

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

January 21, 2020

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

9:30 Chairman Wood called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to amend the agenda because the Ambulance District has claims that need to be paid so late fees will not occur. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

9:33 Claims and Minutes

Discussion on the minutes for January 6, 2020. It was decided to have the minutes clerk listen to the meeting again and add more detail to the Courthouse discussion.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to pay the January 21, 2020 accounts payable for \$209,722.86. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Discussion on the Magic Valley for the generator at the Community Center. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to accept the minutes for January 13, 220 as presented. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Discussion of county business between commissioners outside of the public meeting is not lawful. All discussion between commissioners should be held in open session. Commissioner Hubert stated that they can talk as long as there is no deliberation of county business. Discussion on the deliberation during a motion. Discussion on the ICRMP meeting.

Commissioner Wood made a motion to accept the minutes for January 6, 2020 as presented. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Commissioner Hubert requested the clarification of IC 31-2419 in the minutes of January 6, 2020. Commissioner Hubert took the IC to County Attorney Roats who agreed with his statement that records can be seen by the public. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Correspondence

Year End Review for Emergency Services, Chairman Wood read the letter and a brief description of what is in the review into the record.

Idaho Land Grant Endowment for grazing, Chairman Wood read a summary into the record.

10:00am Southern Idaho Economic Development SIED

Connie Stopher gave a review on the videos by SIED to promote economic growth in Southern Idaho. Discussed the newsletters and targets for dairy and other food company businesses to move to Idaho. Discussion why Idaho is a good location for their business.

Chairman Wood discussed she did not see Lincoln County included in business opportunity zones. The zones are locked in for about 10 years and the number of accepted was limited.

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Rural Economic Development Services REDS

Alexa Wilhelm gave review of the work being done in Hagerman. She stated Lincoln County should be targeted soon. The focus will be on Richfield and Dietrich. She continued talking about the projects that will be coming soon. Discussion on the Gateway Motel in Shoshone and what could be done for grants for the business. Discussion how to help Lincoln County grow. Discussion on grants for the County. Discussion on a Committee meeting at Johnny G's, a new restaurant in Fairfield, the owner also owns The Eagle's Nest. Discussion on the new owner of the Sawtooth Market in Shoshone. Chairman Wood asked for a letter of support for the Neher Park. Alexa will get a letter to the Commissioners. Alexa informed the Commissioners she is leaving REDS to pursue going back to school for a Master's Degree and introduced Ervina Covcic the new person who will take her place. Chairman Wood discussed the new Mexican restaurant in Richfield in the old confidence store. Discussion on SIED's fee and when it could be approved for payment. Discussion that Planning & Zoning will research and look to expand commercial zones.

10:30am Action Item

Comm Wood read the cover letter into the record for EIRMC Service Agreement for behavioral health services. Discussion on the service agreement and that the agreement had been sent to County Attorney Roats. CA Roats has not responded, but Commissioner Hubert is good to move forward with a motion.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to approve and sign the EIRMC Service Agreement. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

10:34am Correspondence

Notice for Idaho Power involving fish placement evaluation report. Chairman Wood read the letter into the record.

Letter regarding the Census Bureau map for Planning & Zoning to review and complete the form then return the form to the Census Bureau.

Discussion on transportation grants for individuals who need transportation to appointments for the communities in Lincoln County.

Chairman Wood discussed the grant workshop she attended. A board for a 501-C3 organization for Lincoln County should be created to apply for grants for the betterment for quality of life for the communities. She discussed what could be done when the Board is created for grant applications.

10:4am Gun Range – Sheriff King

Chairman Wood discussed the gun range with CA Roats and county recreation laws through the Constitution. His concern if there are fees being charged, the County has to do its due diligence for agreements with private businesses to have substantial liability insurance to use the gun range. If an injury were to occur during a private business use, it could be a potential lawsuit to

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the County. CA Roats wanted to look into the liability more before moving forward. Commissioner Hubert told the Sheriff to contact Jerome County to see what they did for this type of use. Mr. Denning addressed the Commissioners regarding his usage for firearm instruction classes and felt \$5million liability insurance would be too much. This will be put back on the agenda in two weeks for continued discussion with CA Roats present.

Old business discussion

IAC Conference February 3rd-6th and the Coroner's conference on February 6th-7th.

11:00am Courthouse discussion

Cindi, minutes clerk, was asked to listen to the November 25, 2019 recording of the regular meeting and found the statement made by Commissioner Ellis that he would support the majority of the survey results and that Commissioner Hubert did not agree to the survey. She read the portion of the motion for the approval of the survey and the Commissioners' decision, then played back the recording of Commissioner Ellis's statement to go with the majority of the survey results. Discussion by Commissioner Hubert regarding changing their mind if additional information is found.

Chairman Wood discussed her conversation with ICRMP and Jerry Mason regarding the survey and it would be wise to go with the survey results. If not, there could be consequences.

Discussion of County property being used for a courthouse has to have an assessed value before any decisions can be made. Commissioner Hubert discussed the possible trade with the Shoshone School for the football field.

Chairman Wood discussed her conversation with Colby Ricks, Architect for the last courthouse bond, regarding the cost to build an annex and renovate, or build new. He said it would be whatever cost you want; it can be done either way. Discussion on a property that would be a possible site for a new courthouse and what it would take to be considered.

Commissioner Hubert has spoken to Starr Corporation and was given an estimate for the building cost of a new building and read it into the record. Chairman Wood stated the estimates she has for the renovation and annex are similar in cost. Discussion between Commissioner Hubert and Chairman Wood regarding the differences of opinion for new verses renovate and annex. Chairman Wood had looked at the surveys again and there is a 60/40 split on renovating the courthouse and discussed the voters mainly want a lower bond. Continued discussion between Commissioners. Chairman Wood discussed a grant that could get a 50% match for a courthouse because we are designated as a low to moderate income for grant applications.

Chairman Wood asked for public comments.

Public Comments:

Asked what is their problem with the courthouse, that the majority wants to keep the courthouse. The response from Commissioner Hubert is building new is cheaper. The County could donate the courthouse to another organization.

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Because of the options for a grant, would they consider adding some of the \$2million of County funds for a courthouse. Chairman Wood checked into that and was told one project could be done on the grant application.

If they move forward with a new courthouse and the bond fails, what will you do to comply with the ADA issues and the courthouse. Commissioner Hubert discussed a possible lease to own. Discussion on how long it has been out of compliance and something needs to be done soon. Chairman Wood discussed her conversation with CA Roats and ICRMP and she recommends we should do something now to eliminate any liability situations.

Continued public comment discussion on new verses renovate and annex; adding an elevator to the courthouse now; how long the County has been out of compliance; current issues with space and asbestos/mold; phasing projects to comply to ADA using current funds; questioned the cost per square foot; Commissioners should support the public opinion.

Commissioner Hubert made a motion to build a new courthouse on a new location for an estimated \$5,174,126.00, with dollar amount to be taken out of county funds to put towards this amount to reduce the bond to be worked out later and that a Request of Proposals for Architectural Services and Request for Qualifications for Construction Manager/General Contractor be sent out immediately. Commissioner Ellis seconded. Commissioner Ellis stated he doesn't believe in putting money into a bad project. Commissioner Hubert stated once they move forward, they will have better numbers. Chairman Wood disagrees with the motion that goes against the majority of what the people want. Is contrary to the economic development and general welfare of the County. Either project would be the same amount of money. The public should be considered. Commissioner Hubert feels there was not full transparency because the costs were not made known to the public. Chairman Wood added the conversation with Jerry Mason with the Procurement of the State of Idaho, the first mistake was not going with the recommendation of the Committee and the second thing is it will be a bad mistake if you don't go with the majority of the survey; it will be bad for the County. Roll Call to Vote: Commissioner Ellis yes, Commissioner Hubert yes, Chairman Wood no. Motion carries.

Chairman Wood made a motion to immediately put out a bid for Request for Qualifications and Request of Proposals for an elevator for the courthouse to be ADA compliant. No second, motion failed.

Discussion on the motion and the recommendation from CA Roats to move forward with an elevator while we wait for a courthouse.

No second motion dies.

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

1:00pm Chairman Wood reconvened the meeting.

1:03pm **Commissioner Ellis made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(d) Indigent Exempt records. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote**

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Commissioner Hubert, yes; Commissioner Ellis, yes; Chairman Wood, yes. Vote unanimous in favor, meeting adjourned to Executive Session.

1:24pm Chairman Wood adjourned Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

Fair Board Discussion

Commissioner Ellis discussed brining a larger carnival to Lincoln County for the fair. Discussion on businesses that would help with commitments for funding to bring in the carnival. The fee for the carnival is \$15,000. Discussion to budget an amount to support brining in the carnival. Discussion on the process for ticket sales. In addition to a carnival, Commissioner Hubert stated that a good rodeo will help with ticket sales. Continued discussion on what could help increase attendance to the County Fair. Discussion on how much the County should put in the budget to help the cost of the carnival and rodeo. The Commissioners talked about \$7,500.

1:45pm 1st Quarter Financial Review

Clerk Farnworth presented a spreadsheet showing the funds with percentages of use. Discussion on the percentage used in the budget including lines that are over budget for the quarter.

Discussion on the revenue for the County for the quarter.

Old Business

Discussion on the Code Enforcer. CA Roats is working with her and is impressed with her work ethics and abilities to do the job. Disuession on the vehicle for use as Code Enforcer.

Region IV discussion on the care center grant. They have not heard anything back.

Neher Park grant is being reviewed and will be turned in by January 28th or 29th.

2:00pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting to go into Planning & Zoning.

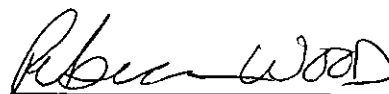
3:00pm Chairman Wood reconvened the meeting.

Discussion on the Butterfly and Bee Pollination designation and how Lincoln County would benefit.

3:07pm Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.

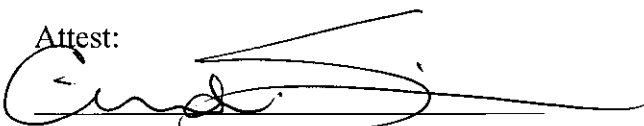
Respectfully,

Cindi Sievers, Clerk for Minutes



Rebecca Wood, Chairman

Attest:



Cindi Sievers, Deputy Clerk