

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
December 9, 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, Chief Deputy Sheriff Thad Garner, Weed Supervisor Bryce Fowler, Fleet Manager Justin Wickham, Juvenile Probation Director Darin Burrell, Deputy Prosecutor Brock Bischoff, EMS Director Bob Foster, Public Works Director Brandon Harris, Planning and Building Administrator Tom Cluff and Treasurer J'Lene Cherry

Commissioner Miller called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Brock Bischoff offered the prayer. Chief Deputy Sheriff Thad Garner led the pledge.

Elected Officials

Fleet Manager Justin Wickham reported that he has the bid for a Chevy Equinox for \$21,638 to purchase for the Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels Program. Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to allow Justin Wickham to purchase the Chevy Equinox for \$21,638 which is a piggy-back off the state bid. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Chief Deputy Sheriff Thad Garner brought in the bids for three new vehicles that they would like to purchase. They would like to purchase three Interceptors for the amount of \$25,783 each which is a piggy-back off the state bid. He also reported thirteen inmates in custody and one being held in Madison County.

Weed Supervisor Bryce Fowler thanked everyone for their cooperation when parking so they can get the parking lots plowed.

Juvenile Probation Director Darin Burrell reported no changes since last week.

EMS Director Bob Foster reported they are doing good. Fourteen of the EMTs will be testing this week on Friday and Saturday.

Treasurer J'Lene Cherry reported they have been busy collecting taxes. She also updated the commissioners on the phone conference they will be having this morning to discuss late taxes on some property where the owners had to take out bankruptcy.

Assessor Kathy Thompson stated it is just work as usual in her office. They have been getting a lot of phone calls regarding taxes which they transfer to the Treasurer.

Clerk Abbie Mace stated things are fairly quiet in the office. With the power outage that occurred last week, she would like to get a better calling tree organized. Lisa Turner has found an application that is free where messages can be sent to employees alerting them of closures. She also visited with the clerk from Jefferson County who said they are rewriting their inclement weather policy. Ms. Mace stated that she would like to view their policy and maybe look at rewriting our policy if needed.

Commissioner Bill Baxter was scheduled to attend two meeting last week but they were both cancelled. He did attend an ECIPDA meeting last week.

Commissioner Jordon Stoddard attended the Sustainable Fire Meeting last week.

Commissioner Lee Miller reported on the ECIPDA meeting he attended last week and stated he has quite a few meetings he will be attending this week.

Clerk Abbie Mace reviewed some HR Laws. There was discussion on the Age Discrimination Employee Act (ADEA). You must be careful when interviewing that you only ask job based questions and not questions relating to age. When advertising for jobs, you need to be careful that you don't stereotype in the job description. Ms. Mace checked into how this applies to interns and found out that since they are not full time employees they do not have the same rights but they still must be treated fairly. She also reviewed what managers need to know about sexual harassment and how to handle pregnant employees stating you can't discriminate against a pregnant employee.

The commissioners discussed the bids that were brought in for the vehicles for the Sheriff's Office. These vehicles will take about six to eight weeks to arrive. The Sheriff's Office will be trading in some of their old vehicles to purchase the new ones. The commissioners would also like Justin Wickham to put the Jeep Cherokee from the Sheriff's Office on the surplus site to sell. The commissioners directed Mr. Garner to work with Justin Wickham on moving forward with the process of trading in the vehicles to purchase the new ones.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to amend the agenda to include an executive session IC 67-2345(1)(b) with Public Works Director Brandon Harris.

Clerk Abbie Mace discussed the Health Care Reform Tracking and Application Policy with the commissioners. She will make a copy for each of the commissioners to review and they will discuss it at the meeting next Monday.

Heather Rose via phone call RE: Late Taxes

Ms. Rose stated that they had to declare bankruptcy a few years ago and now their property is going into foreclosure. They are hoping to get some relief on some of the late charges and interest fees. Treasurer J'Lene Cherry stated that they need to pay the taxes for 2010, 2011, 2012 and at least half of the taxes for the year 2013. The commissioners agreed to waive the late charges and interest if she will pay the full amount of taxes for the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 which will amount to \$3553.70. This amount will need to be paid in full by December 31, 2013. Commissioner Baxter made a motion to relieve the tax penalties and interest in the amount of \$784.16 for Warren Rose. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

EMS Director Bob Foster RE: Department Report

Mr. Foster stated that the billing issues have been resolved for those families that were having difficulties paying. He also reported that he has finished submitting a grant that would help pay for programs and classes that would train those who would be first responders to accidents in the wilderness. Mr. Foster stated they are working on the Santa's Posse project. They will be making deliveries on December 19th and they will be using the ambulances for this from 5:15 p.m. until about 7:15 p.m.

Planning and Building Administrator Tom Cluff RE: Department Report

Mr. Cluff stated that they have started grooming a couple of the higher snowmobile trails in the county. They also interviewed for the groomer positions last week and they are now running the background checks. They hope to know by the middle of the week who they will be hiring as

groomers. Mr. Cluff stated that there will be a Planning and Zoning meeting tonight. There was discussion on possibly reducing the fees on building permits that are reissued when there are extenuating circumstances such as fire, etc. He reported that no other counties, with the exception of one, do any reduction in fees for permits. He stated that things to consider when deciding to waive the fees are, how old the building is and if the building that is being rebuilt is exactly the same. The commissioners agreed that it would have to be a case by case determination to decide if fees could be reduced and they would have to come before the commissioners. Mr. Cluff also reported that Parks and Recreation Director Tamra Cikaitoga is getting a bid ready for the bridge at the Warm River Campground that will be going out soon.

Public Works Director Brandon Harris RE: Department Report

Mr. Harris stated that we accidentally paid for repairs to the zipper twice so we received a refund in the amount of \$13,195. Commissioner Miller made a motion to open the budget to put the money back into the equipment budget line. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor. Mr. Harris reported that money has been found from other sources for the Ora Bridge that will pay for the design work. This will be a huge savings for the County. Mr. Harris also reported that they will have the bid opening for the three canal bridges on December 23rd at 10:10 a.m. The Public Works Christmas Party will be held on Friday, December 13th and are asking those who attend to bring a potluck salad or dessert. The commissioners directed Mr. Harris to call Jeremy Casterson, from BLM, to coordinate closing Red Road for the winter.

Commissioner Stoddard also discussed with Mr. Harris some issues the Airport Board is having with the gravel pit that is located by the airport.

Executive Session IC 67-2345(1)(b)

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 11:36 a.m. Commissioner Baxter 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 11:43 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 11:45 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 12:03 p.m.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to deny case #M2014-3, deny case #M2014-4, and deny case #M2014-8. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to approve the claims for December 9, 2013 as presented. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to approve the minutes from November 25, 2013 as amended and also the minutes from December 2, 2013. 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 applications for Anthony Verdi, Mario Cisneros, Rorrie Ybright and Ana Palacios 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