

Lincoln County Commissioners Minutes for February 27, 2017

Present: Chairman Cresley McConnell, Commissioner Rebecca Wood, Commissioner Roy Hubert, Clerk Brenda Farnworth for minutes.

9:00am Commissioners and Clerk Farnworth met at the Big Wood Canal Company Property on S. Fir Street to tour the property. Possible purchase for storing Law Enforcement vehicles and equipment.

9:30am Chairman McConnell called the Regular Meeting to order.
All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to go into the Board of Equalization. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Chairman McConnell adjourned the Regular Meeting and convened the Board of Equalization.

Commissioner Wood read the rules of the Board of Equalization.

Present was Chase and Morgan Kelly and for the Assessor, Diana Rowe.

Kelly's did not receive a notice of removal of homeowner's exemption. They have a family of 8 and cannot afford the increased property tax. Have filed the paper work for 2017 and have been approved by the Assessor's office. Would like to get the homeowner's exemption backed out for 2016.

Assessor Diana Rowe. Homeowner's exemption has been approved for next year. Feel that this is a hardship request. This is for 2016 property taxes. There were two Casey Kelly's and they removed the homeowner's exemption from the wrong property. Seems to have been a problem in receiving the notice because there is another Casey Kelly that moved.

Chairman McConnell asked if the taxes haven't been paid.

Chase replied that the property taxes are a part of their home loan, so they are paid monthly with the loan payments.

Chairman McConnell asked if the taxes paid had been distributed to the taxing districts. Clerk Farnworth stated that as the tax monies come in monthly, they are sent out to the taxing districts.

Commissioner Hubert asked if the Kelly's had been unemployed during any of the last year. They have not.

Diana Rowe explained the homeowner's exemption process they go through.

Diana Rowe explained that they did not know there were two Casey Kelly's in the County and they were confused about the information they received. The Assessor's do not dispute their homeowner's status after they got the correct information.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to accept the hardship for the 2016 property tax and have the property taxes re-calculated including the homeowner's exemption for Casey and Morgan Kelly, Parcel No. RPS010300H006BA. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Discussion, Because there was a problem with a duplicate name situation, the exemption was removed from the wrong party. Homeowner's exemption notice was never received and does not have to be renewed each year and therefore if no notice was received it is understood to be in place. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Estella Campos presented her case for Estella and Francisco Campos. Estella was in Mexico when the notice was mailed out that their homeowner's exemption was to be removed and when she came back she didn't have it. When she came in to pay her property taxes she asked why her taxes had gone up so high. The Assessor explained that it was because the homeowner's exemption was removed.

Assessor Diana Rowe explained that again there was another Francisco Campos that they were notified was purchasing a property out of state and moving. Again, they removed the homeowner's exception from the wrong property. They have filed paperwork to apply the exemption in 2017 and they do not dispute the homeowner's exemption.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to accept the hardship for the 2016 property tax and have the property taxes re-calculated including the homeowner's exemption for Francisco and Estella D Campos, Parcel No. RP 05S18E315405A. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Discussion, Because there was a problem with a duplicate name situation, the exemption was removed from the wrong party. Homeowner's exemption notice was never received and does not have to be renewed each year and therefore if no notice was received it is understood to be in place. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Tax Exemption

Clerk Farnworth reported for Treasurer Youts that the letters had gone out to the 501(c)(3) businesses to renew their tax exemption for 2017.

Tax Cancellation

Clerk Farnworth reported for Treasurer Youts regarding late charges that were accidentally attached on the Sub-Roll property values when the rest of the late charges were assessed. Would like the Commissioners to approve removing the error.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to allow the Treasurer to back out late charges inadvertently attached for Sub-Roll property values in the amount of \$90.18. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Wood had a discussion with Robert Newey on the QRU Truck, looks like the Richfield Fire Department will be purchasing the truck. Probably don't have another vehicle other than Probation Vehicle to surplus. The Sheriff Department had decided to keep the old Suburban for training. Will plan a surplus and tax deed sale the last meeting in April, after most have filed their tax returns and will know if they have a refund coming.

Discussion with E Scott on the liability of keeping the vehicle in the Sheriff's Department and using for training. Should keep vehicle on liability insurance.

10:00am Chairman McConnell adjourned the Board of Equalization and re-convened the Regular Meeting.

Claims, Minutes, Correspondence

Discussion on letter received from Linda Jones regarding the administration of the exempt properties. Based upon consultation with ICRMP. Carl Erickson and Jim McNall at ICRMP it is the Assessor's responsibility to get the information for tax exemptions.

10:31am Dog Ordinance

E Scott presented a proposed Animal Control Ordinance using the Blaine County Ordinance as a template. Suggested that it be placed on the agenda again for next meeting after Commissioners had time to review.

Susie presented the Commissioners with a complaint she received about a tenant that was housing 40-50 dogs in the house. Some of the dogs were in such bad shape that they had to be euthanized on the premises. Blaine County took 32 dogs.

She suggested that they include in the ordinance a limit of the amount of dogs a person can have without having a kennel license. She suggested that the limit be 5 before a kennel license. Discussion on the purpose of the Humane Society and Department of Ag for livestock. The Sheriff has to make notification.

Discussion on issues in the County and possible situations that could be encountered.

Claims

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the Indigent claims in the amount of \$6,699.50. Commissioner Wood seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the claims in the amount of \$44,268.31. Commissioner Wood seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

11:00am Southern ID Solid Waste/Gas to Energy Property Lease.

E. Scott explained the amended lease agreement which is to enable Southern ID Solid Waste to generate energy.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to accept the Amendment to the Original Lease Agreement and date as of February 27th, 2017 and allow the Chairman to sign, to extend the lease 5 years to terminate Sept 30, 2037. Commissioner Wood seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

11:11am Old Business

Commissioner Wood gave an update on the ITD Administrative Move Task Force. She suggested to the group a resource from the IAC Conference that would be good to do the new consulting. Scope for the consulting has been finalized. Still moving forward.

Minutes

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to approve the Ambulance District Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2017 as presented. Commissioner Wood seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioners Hubert made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for February 13, 2017 as presented. Commissioner Wood seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

11:17am K-9 Dog from Grant

Commissioner Wood did some research on the K-9 Dog purchase and spoke with Deputy McClure. The dog was \$6,500 and the remaining \$5,500 was for training. We received a grant for \$2,500 and fund raisers contributed \$534 for the dog. The balance due on the dog purchase was \$3,291.02. The County paid \$708 to a vet for teeth problems the dog came with and this cost was deducted from the price of the dog. County ended up paying \$2,757.02 for the dog. \$5,995 was paid out of Sheriff's training line.

Discussion on having Deputy McClure possibly pay for the Counties portion or work for the County with his drug dog to work off the difference.

Sheriff Rodriguez noted that Deputy McClure has not been sworn in as a Lincoln County Deputy, but could do so and would like to be able to use him and the dog.

E Scott suggested 10 call outs and Court appearances if necessary would cover the \$3,000 for the cost of the dog. Discussion on what should be included in the contract. E. Scott will draft an agreement.

The County has a credit for a future purchase for another K-9 dog.

Discussion on the new Sheriff vehicle. Sheriff will take the vehicle as ordered and will make the new vehicle his and turn his pickup over to the Deputy fleet.

11:35 Sick Bank Donation/Use

Commissioner Wood made a motion to allow Scott Denning to donate 82 hours into the sick bank and allow Chase Garey to use up to 80 hours from the sick bank. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Discussion with the Sheriff using the Expedition for training. Clerk will make sure we have liability insurance on it.

11:46am Dietrich Well Issue

Commissioner Wood updated the Commissioners on the issue with the new Dietrich Well drilled in 2013. The Well is contaminated by iron and will cost \$25,000 to \$100,000 to correct. They feel that the casing had been slitted by the well driller and the shavings fell into the well.

They did receive a small amount of money from the well drillers, but not enough to cover the costs. They are in a desperate situation and are requesting help from the County.

E Scott's opinion is that it is the Cities problem and is not a County issue. The City has their own attorney for civil issues and should pursue their legal course.

Commissioner Hubert read into the record IC Section 4. According to ICRMP, one taxing entity cannot loan money to another taxing entity. The County can give them a donation toward the issue. Discussion.

E Scott will write a letter to the City of Dietrich outlining the steps that they can take.

12:00 Noon

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to adjourn the Meeting to the Care Center for lunch. Commissioner Wood seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at the Care Center.

1:02pm Chairman McConnell re-convened the meeting.

Executive Session 74-206(1)(d) Indigent

Commissioner Wood made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(d), Indigent. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote; Commissioner Wood, aye; Commissioner Hubert, aye; Chairman McConnell, aye. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Chairman McConnell adjourned the meeting to Executive Session.

1:11pm Chairman McConnell adjourned Executive Session and re-convened the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Wood made a motion for case #2017020, #2017022 & #2017026 to deny for lack of interview. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

1:30pm ID Department of Juvenile Corrections

Renee Waite presented the last year statistics for Lincoln County.

Discussion of the use of ankle monitoring devices and other devices for tracking probation.

1:49pm P&Z Ordinance Changes

Discussion and review of the proposed P&Z Ordinance changes.

3:00pm Laughlin & Assoc – New Courthouse Design
Colby Ricks and Roger Laughlin

Discussion on receiving a preliminary architect report to start with and estimate of what the cost might be.

3:30pm Contaminated Wells/Flood Disaster Update

South Central Public Health, John Moore, from SIRCOMM, has been designated the Public Information Officer (PIO).

Update from the Idaho department of Ag that the lagoon diversions have been stopped and run off from fields have been diverted. Fixing the coffer dam to divert the water.

Some wells have been contaminated and there are even contaminated wells on the east side.

DEQ and Dept. of Ag are collecting data and testing wells on a more extensive area to determine the extent of the contamination. Run off from fields that have had manure spread on them may have contributed to issues. Water has been diverted back to natural flow from the hydro plant north of Shoshone. Suspected contamination area is from 320 North to 750 North, west of Hwy 75.

County Commissioners are not here to determine who is responsible, but to protect people from contaminated water and mitigate the issue to get clean water back to the people.

As of Friday, both Shoshone and Gooding Cities water has tested clean.

4:15pm Workmen's Compensation Cost/Audit

Clerk Farnworth gave the Commissioners the latest Workmen's Compensation audit report. The experience modifier has gone up from 1.45 to 1.54. Looking at the claims it will go up a lot more next year because of high claims in 2016.

Larrin Sant complained about the Ambulance District having to share the experience modifier for the County when they have had no claims. Discussion on possibility of the Ambulance District being on its own policy. That would take setting up an interim Ambulance Board. Discussion on risks.

4:44pm Care Center Lease Agreement

Discussion on the interest of Roy Prescott in the Care Center and the recent changes from Tug Worst on February 16th.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to accept the current Care Center Lease Agreement as presented by Tug Worst on February 16th with the recommended changes. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Discussion, need Tug Worst to write up the final agreement for signature. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Wood went to the State house and lobbied for the Craters of the Moon National Monument. Jeff Thompson from Idaho Falls will carry the memorial for the Craters of the Moon National Monument.

4:54pm Chairman McConnell adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully,
Brenda Farnworth, Clerk

Cresley McConnell, Chairman

Attest:

Brenda Farnworth, Clerk