

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

**US Army Corps Section 206 Update
Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Request for Assistance**

Third Day

Wednesday, February 19, 2020

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 10:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Jacob Greenberg, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary, and Commissioner Dick Fosbury; Derek Voss; Certified Floodplain Manager Kristine Hilt; Jeff Loomis; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant; US Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) Project Manager Brandon Hobbs; Brian Yeager; Lili Simpson; Wood River Land Trust Executive Director Scott Boettger, Deputy Director Amy Trujillo, and Colorado Gulch Project Coordinator Ryan Santo; and Dave Bell.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

US ARMY CORPS SECTION 206 - AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE (BULLION BRIDGE TO COLORADO GULCH BRIDGE REACH) UPDATE

In 2017, the Big Wood River peaked several times in Blaine County, resulting in two major floods. US Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) engineers were present during some of the 2017 flooding, so are familiar with the area and the river.

On August 20, 2017, Blaine County submitted a Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Request to the ACE, which was chosen in January 2019 as an ACE study phase project, with federal funding. In April 2019, ACE Engineer Brandon Hobbs met with stakeholders to confirm the project and ascertain what stakeholders were looking for.

In July 2019, there was a Federal Interest Determination document indicating that ACE has identified the problem, and at least one feasible solution. ACE will continue with the project if there is local commitment.

Brandon Hobbs outlined the subsequent phases and costshare of an ACE project. Stakeholders described what they hope to achieve from the project. Hailey Public Works Director Brian Yeager said removal of the dump at Hailey's Lions Park is a huge priority. Hobbs said ACE can remove the fill, but remediating a dump site is not something they do. Hailey would have to find a partner agency to clean up the site, which could be done simultaneously with the ACE Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystem project.

The BCC and stakeholders discussed possible means of remediating the dump site. Hailey is both the current owner and the polluter, but the dump site is in County jurisdiction.

This ACE agreement is with a single party. If there are multiple local sponsors, they should draft a Memorandum of Understanding among themselves. If one partner withdraws, the remaining partners would have to cover the project local costshare. Hobbs explained how to include in-kind contributions.

Boettger was ready to move forward with ACE for now, realizing there is a lot of negotiating among local stakeholders. The County would have to commit to the next phase of the project in about a month.

The BCC generally supported moving forward.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

- **December 17, 2019 Regular Meeting**

Greenberg moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve County Commission meeting minutes of December 17, 2019, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING AND ZONING DISCUSSION

Kristine Hilt told the BCC that the Pew Charitable Trust is sending her, as a representative of Blaine County, to Washington, D.C. next week to discuss flood-prepared communities with Idaho's federal representatives.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 12:03 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.

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