

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2012

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

Also attended by: Clerk Abbie Mace, Deputy Clerk Jeanie Chavez, Assessor Kathy Thompson, Sheriff Len Humphries, Public Works Director Marla Vik, and Prosecuting Attorney Joette Lookabaugh

Commissioner Hurt called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Public Works Director Marla Vik RE: Department Report

Road and Bridge: The Public Information Meeting for the Ora Bridge Project was well attended. Ms. Vik presented the map of the proposed Ora Bridge location options and gave an update on plans for construction. She presented a Concept Chart and discussed different design plans. There was a discussion held regarding the cost as well as the funding for this bridge. At this point, \$4 million dollars is dedicated to this project at a 7.34% match. Some of the proposals are well above the \$4 million; the county would have to find additional revenue for those proposals. There was a discussion regarding the road work this will involve. They discussed bridge repair and maintenance line items available in the budget. This project is scheduled to begin in 2017.

Sewer System: No new issues

Landfill: No new issues

Ryan Partridge RE: Property Taxes/Ashton

Mr. Partridge stated he owns a large building in Ashton (old hospital) with a lot of back taxes owing. He stated he paid \$4500.00 about a week ago for 2008, and still owes for 2009, 2010, and 2011. He stated the appraisal for 2008 and 2009 came in very high which caused his taxes to be thousands of dollars. This property was reassessed in 2010 which lowered the taxes for 2011. Mr. Partridge is requesting for some of his late charge and interest to be reduced or relieved. He does not have the funds available to make a payment today. The current amount due is about \$9,000.00. Commissioners stated they will discuss working with him on late fees at the time of payment.

Liz Davy Re: Forest Service Issues

District Ranger Liz Davy introduced herself, Idaho Falls Office Supervisor Wes Stumbo, and Program Manager Brent Porter. Mr. Stumbo stated he received an audit report of the forest service's special use permits in May 2011 that informed him he had 4 issues to correct. 3 out of the 4 are concerning Fremont County Special Use Permits.

Permit 1) Road Maintenance, EMS, and Library facility: Fremont County owns the Maintenance Building, EMS Building, and Library located on 7.88 acres of Forest Service Land. The Forest Service has waived the fees on all 3 buildings. They are no longer allowed to do so. Mr. Stumbo is proposing to divide the 7.88 acre storage permit in half, which would result in 2 Permits instead of 1. Clerk Abbie Mace stated the Library and EMS cannot be combined; they are 2 separate Taxing Districts. This Annual fee indication rate is \$1,965.00. Mr. Stumbo requested the Foot Prints on the EMS Building and Library. Commissioner Hurt thanked them for working with Fremont County on the fees.

Permit 2) Fremont County Liquid Waste Disposal Area: Fremont County owns a Waste Water Disposal System for Mack's Inn and Last Chance. This is located on 162 acres of National Forest Service Land. The Forest service land value determination from the Intermountain Regional Appraiser January 23, 2012 for fee establishment for Fremont County Authorizations. The request included a determination for the 50 acre addition requested by Fremont County for Mack's Inn Sewer Treatment Plant. Annual Fee Indication would be \$18,144.00; with a 50 acre increase expansion indication rate at \$22,260.00

Permit 3) Fremont County Landfill: This location consists of 20 acres used for solid waste. The Annual Fee Indication for this location is \$3,850.00.

The Forest Service is proposing to delay these fees for Fremont County until 2014 to give the county an opportunity to budget for these rates. The Forest Service will ask for another appraisal before 2014 so the fees can be assessed. The Forest Service billing cycle is per calendar year, starting over in January.

Ms. Davy discussed closing the Island Park Forest Service Office due to budget cuts. They are proposing to sell the building and the housing, but to retain the land and equipment storage buildings.

There was a discussion regarding the Snowmobile Grooming Program and liability issues. Ms. Davy stated their regional office is in the process of proposing a new Operation Plan Agreement with Fremont County.

Planning & Building Administrator Stephen Loosli RE: County Surveyor Issues/P&B Admin, Assessor, Deputy Assessor/Short Plat-L Subdivision/Department Report/North Fremont Fire District Short Plat

County Surveyor Issues: Surveyor Denny Jones stated he has been a Fremont County Surveyor for over 30 years. He presented a survey with lots of errors to commissioners for review. Mr. Jones stated this is causing the Assessor's Office a lot of extra work. Mr. Loosli stated Subdivision Plats have to be done at the owner's expense. Assessor Kathy Thompson stated the Subdivision Plats are becoming a big issue. Deputy Clerk Barbara Hirschi stated she has received surveys with errors. Mr. Jones stated this is causing the Assessor's Office extra work without funding to cover the costs for his review. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Blake Hall explained the records of survey are not required to match the deeds. The Deed and Record of Survey received by the Recorder has to be recorded as it is received. The State Statute states the Surveyor is responsible for making the corrections to the survey. The Assessor's Office will not be responsible to make the needed corrections. They do not have the legal authority. Commissioners agreed to allow Assessor Kathy Thompson to utilize funds from her budget to have Mr. Jones review surveys with problems.

L&M Subdivision Plat: Mr. Loosli presented the L&M Subdivision Short Plat and Findings of Facts to commissioners for review. He stated the City has reviewed this, he is requesting for commissioners to approve the proposed plat.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to sign the L&M Subdivision Short Plat and Findings of Facts. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

North Fremont Fire District Short Plat: Mr. Loosli presented the Short Plat and Finding of Facts for Warm River Fire Station.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to approve the Short Plat for Warm River Fire Station and the Findings of Facts. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Department Report: Mr. Loosli presented the proposal map from the City of St. Anthony for Preferred Land Use. He stated he is working on a grant that would allow funding for purchasing property used for business construction. He presented a graph of Per Capita Income by county to the commissioners. Mr. Loosli read an update email regarding avalanche danger. There were several occur is over the weekend. 2 of them were on Rea's Pass and Twin Creek Trail. Warning signs are being posted at these sights.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session IC67-2345(e). Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to go into Executive Session by Idaho Code 67-2345(e) to consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states of nations; at 11:18 a.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor. Commissioner Hurt declared the meeting open at 11:45 a.m.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to amend the agenda to review the Land Fill Assurance Agreement with DEQ annual report. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to sign the Land Fill Assurance letters to DEQ. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the minutes for March 12, 2012. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Social Services – Debbie Adams Re: Indigent Claims

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to go into executive session at 12:03 p.m. pursuant to IC 67-2345 (d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", and Commissioner Hurt voting "Aye". Commissioner Hurt declared the meeting open at 12: 07 p.m.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve case #G2012-39, and deny case #M2012-10. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Miscellaneous

Emergency Flooding Disaster Declaration: There was a discussion held regarding flooding in Fremont County. Keith Richey reported 2 homes that have had a-floodwater inside with damages.

He reported the water issue in Ashton. The City of Ashton will declare flood emergency due to 2 spots in town and their sewer lagoon. There is currently water on county roads causing some problems. Mr. Richey proposed extending the Emergency Flooding Declaration 90 days.

Commissioner Stoddard made motion to extend Fremont County Disaster Declaration 90 days beginning today. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to approve claims as submitted. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned.

Skip Hurt, Chairman
Fremont County Commission

Attest: _____
Abbie Mace, Clerk