

**FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 17, 2023**

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

**Also attended by:** Clerk Abbie Mace, and Civil Attorney Blake Hall

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

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

**Chief Deputy Sheriff Bart Quayle RE: Grant Application Signature - action item**

Mr. Quayle presented the Idaho Public Safety grant application for dispatch communications equipment, in the amount of \$30,295.34.

Commissioner Dance made a motion to approve the grant application for Idaho Public Safety Grant Application in the amount of \$30,295.34. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

**Public Works Director Brandon Harris & Forsgren Dave Noel RE: Last Chance Primary Equipment Preselection Approval - action item**

Mr. Harris and Mr. Dave Noel presented preselection bids for equipment for Last Chance Sewer. They explained the increased costs of \$612,000 for the proposed project to be able to release treated water into the river. It will require a Class A permit, this is the highest quality of water for reuse. The state has a list of equipment required to meet the Class A water permit. We currently have a Class C water permit for our treatment facility. This would give us more capacity for growth.

Mr. Noel stated we have received a grant from DOE in the amount of \$700,000 that can be used to pre-purchase the equipment.

We received the following bids:

Combined Screen and Grit System:

Lakeside - \$324,992

Huber - \$213,628

Integrated Fixed Film Activated Sludge, Clarifier, and Filtration systems (IFAS)

Westech - \$2,134,197

Ultraviolet Disinfection (UV)

Glasco - \$91,000

Commissioner Hill made a motion to award Huber in the amount of \$213,628, Westech in the amount of \$2,134,197, and Glasco in the amount of \$91,000 for primary preselection equipment Project No. 01-02-0220. Commissioner Dance seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

**Denton Klingler RE: Landfill fee - action item**

Mr. Klingler discussed his concerns with his small seasonal RV Park in Island Park. 2018 his assessment was raised to a full assessment. It was ½ year landfill assessment before this. He talked with the treasurer's office. They stated they will adjust it back

down to ½ years landfill assessment for FY2024. He feels it cost him about \$11.00 per bag. He wants to know if the county will make an adjustment to the last 5 years.

Treasurer Lori Beard stated what he stated is correct. She has corrected the landfill fee for 2023 tax year.

Attorney Blake Hall stated usually you have to ask to make the adjustment in the year of the assessment.

Mr. Klingler stated he talked to Commissioner Stoddard about this. He feels that because of that he should get a credit or refund.

**Treasurer Beard stated the correction from 11 spots to 13 spots and at ½ year assessment starts next year.**

His RV Park is on Big Springs road. He is open from Memorial weekend until mid September. Most of his spots are for the season not nightly rentals.

Commissioner Hill asked if we have other properties in the county that are adjusted for the seasonal.

Public Works **Debbie Davis stated that they are all done on ½ year for a standard rv park.** They are based on the number of camp spaces.

Commissioner Dance asked when we made the adjustment.

Ms. Beard stated in 2011 he was charged for a building and 12 spots. From 2018 to current is when the problem occurred. It is now correct for Tax Year 2023.

Commissioner Dance stated that we don't have a mechanism to make adjustments. It is up to the property owner to address this in the year of the error. We can't go back and apply a refund. Going forward we can make the correction.

Mr. Klingler stated he did talk to Commissioner Stoddard back in 2018 and tried to visit with Mr. Brandon Harris and did not get any results.

Commissioner Kamachi stated that we don't have the ability to make adjustments to make up for the overpayment for several years.

**Loreen & Bryant Willis & Dustin Shwendiman RE: Road Construction in front of their homes - action item**

Mr. Bryant Willis stated he has concerns with the construction in front of their home on 2700 East. About 5 years ago he was told of the proposed project. He stated that they have trees and lilacs as a barrier between their home and Highway 33. He stated last week they were told about the need to remove all the trees and lilacs. A cement block barrier will be installed. They appreciate the barrier but it will not have their privacy restored. He invited the commissioners to come and view the before and after. (Statement was submitted)

Mrs. Willis discussed concerns about the construction that will be starting on the road in front of her home. She feels her property value will be lowered. There have been a lot of accidents at the intersection of Highway 33 and 2700 East. She feels that the state

needs to have no passing lines on the Highway. She wants it to be a safe place for them to live with their family.

Road & Bridge Foreman Rowdy Rigby stated that they understand losing trees is hard to accept. He is working with the Willis's on the barrier. This has to be done to meet sight requirements from the state. He will address the no passing lines with the state. They will bury the power lines to improve this intersection also. They will be widening the road from 22 feet to 30 feet. They may also put in rumble strips. The main issues for sight safety.

Commissioner Hill asked why the state didn't do this.

Mr. Rigby stated because 2700 East is in our jurisdiction not theirs.

Commissioner Dance stated that the state has been willing to make improvements in the past.

Mr. Willis stated that we should have a turning lane at the intersection.

Mrs. Willis stated the state has already come over onto their property quite a bit. There are a lot of accidents at the intersection and is glad that the barrier will be a help with losing the trees. They would like to have the county replace three trees and a driveway.

Mr. Rigby agreed they will help where they can with these improvements. This is just being done to improve sight safety.

The commissioners appreciated the Willis's concerns and will work with our Road and Bridge crew to help make this as easy as possible.

#### **Tim Solomon Rocky Mtn Power RE: General Update**

Mr. Solomon gave the commissioners an update of what Rocky Mountain Power is doing. He discussed energy cost adjustments. Each year they evaluate it. Fuel costs are a big contributor to this. The costs will increase for the county approximately 2.3%. He also updated on what they are doing as a company. They work over several states. They have about 4800 employees, and 17,000 miles of transmission lines. They are seeing more demands on their lines. They have other forms of power generation from wind to nuclear, along with hydro and natural gas, and coal. There is really only one that is acceptable which is nuclear. The data centers are taking a large amount of power, an average of 300 megawatts. The massive rollout of recharging vehicle stations is a huge need also. They are well positioned to be able to handle this increase. Last year their foundation gave \$1.6M, and \$1.5M along with community approximately \$2 M. Today's energy use in coal is about 30%, it will be down to 9% as they phase out coal plants. By 2050 they will be at net zero carbon based energy. Wind and solar will continue to increase. They are working on large scale battery storage and energy use. He talked about the expansion of power lines they are working on.

Commissioner Hill asked how long does it take to put in the nuclear facility.

They are under construction and feel that it will be at least 2027 before it comes on line.

They will work with us to replace our rope on our flag pole.

**Noxious Weed Supervisor Bryce Fowler RE: Forest Service Agreement - action item**

Mr. Fowler presented an amendment to the Forest Service Agreement. They want to spend an additional \$11,000 with us for weed spraying. He stated they have received their new drone and are programming it.

Commissioner Kamachi made a motion to accept the amendment to the Forest Service Agreement. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

**Clerk Abbie Mace RE: Sales Order Agreement for DS300s - action item; Release of Lien - action item**

Clerk Mace presented a sales order agreement for the purchase of 14 new DS300 voting machines, and their accessories, from ES&S for the total amount of \$100,100.00. Payment will be required in FY2024 budget and be operational for the November 2024 election.

Commissioner Dance made a motion to approve the sales order agreement with ES&S for the purchase of 14 new DS300 voting machines in the amount of \$100,100.00. Commissioner Kamachi seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Dance made a motion to ratify the release of Indigent Lien on Case #99-260. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. A full voice vote was taken 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 17, 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 from July 10, 2023 as amended. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioners reviewed the proposed NACO Center for Public Land Counties.

Commissioner Kamachi made a motion to have Fremont County participate in the NACO Center for Public Lands Counties to educate congressmen on the needs of public lands counties. Commissioner Dance seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Dance stated that he is storing the Ashton Senior Citizens van winter tires in his storage facility in Ashton across from the Ashton Senior Citizens Center.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 am. 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
L. Scott Kamachi, Chairman  
Fremont County Commissioner

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