

**FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 9, 2012**

**Present for the meeting was:** Commissioners Skip Hurt, Lee Miller and Jordon Stoddard.

**Also attended by:** Clerk Abbie Mace, Deputy Clerk Laura Singleton, Treasurer J'Lene Cherry, Assessor Kathy Thompson, and Sheriff Len Humphries

Commissioner Hurt called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.  
Sheriff Len Humphries offered the prayer.  
Treasurer J'Lene Cherry led the pledge.

**Elected Officials & Department Heads**

Sherriff Len Humphries reported that there are 11 inmates in county custody. He reported that Search and Rescue was called out on Friday night to Henry's Lake. Sheriff Humphries reported that some people lost power in their boat and ended up underneath the cliffs. Search and Rescue's small boat sustained significant damage and will need to be repaired. He stated that conditions were not good that night as it was very cold and windy. Sheriff Humphries also reported that some of his employees are going to training this week.

Treasurer J'Lene Cherry reported cancellations for the month of September in the amount of \$1,370.78. Ms. Cherry asked the commissioners if she could buy some counterfeit pens to help detect counterfeit bills. The commissioners all agreed that it is a good idea. Ms. Cherry stated that she will order the pens. She also reported that they are busy getting taxes ready.

Assessor Kathy Thompson reported everything is going well in her office. There was some discussion on the maintenance work going on in her office.

Clerk Abbie Mace reported that she attended court meetings last week in Boise. A new computer software program was introduced called ISTARs Enterprise. She stated that it will be a more interactive method. Cases will be able to be filed electronically. She also reported that this program should be ready in about two years. Her office has been busy with voting. Next week will be the poll worker training. Ms. Mace stated that she hopes to respond to Senator Hill and IAC's emails today regarding Personal Property. Ms. Mace asked the commissioners if she should register them for the ICE Meeting being held in Twin Falls November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Mace suggested to the commissioners that the county sign up for IAC monthly webinars. The cost would be \$425 and the meetings would be held once a month for a year. These meetings would be for anyone employed by the county. There will be a PRIMA meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup> in Pocatello. If anyone is interested in attending, they need to contact Ms. Mace so she can sign them up. She will be meeting with Carol Jensen and Prosecuting Attorney Joette Lookabaugh to update the personnel policy. This Friday, there will be a meeting on the Snowmobile Agreement with the Forest Service in Idaho Falls.

Commissioner Lee Miller stated he is meeting with the Forest Service on Friday. He also attended a development company dinner. There was not a full quorum there so they will be holding another meeting. He also received an email from Rick Fausett from TRI. TRI is a pilot waste energy plant at the University of Utah. Mr. Fausett has invited the commissioners along with others to tour the plant there.

Commissioner Jordon Stoddard reported working on the Assessor's office and what they will be doing this week to fix the water damage.

Commissioner Skip Hurt stated that he has spent a lot of time working on some issues in the county. He also will be attending the meeting on Friday with the Forest Service. He is hoping to meet this Thursday at 2:00 p.m. with Prosecuting Attorney Joette Lookabaugh to address the step in grade and put it in the personnel policy. He would also like to discuss some hiring issues that have come up recently.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion on a request from Veterans Service Officer Stacy Whitmore. Commissioner Stoddard seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to approve spending \$300 for some new software for Stacy Whitmore to use in her office for the Veterans Services. Commissioner Stoddard seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all in favor.

### **Public Works Director Marla Vik RE: Department Reports**

Ms. Vik reported that LHTAC is trying to work with Fish and Game to open up the time window for work on the Stone Bridge Project. They are still coming up with ideas and ways to reduce the costs on this project. The commissioners stated that they need to be informed of any costs involved before work is performed. Environmental issues have played a big part in the costs. The commissioners stated that they would like more input in the selection process for jobs like this.

Ms. Vik reported that the notice on the canal bridges replacements have gone to bid.

There was some discussion on the Ora Bridge. The commissioners would like to see if we could get some more grants to help fund this project. There was some discussion on just fixing the existing bridge instead of building a new one. Ms. Vik would like to know if she should apply for money to help with the roadwork at the Ora Bridge or the Salem Highway. The commissioners stated that they still feel the Salem Highway is more important because there is more traffic there. The commissioners feel that they do not have the money to build a new Ora Bridge right now. The costs were close to the same whether it is fixed or rebuilt. Ms. Vik feels we should still move forward with the grant for the Salem Highway. The commissioners agreed with Ms. Vik.

Ms. Vik stated that there was an inspection done on the big steel bridge (Kirkham Bridge) in Ashton. They previously noticed little cracks and they have now grown a little bit. Ms. Vik would like to apply for a grant to do maintenance work on this bridge. The commissioners agreed to have Ms. Vik apply for the grant.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session. Commissioner Stoddard seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all in favor.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 67-2345(1)(c) To conduct deliberations concerning labor negotiations or to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency; at 10:52 a.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", and Commissioner Hurt voting "Aye". Commissioner Hurt declared the meeting open at 11:01 a.m.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 67-2345(1)(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student; at 11:02 a.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", and Commissioner Hurt voting "Aye". Commissioner Hurt declared the meeting open at 11:14 a.m.

#### **Juvenile Probation Director Darin Burrell**

Mr. Burrell introduced Elisha Figueroa the Director of the Idaho Office of Drug Policy. Ms. Figueroa stated that they are working really hard on prevention. The top three problems that the state is facing right now are underage drinking, marijuana, and prescription drug abuse. Funding will now be coming through the Department of Drug Policy. She also updated the commissioners on how they are working with the counties. She stated that they are working to make up boards which will be made up of people from the Department of Health and Welfare and Law Enforcement Agencies. These boards will make decisions on how money is spent and allocated. She talked about the work that is being done to battle underage drinking. Underage drinking is the number one issue in Idaho. Ms. Figueroa stated her concerns over the medical marijuana issues. Marijuana issues are going to be big in Idaho. Ms. Figueroa reported that signatures are being gathered in order to put legalizing marijuana back on the ballot. She also stated that prescription drug abuse is a growing problem.

#### **Social Services – Debbie Adams Re: Indigent Claims**

Commissioner Lee Miller made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 67-2345 (d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code at 1:33 p.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye" and Commissioner Miller voting "Aye". Commissioner Hurt was absent from the voting. Commissioner Lee Miller declared the meeting open at 1:46 p.m. Commissioner Miller made a motion to deny case #M2012-44 and suspend case #M2012-40. Commissioner Stoddard seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all in favor.

#### **Assistant Planning and Building Administrator Greg Newkirk**

Mr. Newkirk presented plans for a two lot subdivision for the commissioner's signature for Woodcock Estates Final Plat. Mr. Newkirk stated that the road will be dedicated to the county. He also presented the Findings of Fact for this.

#### **Island Park Mayor Tom Jewel**

Mr. Jewel requested help from the county in handling their building inspections. It was stated that we have been doing the inspections for all the other cities in the county except Island Park. They are in the process of writing up a contract for the county to do this. Island Park would like us to now do their inspections since Blake Bowman is there a majority of the time anyway. It will save the City of Island Park money also. The commissioners directed Mr. Loosli to start an agreement with the City of Island Park to do their inspections.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to approve liquor license #36 to Lakeside Lounge. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the Junior College applications for Ashleigh Harris and McKenzie Siddoway. Commissioner Stoddard seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the claims for October 9, 2012 as presented. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to sign the form declining ICRMP Terrorism coverage. Commissioner Miller seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to send letter to LHTAC stating that the bid was rejected for the Stone Bridge Project. Commissioner Miller seconded. A full voice vote was heard with all in favor. Commissioner Hurt was absent from the vote.

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Skip Hurt, Chairman  
Fremont County Commission

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Abbie Mace, Clerk