

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF BLAINE COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE APRIL 2019 SESSION**

**Fifth Day**

**Tuesday, April 23, 2019**

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 Commissioner Dick Fosbury; County Administrator Derek Voss; County Administrative Services Manager Mandy Pomeroy; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant. County Clerk JoLynn Drage and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Mark Dee were present for part of the morning session.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT – None**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- **Junior College Certificate of Residency forms:** College of Southern Idaho (CSI), Spring 2019: Sonya Wilander.

**McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve Consent Calendar for April 23, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – §74-206 (1)(d) INDIGENT** - Consideration of records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code

Present were: Blaine County Services Manager Brooke Baird and Indigent Services Assistant Hayleigh Simpson.

**McCleary moved, seconded by Greenberg, to go into Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(d) to consider records exempt from disclosure, in this case indigent medical records. Roll call: Fosbury (aye), McCleary (aye), and Greenberg (aye). Motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN SESSION RESUMED**

**INDIGENT CONSIDERATIONS**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to deny Indigent Request #2019-21, based on the Finding that indigency has not been established. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to accept proposed payment in the amount of \$47,096.54 to settle Indigent Requests #1996-25 and #1998-213. Motion carried unanimously.**

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Claims - Gretchen Stinnett**

**McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve the claims dated April 17. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Blaine County Engineer - Jeff Loomis**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin...

- **Update Section 205 and 206 US Army Corps of Engineers**

Blaine County is sponsor of two applications to the US Army Corps of Engineers, both for the same Angela Drive reach:

- Section 205, flood mitigation application is in the ACE queue, but funds are likely to be exhausted by Midwest states that recently experienced record-breaking floods.
- Section 206, aquatic restoration, is in the Federal Interest Determination Process, wherein the Federal Government spends \$100,000 to determine if the project is worth pursuing. ACE will negotiate a contract for a 50/50 costshare feasibility study; followed by 65/35 costshare design and construction, with \$10 million federal limit. Once complete, the project is turned over to the County, which is then responsible for owning and maintaining it, unless the project is turned over to another entity such as the City or Flood Control District.

The BCC is interested in working through the 206 design process, to get a better idea of what ACE would like to accomplish, and the potential cost. In the meantime, they would like to stay in the ACE queue to do the feasibility study for Section 205.

**Administrative Services - Mandy Pomeroy**

- **FY 2020 County Benefits Discussion**

Staff want to begin the discussion of employee health benefits in anticipation of FY2020 budget hearings. Health insurance options that affect premiums are prescription coverage and coverage of employees' dependents. Voss said staff research options to change carriers almost every year. Carriers outbid each other, then increase premiums once they snag your business. Voss said the County needs a long-term strategy.

McCleary would prefer to keep benefits the same if the County can afford it. Greenberg asked to see an analysis of different companies. Employees have indicated benefits are a main reason for working for the County. Fosbury said employee benefits are a business decision. He appreciated the County's wellness program. The BCC asked staff to include stats on the Gem plan, which is self-owned.

**County Administrator - Derek Voss**

- BCC has to schedule meeting time to prioritize large, expensive projects planned for the upcoming year.
- Sheriff's Office needs to do in-house remodel of Annex Training Room.
- Administrative Services is moving into the Old Courthouse, third floor offices.
- Evaluation and analysis of road service life (RSL) of Blaine County paved road segments has been completed and will be compiled into a report. Road maintenance has been put off for several years, and will need about \$6 million investment to bring it to an even level.

**CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS**

**• Indigent Defense Fund Grant - Request To Apply**

The Idaho Public Defense Commission offers a pool of funds for indigent defense. Funds can be used for expanding facilities to accommodate additional personnel and a soundproof room.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the request to apply for FY2020 Indigent Defense Grant in the amount of \$336,839. Motion carried unanimously.**

**• BLM Public Lands Patrol Contract**

Also present: Blaine County Sheriff's Lieutenant Bryan Carpita.

The BLM reimburses the Sheriff's department \$8,000 for documented patrol hours on BLM lands. This is an offer of an additional \$5,000 reimbursement.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the solicitation with the BLM for additional \$5,000 for patrol services on public lands. Motion carried unanimously.**

**• Blaine County/Water Futures Inc. Independent Contractor Agreement ..... Record #659793**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; and County Land Use and Building Services Deputy Director Kathy Grotto.

Independent contractor Wendy Pabich requested the contract be with her business and not her personal name. Nothing else is changed.

**McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve Contract for Services between Blaine County and Water Futures, Inc., for County Land Water and Wildlife coordinator contract, in the amount of \$135.00 per hour, mileage reimbursement of .545 cents per mile and with compensation not to exceed \$44,000. Motion carried unanimously.**

**• Independent Contractor Agreement with Christopher H. Meyer**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; and County Land Use and Building Services Deputy Director Kathy Grotto.

Christopher Meyer has to reschedule and has no definite date at this time. The BCC tabled indefinitely.

**RESOLUTION 2019-22 ADOPTING CRITERIA FOR IDAHO CODE SECTION 63-602NN TAX EXEMPTION REQUESTS ..... Record #659647**

Also present: Blaine County Assessor Jim Williams; Sun Valley Economic Development Executive Director Harry Griffith; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Mark Dee.

The BCC adopted Ordinance 2019-07 which refers to this proposed resolution that includes evaluation criteria for applications submitted under the ordinance. This proposed resolution is basic and can be used as a starting point. The BCC discussed the criteria outlined in the proposed resolution. The definition of Affordable Housing and exemption period were topics of concern.

**Public Comment:**

- Harry Griffith asked the BCC to consider four issues: the structure of the resolution, its intended purposes, the eligibility timeline, and overlaps with other incentive programs like URAs.

County Assessor Jim Williams asked the BCC to discuss if the exemption period would begin on occupancy, and if it would be pro-rated for that year or the first full year, or if the applicant would be given the option to choose.

**McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve Blaine County Resolution 2019-22, a resolution providing criteria for considering requests for property tax exemption brought pursuant to Idaho Code §63-602NN, for certain plant investments in Blaine County, Idaho. Motion carried unanimously.**

**FOOD STORAGE ORDER FOR THE SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA**

Also present: Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) Ranger Kirk Flannigan; SNRA Wildlife Biologist Robin Garwood; Idaho Conservation League Central Idaho Director Betsy Mizell; Sun Valley Board of

Realtors Government Affairs Director Bob Crosby; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Mark Dee.

Kirk Flannigan said Idaho Fish and Game Salmon Region had made him aware of more than usual human-bear interactions in 2016-17. There are typically a couple human-bear interactions every year from North Fork north along the Salmon River corridor. Flannigan said they would post three-year food storage orders throughout the SNRA in Custer, Blaine, Boise and Elmore counties. The Forest Service will try to educate people, especially overnight tent campers and campers in softside campers, the first year, and won't issue citations until summer 2020.

The BCC will write a letter of support for the Food Storage Order. Betsy Mizell will also write a letter of support.

### **VISIT SUN VALLEY UPDATE**

Also present: Visit Sun Valley Executive Director Scott Fortner; Sun Valley Board of Realtors Government Affairs Director Bob Crosby; Visit Sun Valley's Visitor, Community and Membership Coordinator Aly Swindley; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Mark Dee.

Scott Fortner presented the major functions of Visit Sun Valley and where they get funding.

- Last year, VSV got local marketing parties together to launch a brand initiative, with its own joint website and interactive marketing efforts.
- The area is seeing increased visitor spending.
- Two-thirds of the economic activity in Blaine County has some correlation with hospitality and tourism.
- 24% of the total population of Blaine County are employed by something related to tourism.
- 80% of people paying local option tax are visitors and second homeowners.
- Analysis of how and where tourism revenue is collected.
- Blaine County underperforms compared with similar resort areas, although spring months can be very good. March 2018 and 2019 were very strong.

### **BREAK**

**Commissioner McCleary was absent until 1:48 pm.**

### **LAND USE and BUILDING SERVICES HEARINGS**

- **Comprehensive Plan - Chapter 8, Land Use.** Public hearing and consideration of proposed amendments to Title 8, Ch. 1, Comprehensive Plan. Proposed Chapter 8, Land Use, will include sections on eight subareas of Blaine County. Two subarea drafts are complete and presented for hearing: North Valley/Galena and Little Wood. Future hearings will cover other subareas. The P&Z Commission recommended approval of the subarea sections on March 14, 2019.

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Land Use and Building Services Deputy Director Kathy Grotto; and County Comprehensive Plan Update Consultant Lisa Horowitz.

Grotto read public notice.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, that notice is in compliance with applicable regulations in Idaho Code, §67-6509. Motion carried 2/0.**

#### **Little Wood Sub-Area**

180 surveys were mailed and distributed around Carey. 27 responses were received back. Survey responses tended to be different from conversations Land Use staff had on the street. Lisa Horowitz reviewed the current draft of the Comprehensive Plan Chapter 8 with the BCC.

The survey asked what was important to the community. Main responses:

- Access to natural areas and preservation of natural beauty.
- Small town living without density of the Big Wood area, peacefulness, sense of community, and affordability. Little Wood residents do not want to be part of the Wood River Valley.
- Recreation area, hunting and fishing guide services are source of revenue, but visitors spend very little money in the town of Carey.
- People expressed interest in revenue from tourist traffic; but this was not indicated in survey results. Residents would like to offer overnight area for tourists, perhaps RV park or camping area in the Fairgrounds?

#### **Commissioner McCleary arrived at this time.**

- The area has extensive Sage-grouse habitat. Fences are designed to allow pronghorn to migrate under them.
- Mature cottonwood galleries in the Little Wood corridor should be protected when possible.
- Daycare is provided by neighbors. There are no daycare businesses.
- Major community concern was lack of a grocery/general store; and businesses closing and moving away.
- Number of requests for the ability to split off smaller pieces of larger parcels for family members; and keeping motorized recreation available.
- Recovery plans after the 2018 Sharp's Fire, including a recent slump and potential mudslides.
- City of Carey has no immediate interest or need to establish an Area of City Impact.

**McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to continue this Comprehensive Plan, Chapter 8 Land Use hearing to May 14, at 2:00 pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

- **Village Green at Valley Club, Lot 16 and Lot 17B-** Plat Amendment. Continuation (from April 2, 2019) of a public hearing and consideration of a plat amendment application by John and Cynthia Chiles to amend The Village Green at The Valley Club: Phase One, Lot 16, Block 1 and Phase Two, Lot 17B, Block 1A. The project site is 16 & 17 Streamside Drive (noted on plats as Sage Valley Court) zoned Planned Residential Development District (R-2).

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Planner Allison Marks; and applicant Chiles' representatives Garth McClure and Shaun Kelly.

Marks read public notice.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, that notice is in compliance with applicable regulations in Idaho Code, §67-6509. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Disclosures:** None.

Land Use now has a new preliminary plat that shows Sage Valley Court aka Streamside Drive. The Chiles own both Lots 16 and 17. This lot line shift would allow them to build a 20'x23' addition to their garage on one lot. The revised plat refers to a number of plat notes on the original plat that remain in effect.

**Public Comment:** None.

Fosbury made a motion, but withdrew it. The revised motion:

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the application by John and Cynthia Chiles, Village Green at Valley Club, Phase I Subdivision, Lot 16 and Phase II Lot 17B, to be named Village Green at Valley Club Lot 1B, Lot 16A and Lot 17C, finding that it's in compliance with applicable criteria and subject to the listed seven Conditions of Approval in the staff report. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **LAND USE and BUILDING SERVICES**

- **Findings of Fact: Village Green at Valley Club. Lots 16 and 17B - Plat Amendment**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to adopt Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision on the application by John and Cynthia Chiles for Village Green at Valley Club Lot 1B, Lots 16A and 17C. Motion carried unanimously.**

- **Findings of Fact: T&T Short Plat Subdivision**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; and County Planner Allison Marks.

**McCleary moved, seconded by Fosbury, to approve Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision regarding an application of Gary Turco to subdivide Lot 11 Block 1 Dean Ranch Subdivision, into two lots, T&T Subdivision. Motion carried 2/0.** Commissioner Greenberg abstained since he was not present at the meeting where the application was heard.

- **Findings of Fact: Daverman Floodplain – CUP**

The BCC reviewed the Findings of Fact, and made several revisions.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decision, as amended, to correctly reflect the Findings and Conclusion that were made for the application for Conditional Use Permit in the Floodplain by James E. Daverman, located at 34 Gimlet Road and 24 Gimlet Lane. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **BLAINE COUNTY LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO RAC GRANT REQUESTS FOR KETCHUM RANGER DISTRICT AND SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA PROJECTS**

Also present: Sawtooth National Forest Ketchum District Ranger Kurt Nelson; Sawtooth National Recreation Area Ranger Kirk Flannigan; and Alpine Tree Service certified arborist Carl Hjelm.

The Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is chartered by the Secretary of Agriculture to review requests for funding for various projects on Forest Service land. This year, the RAC has about \$200,000 available.

Kurt Nelson and Kirk Flannigan presented an overview of seven projects in Blaine County. The BCC discussed and will send a letter to the RAC with the following projects prioritized:

1. Blaine County Noxious Weed Control – RAC request \$12,500, and Invasive Plant Treatments at Trailheads and on High Use Trails on the Ketchum Ranger District - RAC request \$12,500.
2. Big Wood Travel Management Implementation – North Fork Big Wood River – RAC request \$17,800.
3. Sawtooth NF Road and Trailhead Dust Abatement – RAC request \$22,000.
4. Ketchum Trail Crew / Youth Corps Oversight – RAC request \$12,500.
5. Sawtooth Avalanche Center Remote Weather Station and Rescue Training Park Maintenance – RAC request \$12,360
6. Bald Mountain forest thinning in the Sun Valley Resort area – RAC request \$25,000

#### **BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

The BCC reported to each other on issues and committees they were involved in:

- **Veteran's Memorial Maintenance** – Greenberg and County Facilities Manager Patrick Boyle.
- **H. Sydney Duncombe Nominations** – Greenberg and County Clerk Drage.
- **District Interoperability Governance Board 4 (DIGB4)** – Greenberg
- **Air Services Board** – Greenberg
- **Wood River Fire and Rescue/City of Hailey Fire Joint Powers Agreement** – Greenberg
- **Blaine County Regional Transportation Committee Meeting** – McCleary
- **North Valley Fire and Ambulance Service Meetings** – McCleary
- **South Central Public Health Board Meeting and Medical Consultant** – McCleary
- **Blaine County Food Council - Board liaison and event sponsorship** – Greenberg
- **Correspondence**

Fosbury requested time to discuss a petition from 30 Picabo residents regarding removing trees on First Street by next week, May 1.

**ADJOURN**

**At the hour of 5:25 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_

JoLynn Drage  
County Clerk

Jacob Greenberg  
Chairman