

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2013

Present for the meeting was: Commissioners Lee Miller, Jordon Stoddard and Bill Baxter.

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

Commissioner Miller called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Commissioner Bill Baxter offered the prayer. Clerk Abbie Mace led the pledge.

Elected Officials

Treasurer J'Lene Cherry reported tax cancellations for the month of September in the amount of \$1,833.02. She also discussed other properties that were tax deeded to the county that they are trying to sell so they can be added to the tax rolls again. So far, they have been able to sell about six parcels of ground that had previously been tax deeded to the county. Ms. Cherry reported on an email she received from another county informing her about a fraud case that happened there. She stated that we need to be very careful about information that we give out because of the fraud that goes on.

Assessor Kathy Thompson stated things are moving along well in her office. The Board of Tax Appeals was held last week and things went well. She reported that Jeremy Dixon represented the county at the hearings and was well prepared.

Sheriff Len Humphries reported eight inmates in custody. There is also one being held at the Behavioral Health Center in Idaho Falls. Sheriff Humphries stated that Search and Rescue was called out to the Sadorus Hill area on Saturday to search for a couple who had rolled their razor. There was a complaint filed against the Hungry Bear property and their office is working on that. Sheriff Humphries also reported that training is going on this week.

Clerk Abbie Mace received a newsletter regarding HR law. She would like to purchase a set of 81 memos that she feels would be beneficial to have. It would cost approximately \$130 to purchase the packet. She also received a phone call this morning and was told that the cabinets for record storage would be here on Thursday or Friday. Ms. Mace updated the commissioners on a letter she received from Mr. Mills stating that he is upset that he was not allowed to come to Board of Equalization. He may be taking this to small claims court. The commissioners would like Mr. Dustin to draft a response to Mr. Mill's letter that they will sign. Ms. Mace stated that they will be going to PRIMA training this week. She also reminded everyone to do the ICRIMP University online.

Commissioner Jordon Stoddard reported on the projects that are going on. He spent a day with John Brown and Brett Griffel at the sewer station in Island Park. He stated that the camera that they want to purchase for the sewer lines is a neat piece of equipment. He also went with them as they pulled a pump. He stated it was an interesting day.

Commissioner Lee Miller reported there was a break-in at the Landfill in Island Park. He visited with the employees there and they reported that some cash was stolen along with some tools. He stated that they will be closing on a property purchase today. He also reported that they are having some problems with grizzly bears in the Warm River area.

Geri Rackow RE: Update on Health District and Annual Report

Ms. Rackow introduced herself and her staff. She stated that Toni Quirl has taken over Deon Staker's position at the District Seven Health Office in St. Anthony. She also stated that they have

changed the hours at the St. Anthony office. They will be open on Mondays and closed on Fridays now. Their hours will be 8 to 5 on Mondays and Wednesdays. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, they will be open in the mornings. Ms. Rackow reviewed the Fiscal Year 2013 annual report.

Kelly Eger & Kathleen Price/Environmental Health– There has been an increase in the septic permits that have been issued. The number of food establishment inspections has gone down however. She reported on a well problem that occurred in Henry's Fork Village and how they are trying to remedy that situation. The next solid waste committee meeting will be held on December 12th.

Gary Rillema/Family and Community Health – The office has transitioned to a different computer system which has been a huge endeavor this year. The immunization program has been very active. They have given 78 flu shots to the county employees so far.

Each of their seven offices are working with the Health Insurance Exchange so they can help individuals sign up on line to select a plan for insurance. They will provide appointments for people who need assistance. Mr. Rillema reminded everyone to be patient because the program is not fully functional yet.

Dave Murdock RE: Property Issue

Commissioner Miller stated that the property issues that Mr. Murdock wants to involve the county in are civil issues and Mr. Murdock needs to take this matter to an attorney.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to amend the agenda to allow the county prosecuting attorney to come in at 1:20 p.m. and move all other appointments in the afternoon to twenty minutes later than their scheduled time. Also, he would like to add an executive session IC67-2345(1)(b). Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Matt Eichner RE: Open meeting law with Attorney General in Rexburg

Mr. Eichner invited the commissioners to an Open Government Seminar on Thursday, October 17th in Rexburg. This will be held in the conference room at the Development Center at 6:00 p.m.

Weed Supervisor Bryce Fowler RE: Department Report

Mr. Fowler stated that he should be done with weed spraying by the end of October. They will start doing sterilization spraying the last week of October and the first week of November. Mr. Fowler has been working on grants that are due the middle of November. They have also been working on the inventory. He stated they are still getting three to four calls a day from people who would like them to come and spray their weeds.

Commissioner Miller 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 11:13 a.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", Commissioner Miller voting "Aye" and Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye". Commissioner Miller declared the meeting open at 11:42 a.m.

Social Services – Debbie Adams Re: Indigent Claims

Commissioner Miller made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 67-2345(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code at

1:06 p.m. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", and Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye". Commissioner Miller declared the meeting open at 1:13 p.m. Commissioners signed one new lien and five lien releases.

Prosecuting Attorney Karl Lewies

Mr. Lewies wanted to follow up on the letter from Thomsen Stephens Law Office regarding the hours that they would like to make available to the county. The law office stated that they will not be able to continue under the current arrangements. Mr. Lewies believes it would be best for the county to hire a deputy prosecutor for two to three days a week which would cost approximately \$50,000 a year. Currently, we are paying \$39,000, but this does not allow the deputy prosecutor to work as many hours as Mr. Lewies would like. Commissioner Miller would like to be able to work with the law firm and try to negotiate a reasonable option for paying the county's deputy prosecutor. The commissioners will discuss this and meet with Mr. Lewies again in two weeks.

Planning and Building Administrator Tom Cluff RE: Department Report

Planning and Building - Mr. Cluff stated that according to the final revenue report for fiscal year 2013, we were up 41% from 2007. After 2007, the revenue continued to decline each year until 2013. Things seem to be looking up now. Mr. Cluff voiced some concern about how the government shutdown could affect the snowmobile season depending on how long it lasts. There was discussion on the HUD program and how this is being affected by the government shutdown. Currently, we are waiting for money that needs to be paid to us from two months ago. We are still paying the bills out, but the money is coming out of our budget until these payments come in. Mr. Cluff feels that we will probably be okay because there shouldn't be any large bills coming in again until probably January or February of next year.

Parks and Recreation - Terry Martindale and Mark Seeley are starting to remove docks. They decided to wait until the end of the month to remove all of the county's portable toilets since all of the government owned restrooms are closed.

Public Works Director Brandon Harris RE: Department Report, Willow Creek Cut-off Road

Road and Bridge - Mr. Harris reported that work on the Willow Creek Road has been done and the approach to the road has been fixed. According to the criteria sheet however, this road does not meet the requirements to be plowed in the winter. Mr. Harris stated that we could make this road an exception and plow it at Christmas time when people are going in there to stay for a week or two. The problem with this is, other subdivisions would expect the county to plow their roads also. We can't do it for one and not another. Mr. Harris recommends we not plow the road because they do not meet the criteria. Mr. Harris also stated that they are updating the map that shows what roads the county will be plowing in the wintertime.

Mr. Harris stated that there is a lot of shoulder deterioration on the Yale-Kilgore Road and Big Springs Road in Island Park. To help solve this problem, he would like to put up signs telling people to use the road rather than riding along the side of the road. Commissioner Miller suggested holding a public meeting in the Island Park area to inform people of the problems that are being caused by riding on the shoulders of the road. Mr. Harris reported on a phone call he had with the state bridge inspector regarding the Fall River Bridge by the CC pit. The state inspector feels the center girder is settling and they will continue to monitor it.

Landfill - They have blasted the rock at the Transfer Station construction site. They need to put in three phase power which is going to raise the cost to about \$150,000 for the power. Or they could

put in a three phase generator which would cost about \$20,000. Mr. Harris asked the commissioners what color to use for the roof and siding on the Transfer Station. They will go with red and grey for the colors.

Sewer – Mr. Harris reported that the liner is in at the Wastewater Treatment Plant now and construction is going well. They are concerned with the trees that were cut down that still need to be taken away. With all the moisture that they have had up there lately, everything is pretty wet. They are still discussing ways to get rid of the trees. Burning them is still a possibility.

Equipment – Mr. Harris stated that his pickup is due for an upgrade and asked if the commissioners would like him to start shopping for a new one. The commissioners asked him to wait until January before we decide to do anything.

IT Administrator Lisa Turner RE: Credit Line

Ms. Turner stated she would like to open a corporate credit line through Amazon. She stated it would be easier to make purchases this way rather than using the County credit card. Commissioner Miller directed her to go ahead and set this up.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to approve the claims for October 15, 2013 as presented. 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 minutes from October 7, 2013 with noted changes. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to approve the junior college application for Nathan Rhoton to the College of Southern Idaho. 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.

LeRoy Miller, Chairman
Fremont County Commission

Attest: _____
Abbie Mace, Clerk