

**FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 3, 2023**

**Present for the meeting was:** Commissioners Scott Kamachi, Blair Dance and Rick Hill

**Also attended by:** Clerk Abbie Mace, Deputy Clerk Kim Fletcher, Civil Attorney Blake Hall, Treasurer Lori Beard, and Assessor Carol Blanchard

Commissioner Kamachi led the pledge.  
Commissioner Hill offered the prayer.

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

Commissioner Kamachi swore in Lori Beard as Fremont County Treasurer.

**Assessor Carol Blanchard** reported her office has finished their appeals season. It has been the busiest since she has worked in the office. They were able to handle most complaints, but we will still have 6 for Board Of Equalization on Wednesday. Last year we had 169 complaints, and 5 went to BOE. This year we had 417 complaints but the majority of them were solved. Deeds are starting to pick up again which is typical for this time of year. For July 31<sup>st</sup>, she has given her employees the option to take the day off to free up parking space for the Lori Vallow-Daybell sentencing. The DMV will be open but the main Assessor's Office will be closed for the day.

**Clerk Abbie Mace** reported she has been working diligently on the budget. She got the changes the Commissioners requested put in on the expense side. She is still working on the revenues and still has a few of the Department Heads to review these with. Thursday, we have another meeting scheduled to discuss the revenues. Next week she will be able to meet with the Department Heads again to discuss what they won't be spending next year. There will be a few more budget meetings but hopefully not many. Neither school district is planning on running bond, so we won't have an August election. We will have one in November for Cities, Cemeteries, and School Board trustees and any bonds that could come up. The Republican Party had their convention and unless the Legislature comes back into a special session, we will have a Presidential caucus in March 2024, but the party will run it so we won't have to. The Democratic Party is having their meeting this week on the state level, and rumors are saying they will have their candidates on the May 2024 ballot. August 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> we will have our open enrollment meetings for insurance at the Annex building. Wellness checkups will need to be done by November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Commissioner Dance** reported RC&D had their budget approval for the coming year and reviewed last year's budget and accomplishments. Southeast Idaho received over \$1.8M in grants and investments this year. He attended the ITD meeting in Island Park for the Ashton to 87 highway. He was informed they had some technical difficulties at the Ashton meeting, but wanted to correct the rumor. The video provided at the Island Park meeting was also available at the Ashton meeting, they just had it on small screens because a large screen wasn't an option. He doesn't want ITD to look bad when all of the information was provided at both meetings.

**Commissioner Hill** reported last Thursday they poured 70% of the cement for the ceiling on the jail expansion. Once it cures they will be able to take out the shoring in those

areas and put it up in other areas to pour the rest. It is coming along well thanks to good weather. The golf course is in good shape this year. It was slow starting because of the long winter, but the revenue is looking good as well. He attended both ITD open houses last week in Island Park and Ashton. They were well attended and ITD was well prepared and gave out good information. They were good meetings and offered a lot of information.

**Commissioner Kamachi** reported he also attended the ITD meetings in Island Park and Ashton and feels they were well attended and ITD was well prepared with their presentation. A lot of the opposition has mellowed out now that people are starting to understand what it is that ITD wants to do. He has been looking for people to participate in the Guardians program, but it is difficult to find people. He thought he found one but this person backed out. He believes he may have found 2 people, but he is hoping for at least 1 more to help cover the whole county and offer help and services to all of those that need it. The Solid Waste District had to change their meeting date do to scheduling conflicts. They are in the middle of organizing an agreement with all of the counties but it is proving to be a challenge. He worked with the 6<sup>th</sup> District Magistrate Court to review a new judge that is in a probationary period. Their review has been sent back to the Commission.

**GIS Greg Newkirk RE: Double J Estates Div 1 - action item**

Mr. Newkirk presented application #23-019 for Double J Estates Div 1 along with Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law and Decision.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve application #23-019 Double J Estates Div. No. 1 Short Plat for Double J Capital LLC along with Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law and Decision. Commissioner Dance seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

**Social Services Debbie Biorn RE: Executive Session IC 74-206(1)(d) - action item**

Commissioner Kamachi made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(d) To consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in [chapter 1, title 74](#), Idaho Code; at 10:10 a.m. Commissioner Dance seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Kamachi voting “Aye” and Commissioner Dance voting “Aye”. Commissioner Hill voting “Aye” Commissioner Kamachi declared the meeting open at 10:15 a.m.

Commissioner Dance made a motion to approve the settlement offer on Case #M2012-45. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

**Payroll Clerk TaGenn Armstrong: Timesheets - action item**

Commissioners reviewed the timesheets.

**Miscellaneous**

Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the claims for July 3, 2023 as presented. Commissioner Dance seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Dance made a motion to approve the minutes for June 26, 2023 as amended. Commissioner Kamachi seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Clerk Mace discussed the HIPAA privacy and security plan amendment. Each year county employees are asked to have a wellness checkup done, and sign a form giving the insurance permission to look up their medical records too see if they have had it done. If we sign this amendment, employees will only have to fill out the form for this year, and in the years going forward they won't have to do it again. Civil Attorney Blake Hall has reviewed the amendment and doesn't see any problem with it.

Commissioner Hill made a motion that we approve the HIPAA privacy plan amendment. Commissioner Dance seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Clerk Mace discussed how the all weather tires for the Ashton Meals on Wheels Van have gone missing from the Stud Mill property. No one knows who took them, but they need to be replaced, as they are still driving with their snow tires. She presented bids from Point S and Les Schwab for 4 tires. She stated any information about the tires is limited. Carey Daniels dropped off the bids but she wasn't able to talk to him about what he would recommend for the vehicle.

Commissioner Dance will talk with Carey Daniels about the tires and get a recommendation for which ones would be appropriate for the Ashton Meals on Wheels Van. The issue was tabled until next week's meeting.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:37 a.m. Commissioner Kamachi 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.

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L. Scott Kamachi, Chairman  
Fremont County Commissioner

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