

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE APRIL 2020 SESSION**

First Day

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:30 a.m. Present were Chairman Jacob Greenberg, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary, and Commissioner Dick Fosbury; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Clerk JoLynn Drage; County Administrative Services Manager Mandy Pomeroy; County Information Technology Manager Clay Landon and IT Specialist Jon Eaton; County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson; County Grants and Procurement Specialist Lyn Drewien; County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves; County Chief Public Defender Justin McCarthy; County Chief Deputy Public Defender Cheri Hicks; County Disaster Services Coordinator Chris Corwin; County Emergency Communications Director Robin Stellers; GIS Manager Sam Young and Senior GIS Analyst Kelly Green; County Treasurer John David Davidson; County Deputy Assessor Melissa Fry; County Land Use and Building Services Deputy Director Kathy Grotto; County Certified Building Official Jeff Giese; County Facilities Manager Patrick Boyle; and Facilities Maintenance Technicians Ben Russell and Tim Green; Recording Secretary Sunny Grant; Wood River Fire and Rescue Chief Ron Bateman; Flood Control District #9 Director Dave Bell; Kiki Tidwell; Chad Brown; Debra Ranill; Ted Higginbotham and Jason Penagos of Sawtooth Plumbing and Heating; Ed Terrazas; Ed Dumke; Scott Miley; Seth Martin; Tere Johnson; Tyler M. Ogden; *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Gretel Kauffman; and Boise State Public Radio South Central Idaho Reporter Rachel Cohen.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic stay-at-home order, most participants in this meeting were by webconference or teleconference.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Kiki Tidwell said over 3,000 people in the county are out of work and more than 12,000 make less than \$50,000 year. County leaders should plan now how to transition back to business as new normal in order to avoid a new wave of infection. She suggested everyone in the valley be tested, and everyone who comes into the valley be tested.
Tidwell added that County officials need to plan ahead for budget hits caused by COVID-19, and should be researching ways to facilitate financial assistance for residents and businesses.
- David Sundholm said the number of COVID-19 cases is down, and asked the BCC to consider these reduced numbers when they consider extending the closure order.
- Ted Higginbotham of Sawtooth Plumbing and Heating concurred with Sundholm that virus cases had significantly declined, and he expected would continue to do so after the latest quarantine order. He said job sites and contractors have taken steps to keep their workers safe from the virus, and should be allowed to go back to work.
- Jason Penagos, also with Sawtooth Plumbing and Heating, said they are ready to provide services to their community during this emergency situation. Safety guidelines provided by the General Contractors of American will help them maintain a safe workplace.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION – I.C. 63-501A

No BOE issues to address.

AMBULANCE DISTRICT

- **Wood River Fire and Rescue Funding Request**

Greenberg moved, seconded by McCleary, to convene as the Blaine County Ambulance District. Motion carried unanimously.

Also present: Wood River Fire and Rescue Lt. Paramedic Rune Haavik; and Tim Mascheroni.

Lt. Rune Haavik said local paramedics asked the Ambulance District in December to consider funding the purchase of a PowerLift gurney, primarily to reduce first responders' back injuries . Emergency personnel received a PowerLift gurney in December for a trial period, which has been extended due to the number of COVID-19 cases being transported. The gurney not only lifts the patient, but limits provider contact with the patient.

The ambulance providers requested \$39,891.41 out of the Ambulance District Capital Improvement Fund for the PowerLift system currently in use. Haavik also stated that Wood River Fire and Rescue will submit a request for grant funding for a second PowerLift system to be purchased in FY2021.

Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve purchase of a PowerLift System by Stryker as per Quote 10111769 at a not-to-exceed price of \$39,891.41; and authorize purchase of three systems with a not-to-exceed price of three times that amount. Discussion: Haavik said he didn't know the exact dollar amount for future purchases. The BCC said it was a not-to-exceed amount. If it's more, the BCC will consider that at that time. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Consideration of Emergency Expenditures

- **Frontline EMS invoice** (SEE CONTINUED, AT END OF MEETING)

County Clerk JoLynn Drage said Front Line EMS is sending a bill today for \$28,560 plus per diem expenses. County Disaster Services Coordinator Chris Corwin said the County, on behalf of the Ambulance District, requested \$40,000 in reimbursement funds from the state to cover cost of an additional ambulance to assist in transports to Twin Falls and Boise during the COVID-19 pandemic. This Front Line invoice would be included in that amount.

McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to adjourn as Ambulance District Board and reconvene as the Blaine County Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.

COVID-19

Updates

- The Long Term Recovery Committee's first priority is to organize a virtual Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) website for people in the community who need assistance.
- St. Luke's Wood River is going to provide a "dashboard" showing the actual number of people who request testing, the number of people actually tested and the number of people who test positive.
- Blaine County Food Council and Mobile Food Alliance provide a list of local services provided by grocery stores and restaurants on the County website.

Consideration of Amendment to Blaine County Ordinance 2020-01

Also present: Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves.

The current Ordinance 2020-01 bans construction until midnight Sunday, April 12. The County will wait to make a decision until they see what local cities decide to do, and any changes in the State's statewide restrictions, as well as current case numbers from the South Central Public Health District.

Blaine County Internal Policies, including Payroll

The BCC decided that County buildings will remain closed to the public. County departments will continue to operate as they have been.

Recycle Center

Recycling has been suspended due to concern about spreading the virus. Fosbury suggested there be signs at the Recycle Center to direct all recycling be taken directly to the transfer station until staff at least have coveralls and other protective gear, which are on order.

Fosbury will ask Facilities Manager Pat Boyle and Recycle Center staff if there is any way they can store recycle commodities with value, such as aluminum, until the Recycle Center can reopen.

Administrative Leave

County Clerk Drage asked the BCC to clarify administrative leave, since many team members were confused when doing the last two weeks' timesheets. McCleary said department heads and elected officials should schedule employees and then review their time sheets to confirm they are paid as scheduled, regardless of how many hours they actually worked.

COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

County Administrator – Derek Voss

- Voss asked department heads to suggest how their employees can be safe when the buildings are reopened to the public—plastic shields, limit the number of people in the building, etc. Fosbury suggested the South Central Public Health District be consulted for a transition plan.
- Voss asked department heads to consider how their FY2021 budget needs will be affected by financial impacts due to the COVID-19 shutdown. Fosbury specifically asked that FY2021 Community Service annual budget requests include COVID-19 impacts on their operations.
- Voss and County Grants Manager Lyn Drewien are checking into the Federal Coronavirus Relief Bill (CARES Act).

Road and Bridge – Steve Thompson

The BCC decided to keep two borrowed roadside digital message signs in place for another couple weeks.

US FOREST SERVICE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE GRANT PROPOSALS

Sawtooth National Recreation Area Ranger Kirk Flannigan and Sawtooth National Forest Ketchum District Ranger Kurt Nelson presented their suggested proposals to go to the Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) for BCC review. Projects have been limited to a Title II Contribution request of \$12,500, so as many projects as possible can be reviewed by the RAC.

- Invasive Plant Treatments on High Use Trails on the Ketchum Ranger District – Requested Title II Contribution \$12,500.
- Ketchum Trail Crew/Youth Corps Invasive Weeds Monitoring Plan 2021 – Requested Title II Contribution \$12,500.
- Sawtooth National Forest Dust Abatement – Requested Title II Contribution \$12,500 – in partnership with Blaine County Road & Bridge.

- Ketchum Campground and Trailhead Facility Heavy Maintenance Project – Requested Title II Contribution \$12,500.
- Avalanche Rescue Training Park Maintenance – Requested Title II Contribution \$5,650 – in partnership with Sawtooth Avalanche Center.
- Sawtooth NRA Noxious Weed Management – Requested Title II Contribution \$12,500.
- Big Wood Travel Management Implementation - Prairie Creek - Requested Title II Contribution \$15,000.

Nelson said there may be enough money to fund all the projects. McCleary will work with Commissioners' Assistant Jenny Lovell to write a letter in support of the RAC projects.

FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY MEETING PREVIEW

Friedman Airport Manager Chris Pomeroy said tonight's FMAA meeting will consider approval to acquire an airport landing fee collection system; and design and potential bidding of the parking lot improvement project.

APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve Blaine County Commissioners regular meeting minutes of November 26, 2019, March 3 and March 10, 2020; and Special Meeting of March 13 2020, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

FRIEDMAN MEMORIAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY MEETING REVIEW

Also present: Friedman Memorial Airport Manager Chris Pomeroy and Friedman Memorial Airport Contracts/Finance Administrator Lisa Emerick.

Friedman Airport Manager Chris Pomeroy reviewed tonight's FMAA meeting agenda with the BCC. Main topic tonight will be consideration of the FY2020 budget.

Consideration of Emergency Expenditure, CONTINUED

- **Front Line EMS invoice** (CONTINUED FROM PRIOR IN THE MEETING)
County Clerk JoLynn Drage notified the BCC that the Front Line EMS invoice exceeds the \$40,000 authorized earlier in today' meeting. The BCC confirmed that this is an emergency expenditure.

- **Resolution 2020-12 (should have been 2020-13 — This resolution was not recorded and was corrected on April 14)**

Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, that the Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) finds that they are operating in an emergency condition, previously found by the BCC, to amend prior Resolution 2020-12 (should have been Resolution 2020-13) to increase the amount of funding for the Disaster Services Manager from \$40,000 to \$80,000. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 12:23 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.

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