tegan vs. Blaine County.

Also present: Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves and County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin.

McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, that the BCC convene in Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(f), to consider the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation in Tegan vs. Blaine County; and Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(a) to consider selection of a Planning & Zoning Commissioner. Roll call: McCleary (aye), and Greenberg (aye). Motion carried 2/0.

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR WINTER WILDLIFE CLOSURES AND RESTRICTIONS between Blaine County, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Blaine County Recreation District, Wood River Land Trust, the City of Bellevue, and the City of Hailey.

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Planner Allison Marks; BLM Shoshone Field Office Outdoor Recreation Planner John Kurtz; Fish & Game Jerome Office Regional Wildlife Manager Mike McDonald; IDFG Wildlife Biologist Sierra Robotcek and IDFG Environmental Biologist Keats Conley; Lynn Campion; and Bailey Kurtz accompanied his father.

County Planner Allison Marks said several recent Blaine County winters have been big snow years, causing concerns with wildlife interactions in the Blaine County urban-rural interface. The County, cities, and wildlife organizations are discussing procedures and communication of trail closures, especially when the trail is not on federal land; and have decided to draw up guidelines to be signed by all parties.

Mike McDonald said it was becoming important for agencies and jurisdictions to cooperate with each other and educate residents and recreationists about voluntary measures that can benefit wildlife.

John Kurtz said they wanted to use what they had learned in the last big snow years to be proactive now and in the future. Most people recreate and access public land on private or jurisdictional land that isn't federal land. Signs need to be erected where people get out of their car; and signs may need to change from winter to winter. Muldoon, Quigley, and Ohio Gulch Areas are major cause for concern.

Public comment:

- Lili Simpson said it was gratifying that leaders are working to educate the public. Education is better than regulation. Simpson added that people don't understand that off-leash dogs are a real problem; and asked the BCC to ask Mountain Humane for their cooperation.

McDonald said some current problems with elk and deer stem from historical feeding in the Wood River Valley. Animals are now on the roads and highway, and draw predatory big cats into populated areas.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 10:59 a.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.

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