

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

November 25, 2019

Present: Rebecca Wood, Chairman; Roy Hubert, Commissioner; Rick Ellis, Commissioner; Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes.

9:33am Chairman Wood opened the meeting.

Clerk Farnworth discussed the applications she has received for Code Enforcer.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the CHEMS grant accounts payable for \$1,200.00. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the Indigent accounts payable for \$11,000.00. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the County November 25, 2019 accounts payable for \$23,173.58. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Chairman Wood made a motion to accept the minutes for November 12, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Discussion: Commissioner Hubert read the note into the record made by Cindi regarding the minutes stating only the bare facts of discussion and that his recommended changes were not changed in the minutes. Vote; Chairman Wood aye, Commissioner Ellis aye, Commissioner Hubert nay, motion carries.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the minutes for November 18, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Clerk Farnworth presented Wage approvals for 2 new employees. New Sheriff's deputy and Treasurer's employee.

Chairman Wood read into the record the Treasure's cash on hand statement of \$4,737,754.29 and broke down the amounts by line.

Correspondence

Dec 12, 2019 Legislative Representatives to host a luncheon in Gooding.

EMS Awareness Breakfast and Fundraiser on Dec 21st at the Shoshone Community Center from 8am to noon.

Commissioner Hubert discussed Senators Risch, Crapo, and Simpson will be at the Shoshone Senior Center tomorrow.

Chairman Wood discussed the meeting with Brandy from Region IV and Department of Commerce at the Care Center for the walkthrough prior to the application submittal. She thanked everyone who helped get everything to Region IV for the 218-page application. Chairman Wood

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discussed the floodplain issue before construction could start. The grant application was submitted Friday, November 22, 2019.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(c) Interest in Real Property. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote Commissioner Hubert, aye; Commissioner Ellis, aye; Chairman Wood, aye. Vote unanimous in favor, meeting adjourned to Executive Session.

10:17am Chairman Wood adjourned Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

Correspondence

Chairman Wood read the letter from Lincoln County Housing Authority for a new member and asked to put the appointment on for next week.

Old Business

Neher Park committee discussed grants. Butterfly group did a walkthrough and they said they may be able to help with seed for attrition for butterflies and bees. Discussion on future plans for a flower garden to make Lincoln County a pollinator county.

EMS quarters: Chairman Wood and Commissioner Ellis met at the quarters for a walkthrough. They made a list of things for EMS staff and Dave for repairs and improvements to the building. Discussion on the work to be done.

10:30am Action Items

Tax Cancellations – Ann Youts, Treasurer

Discussed the taxes for mobile homes that no longer exist on the property.

Discussion on the property that had an indigent lien and the owner is deceased. The County will take possession of the property in lieu of the lien. The County Attorney is working on getting the property in the County's name so it can be auctioned off.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the tax cancellation of 2019 #19-02. Parcel numbers MH170 MH137 for \$109.88. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to approve the tax cancellation of 2018 & 2019. Parcel numbers MH3640 and RPR01002011BA for \$500.34. Deceased owner had an indigent lien against the property. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Sheriff's Vehicles is canceled and put on for next week.

Chairman Wood read into the record the question and answer from Cindi to County Attorney Roats for using a contracted County Surveyor for two survey projects for the County.

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Cindi discussed that the RFQ has been published and will be put on the December Planning & Zoning hearing.

Discussion on the map for the football field and where they would like to have the division to negotiate a sell or trade with the Shoshone School District.

Discussion on the Neher Park letter for the fence as personal property that goes with the park. BLM is aware that the fence is not theirs and it is personal property. ICRMP wants a written letter stating it is personal property for the insurance claim filed for the burned section of fencing. County Attorney Roats will draft the letter and will get it back to the Commissioners.

County Attorney Roats called and Chairman Wood discussed the tax cancelation for the indigent property and the fence on Neher Park.

Commissioner Hubert discussed how the fence is considered personal property on BLM ground. Discussion on the fence and if it is personal property and if it should be repaired by the County.

Public comments were made and questions asked about the fence. Chairman Wood explained the fence, BLM land, and the permissions given to the County by BLM.

County Attorney Roats discussed the fence and how it should be covered under ICRMP as personal property.

Commissioner Hubert stated his opinion of the fence as personal property on BLM ground and it should not be covered by ICRMP.

Discussion whether the insurance should cover the cost as personal property on BLM land.

Chairman Wood made a motion to have County Attorney Roats write a letter for the County to ICRMP to cover the cost to repair the fence. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Discussion that the letter should address the coverage on the property to be paid by ICRMP. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Continued discussion on the section of fence to be repaired.

Clerk Farnworth has been asked by employees if they will have a ½ day for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve off for the holidays.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to grant a ½ day for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Sign and Submit Resolution for the Care Center grant.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to accept the Sign and Submit an Application Resolution 2019-15 for Improvements to the Care Center. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

11:16am Employee Policy Manual

Clerk Farnworth read the policy into the record for review.

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Discussion on fulltime and part-time employee hours, dollar amount for education relating to a job, closures for the courthouse.

Old Business

Discussion on the County gravel pit and the boundaries. Commissioner Hubert would like to have the corners marked. There are concerns of encroaching on County land.

Commissioner Hubert talked to Dietrich School about the bleachers. The shop in Dietrich is open to making the repairs. Discussion what needs to be done and when to make the repairs.

Code Enforcer application discussion. There were applicants from Facebook and hand delivered. Applications to be in by December 29, 2019.

12:00pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting for lunch at the Care Center.

1:00pm Indigent canceled.

1:15pm Public Defense Commission Regional Coordinator – Jarod Ricks present

Mr. Ricks is here to talk to the Commissioners and follow up on how things are going.

He asked if the check has been received and if the attorney's reports have been sent. The County's attorneys have sent their reports and notification has been sent to the Commissioners and Clerk via email. Discussion on contracts for public defense. Discussion on contracts and legislation in 2014 giving options to Counties for contracting indigent public defense. Discussion on the contract in use now. At this time there are no concerns for discussion.

1:30pm Chairman Wood called for a 30-minute recess.

2:00pm Chairman Wood reconvened the regular meeting.

Chairman Wood called County Attorney Roats for the meeting.

Courthouse discussion

Chairman Wood received a letter from Mike Telford and asked it be read into the record. She read the letter into the record. It discussed the taxes on ag land and discussed the wishes he has to see the courthouse renovated with an annex with suggestions to move forward.

Chairman Wood stated she has spoken to residents and feels the majority of the peoples she spoke to still wish to see the courthouse renovated, but to lower the cost to the tax payers.

Commissioner Ellis stated that the voters did not show up to vote and to him that meant the courthouse is not as important to save. He would like to see a 20,000 up to 22,000 sq. ft. new courthouse on a new location, and give the courthouse to the historical society.

Commissioner Hubert asked the Clerk if there is \$2,000,000 for use for the courthouse. Discussion if the court needs to be part of the risk 4 category. County Attorney Roats stated yes. Commissioner Hubert stated that 6,000 sq. ft. is not sufficient for an annex as suggest in the letter from Mr. Telford. He states he wants a new courthouse on a new site with 15,655 sq. ft.

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Using Bear Lake County as an example, his opinion is this would be sufficient in size and gave estimated costs he feels would be sufficient for a new courthouse. He discussed estimated costs for construction and land.

Public comment questioned if new would be a better option to lower the bond, then what would be done with the old courthouse. Discussion on options if the courthouse was no longer in use as a County facility.

Commissioner Hubert said he has spoken to residents who would support new.

Public comment asked how much was spent that to run a bond. It is estimated the cost is \$100,000 for all services.

Discussion on the election turnout for the bond and what will happen if the second bond fails.

Clerk Farnworth asked about the sq. ft. in the new location verses using the sq. ft. in the basement of the courthouse. Bear Lake Courthouse has an additional 3000 sq. ft. of storage space in addition to the 15,655 sq. ft. of office space. By using similar sq. ft., the current courthouse with an 8,000 sq. ft. annex would be similar in space and there is 4,000 sq. ft. in the basement for storage.

Chairman Wood asked Commissioner Hubert why only \$1,000,000 was dedicated for the first bond, and why he is stating \$2,000,000 is now part of the discussion for a new bond for a new courthouse. His response is that wanting a new courthouse was the reason for his constituents to vote no for the bond.

Chairman Wood still wants go forward with a renovation and annex. She believes that the reason for the failure of the bond was tax dollars to the public. If the sq. ft. is cut on the annex, and we lower the cost, we can get the bond passed.

Discussion on another survey to be done. If we use 3 weeks for survey response , it will be less time than the time and money to create a totally new bond process for bonding for a new courthouse.

Commissioner Ellis stands on his opinion that not enough voters showed up to the polls to support the decision to save the courthouse.

Discussion on the renovating the courthouse vs. building new on a new site and options for both.

Public comment on taxes to the public, money in reserve to put toward the courthouse or bond, possible grants, concerns for unknown issues during renovation.

County Attorney Roats is concerned if a new survey went out for saving the courthouse to renovate or build new, would the Commissioners support the numbers from the majority of the population surveyed even if the opinion to renovate the courthouse was the majority. The Board has to stay united in any decision.

Chairman Wood would like to have a survey done again.

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Commissioner Ellis still wants to build new and would vote on it today.

Commissioner Hubert wants to move forward with new.

Discussion on a survey sent to registered voters, using \$2,000,000 toward the bond.

Chairman Wood asked the Commissioners if a survey was done and the majority of the voters want to renovate would they commit \$2,000,000 and agree to work together for a new bond amount.

Comm Ellis said no he does not like to use most of the County fund.

Comm Hubert said he would have to reconsider using \$2,000,000.

Chairman Wood made a motion to send a survey to the registered voters. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Discussion that County Attorney Roats write the survey questions, Vote: Chairman Wood aye, Commissioner Ellis aye, Commissioner Hubert nay. Motion carries.

3:12pm Board reports

Chairman Wood is the new Chair for SIRCOMM. There is a lot going on and she is working hard to resolve the issues.

Commissioner Ellis:

He was appointed to the Board of South Central Community Action Partnership; there are 18 on the Board. Discussed his first meeting.

Fair board is still short 3 board members. Discussion which seats are vacant and maybe should be made known on Facebook to see if there is any interest to be appointed to the Board. The Fair Board is not in favor of a larger carnival fearing the supporters that pledged money for support would not pay; they do not want to come up with the balance if the gate revenue was poor. The rodeo lost revenue again this year. Discussion on ideas to bring more people to the fair.

Commissioner Hubert:

Idaho Solid Waste looking to find a builder for a blueprint for the new building for 2 to 3 thousand dollars.

SCPHD discussed if a recession were to happen what would be done. They discussed ways to reduce costs.

Chairman Wood

SIED Board - Discussed the new axe throwing place in Twin Falls where they held their meeting. They had an event for throwing axes. During the meeting they discussed outlying areas to help them grow.

Carmen Wilmore, County Extension Educator:

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Carmen reported on the Extension Office. They are working on the annual evaluation. Discussed programs that are going on for 4H. Carmen will be teaching pesticide certifications classes. She reported on meetings she attended. Tables and chairs have been delivered for the Community Center.

Dave Davidson here to discussed the exhaust from the furnace issue in the EMS quarters. He can address the issue and make the space safe. Discussion on the furnace in the courthouse. It continues to turn off. It will need repairs in the future.

Sheriff King reported on Zurcher's software program. He has a lot of cases going on and he is following up on some old cases. New employees are doing good. Drug arrests are being made with help from ISP. Warrants are being issued. The new trailer for office space is working well. The new vehicles are here; discussion on the mileage with gas is much better. Discussion on the vehicles that were traded in.

Cindi Sievers, P&Z Administrator:

Cindi reported on the Conditional Use Permit and the RFQ process for Surveyors has been published and will be reviewed for discussion for December's meeting.

Clerk Farnworth:

Clerk Farnworth reported the auditors were here for the audit. Everything looked good so far and will have the audit by February/

The new software for Elections with Tenex is available and they will be doing a mock election using the November Election for the sample data. The Secretary of State's office has lost some staff and is having issues with communication with the Counties.

There is a conference for election training in January.

3:51pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.

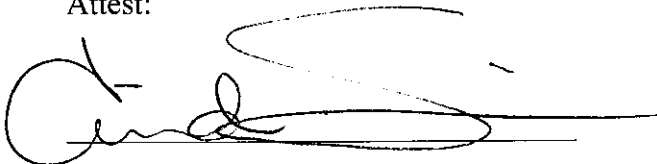
Respectfully,

Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes



Rebecca Wood, Chairman

Attest:



Cindi Sievers, Deputy Clerk