

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

Monday, September 12, 2022

Present: Rebecca Wood, Chairman; Roy Hubert, Commissioner; Joann Rutler, Commissioner; Cindi Sievers, Clerk of the District Court; Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk for Minutes.

9:00am Chairman Wood called the meeting to order and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Rutler made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(b)(f) Personnel/Legal Counsel. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote Commissioner Hubert, yes; Commissioner Rutler, yes; Chairman Wood, yes. Vote unanimous in favor, meeting adjourned to Executive Session.

9:30am Chairman Wood adjourned Executive Session and reconvened the regular meeting.

Ed Reagan from Courier News discussed proposed legislation that allows counties, cities, and taxing districts to put legal notices on their public website. County needs to decide where to publish their legal notices. Cities must designate a legal newspaper by ordinance, but counties do not. Would the residents of Lincoln County be more likely to see our legal notices in a publication like the courier as opposed to the Times News? Courier News is published on Wednesdays. Deadline for publications is the Friday prior to publishing date. Commissioner Hubert questioned if the most circulated publication is the one the County is obligated to use. Mr. Reagan explained that the Courier News serves 350 customers in Lincoln County. Commissioner Hubert questioned cost. Mr. Reagan explained now the Courier News calculates its fees per pica. Mr. Reagan suggested that Clerk Sievers send him a previously published legal notice to compare costs. Mr. Reagan explained that for election publications with sample ballots, he can separate statewide contests from local contests to split the cost between counties and save the counties money. Chairman Wood thanked Mr. Reagan.

Jack Nelson, a candidate for Idaho Legislative District #26 State Representative, Position B, introduced himself to the Commissioners. Discussed water issues and how the County Commissioners can take control of them, in his opinion. He is a proponent of local control of water rights. Because the County issues building and occupancy permits, it can control how people set up water splits and divisions. Discussed that College of Southern Idaho is working to build their GM tech program and a Ford tech program in the future. Chairman Wood thanked Mr. Nelson for coming to the meeting.

9:53am Claims and minutes.

Continued discussion on Idaho Power Bill for car charging station. Because the county has now paid for the design and layout to add more power, it should not have to pay again should the decision be made to build multi-family housing units in the future.

Chairman Wood suggested that the 3 cities (Shoshone, Richfield, and Dietrich) should meet regarding Planning and Zoning concerns. Clerk Sievers had questions regarding who should

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make contact with admins, to which Chairman Wood replied that Norma Anaya, Lincoln County Planning and Zoning, should do it.

Commissioner Hubert discussed the Times News bill for publications. Commissioner Rutler read one such bill into the record to give an example of what the Times News currently charges the County. Clerk Sievers stated that she will send the previously published Lincoln County budget and resolution to the Courier to get a price comparison.

Clerk Sievers noted that quarterly funds will come from the state this year for the County's Public Defense. This is a quarterly payment from the state to make up for the County not being able to tax indigent or levy for that money. According to Clerk Sievers there are currently house bills that propose, beginning in 2024, the state will completely control the public defense for the counties and will provide the funding for such. Details have not been solidified as of yet; more will be learned at the next IAC conference. Commissioner Hubert is concerned that this takes control away locally.

Norma Anaya, Lincoln County Planning and Zoning, states she attended a meeting last Wednesday where Area of Impact was discussed, as well as discussion regarding what the counties have jurisdiction over. In some counties, a Planning and Zoning board oversees Area of Impact as opposed to Planning and Zoning personnel. Chairman Wood states that, per a conference that Commissioners attended, Planning and Zoning is always County jurisdiction, but the County has agreements with the cities regarding who handles Area of Impact. In Lincoln County, the County handles anything over 20 acres, and anything under 20 acres is handled by the cities.

Commissioner Rutler made a motion to pay the September 12, 2022 accounts payable for Lincoln County in the amount of \$53,408.54. Chairman Wood seconded. Commissioner Hubert commented on the payment for Brenda Farnworth consulting for the County, stating that 2 or 3 weeks ago it was discussed that Brenda was being paid both mileage and her salary. Having discussed this with Clerk Sievers prior to today's meeting, Commissioner Hubert would like the record to reflect that Brenda did not in fact charge the County for mileage and regular salary, but that she charged for 2 hours of work that she did from her home. Commissioner Hubert wants the public to know that what was discussed regarding this matter 2 or 3 weeks ago was not in fact the case. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Rutler made a motion to pay the September 12, 2022 accounts payable for the Youth Center for \$946.64. Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

Commissioner Rutler made a motion to accept the minutes for Tuesday, September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting as corrected (page #2, \$1257 needs modified to \$1,257.00; paragraph discussing Youth Center broken heater/air conditioner unit to state: created a bid package). Commissioner Hubert seconded. Vote unanimous in favor, motion carries.

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Treasurer Ann Youts brought in a tax document with a clerical error correction for Chairman Wood to sign. No motion needed, not an action item.

Terry Ruby was called, clarified that he was supposed to be on the agenda for next week, Monday September 19, 2022 at 10am.

Chairman Wood noted that Tri County Weed is looking for invasive species and weeds. They have programs where they can help residents find the correct poisons to use, how to use them, and sometimes even offer money toward that if they qualify. Through the Idaho legislature, Tri County Weed does have the ability to spray weeds at a residence and charge it to the landowner's taxes if numerous attempts to have the landowner take care of the weeds themselves have been made and ignored.

10:21am Correspondence and Old Business

Rent from Mobile Modular on 12x56 office building will increase \$93 per month, and the personal property expense per contract fee will increase by \$32 per month.

Lincoln County Treasurer's Report for end of month- \$6,301,360.27 is the current account total for the County.

Extra PILT payment coming in- update at IAC coming up; trying to figure out how to pay it all out.

Chairman Wood- Farm Bureau Fall Legislative Tour Dinner is Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 1:00pm at Shoshone City Park; bus tour leaves at 1:30pm and dinner begins around 4:30pm. The tour is of the farms and ranches affected by Lava Ridge Wind Project.

Update on the Domestic Well Workshop- Norma Anaya, Lincoln County Planning and Zoning, received a notification on Friday, September 9, 2022, that the webinar will either be on Wednesday, September 14, 2022, or Thursday, September 15, 2022. If the county is a section member, the webinar will be \$30 instead of \$50, and in person attendance will also be \$30 instead of \$50. Norma states that after running a web compatibility test, it was determined that the County internet is too weak to join the meeting via the web. Norma will be following up to get more details. Commissioner Rutler requested to be updated on the specific date of the webinar, as she may like to attend.

Commissioner Hubert discussed his phone call with Bruce Edelson, who did a report of 18 courthouses for the Idaho Supreme Court, regarding ADA compliance. All lifesaving improvements will be included in the courthouse renovation.

Congressman Simpson wrote Commissioner Hubert a letter mentioning that he is in favor of PILT and Nuclear Design, pertaining to the letter that Commissioner Hubert had written to him regarding the Lava Ridge Wind Project.

Discussion on the new accessibility ramp design for the Courthouse second story access.

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Clerk Sievers reminded that the Commissioners will not be meeting on September 26, 2022 due to an IAC conference that all commissioners are attending. Also mentioned that the clerk's office has received the invoice for Lincoln County Coroner Mike Piper's Coroner Conference.

Discussion on bids for the courthouse renovation. Final draft packages have been created and are waiting to be sent out to builders. November 2022 will likely be the next update.

Clerk Sievers questioned the status of the Care Center's new bathroom. Chairman Wood stated that the engineer just finished the bid package. She is waiting on a copy of the bid package to be sent to her. Commerce has said that if the project is too small of a project, they might do the other bathroom to add to the project.

Chairman Wood noted again that the Youth Center has no heat or air conditioning and it will be too cold for the preschool am class pretty soon. She will need to decide what type of heater to use for the preschoolers because a new heating/air conditioning unit will not be installed in time.

Commissioner Hubert continued discussion on the Care Center bathroom.

Commissioner Rutler discussed the Animal Shelter. Currently plus/minus \$37,000 in fundraising. Two checks, each for \$15,000 were donated and now the building can be completed. Decided not to do heated flooring, however the building itself will be heated and air conditioned.

Clerk Sievers noted that the Care Center lunch needs to be arranged for next Monday.

Commissioner Rutler discussed Lost in Lava Cowboy Gathering that will be happening on September 16th and 17th in Shoshone.

Discussion with Commissioner Hubert regarding Southern Idaho Solid Waste- the Commissioners would like the pump house building covered before bad weather comes in. They stated they would get it done.

Clerk Sievers questioned if Nathan Schutte had been contacted regarding the Commissioner training on September 26, 2022. Chairman Wood stated that yes, he has been contacted and he unfortunately is not able to attend this training, however he will try to make it to one day if he possibly can.

Chairman Wood noted that road work on the highway to Richfield is nearing completion.

Commissioner Hubert commented on the recent swearing in of Lincoln County's new Magistrate Judge, Brendan L. Ash. Commissioners agreed that it was a very nice ceremony.

Future Discussion- ARCH, the company that builds low-income housing in Blaine County, is interested in coming to the Magic Valley. Region IV Commissioners discussed their interest in having ARCH take on projects in this area.

10:48am Chairman Wood adjourned the meeting.

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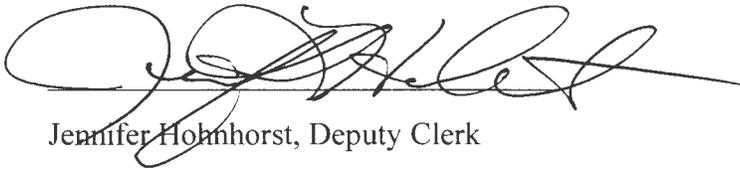
Respectfully,

Jennifer Hohnhorst, Clerk for Minutes



Rebecca Wood, Chairman

Attest:



Jennifer Hohnhorst, Deputy Clerk