

PROCEEDINGS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SHOSHONE COUNTY, IDAHO

BOOK 2024

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

The Board convened at **10:00 a.m.** in regular business session and the meeting was called to order.

Present:

Commissioners: David Dose - Chair

Jeff Zimmerman

Deputy Clerk: Sydney Millard

Also, in attendance: Jessica Stutzke, Matt Beehner, Ryder Gauteraux, Chuck Jones

PUBLIC COMMENT: Ryder Gauteraux provided binder copies of an appraisal that includes development plans for property South/Southeast of Wallace for the board to review. He asked the board to review and then schedule a meeting with himself and Chuck Jones. He said it may be executive session with attorney's present if they'd like. He said this was given to the last board of commissioners. Matt Beehner said he doesn't know what the payment of disputed invoice is about, he said he doesn't think it should be on the consent agenda as its not something they ordinarily do. He said regarding the continued public hearing being held later today; in the past it was re-done with public comment allowed. He gave copies of past legal opinion of Kesha Oxendine.

The consent agenda was reviewed for consideration as follows:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Consideration and Decision of the Minutes of the Commissioners' Public Agenda Session dated February 5, 2024 to February 9, 2024. A motion was made by Commissioner Zimmerman to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Dose. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Consent Agenda** – (These items will be enacted by one motion unless requested by a Commissioner that one of more items be removed for separate discussion.)
 - Beer, Wine & Liquor Licenses
 - Shoshone County Payables
 - Ambulance Service District Payables
 - Cancellations/Homeowner's Cancellations
 - Payment of Disputed Invoice – Public Works

A motion was made by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner Dose to approve the consent agenda as presented with specific items addressed as indicated. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Executive Session: Indigent Cases: Consideration and Decision.
Executive Session ID Code 74-206(d).

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CHECKS

001	Current Expense	\$24,450.87
002	Road & Bridge	\$29,580.61
005	Ambulance Service District	\$50,872.04
006	District Court	\$1,895.61
0016	Indigent	\$85.00
0018	Park	\$43.53
0019	Justice Fund	\$30,123.41
0020	Appraisal	\$681.20
0023	Solid Waste	\$11,084.75
0037	Snowmobile	\$3,961.46
0038	Waterways Fund	\$200.00
0052	Airport	\$46.80
0055	Fish Hatchery	\$58.75
0056	Emergency 911	\$3.15
0103	Local Assist and Tribal Consis	\$1,058.53
0211	ITD Express Bus	\$2,895.28
	TOTAL:	\$157,040.99

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12:00 PM To Discuss Equipment Buy-Out for Public Works (Grader)

Also, present: Jessica Stutzke, Matt Beehner

Jessica explained that they have been presented with a unique opportunity. Normally when they get to the end of a lease for equipment the lease buy-out is not affordable so they will turn the machine back in and start a new lease. They have a 2018 Cat grader coming up in the Osburn District. It is the government package that they don't readily offer anymore. She said there is less computerized equipment on the machine, so there is less likely to go wrong. It is also more expensive to fix highly computerized equipment. Jessica said the lease on this machine is up on the five-year lease. The buy-out is \$155,000. If they can break it into payments, it is attainable for the department. She looked into options that wouldn't cause re-opening the budget. She said they were given three purchase options, from three to five-year purchase options. The three-year option would be three payments of \$55,336.58, which would put them slightly over budget for the year. The four-year option would be payments of \$42,871.38. This option would leave a little cushion in the leased equipment line item, totaling \$5,789. Jessica said the machine has very low hours, around 600, and the department feels it would be smart to look at purchasing.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked what the current lease payment is. Jessica said \$36,494.14 a year. Jessica said she recommends the four-year option. Commissioner Dose said he likes the four-year option as they will stay under budget. Jessica said there is the five-year option, but it would be another year of interest. Commissioner Dose made a motion to go with the four-year plan, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman. The motion carried. Public comment: Matt asked if this was a five-year lease. Jessica said yes. He said \$155,000 for 600 hours is not worth it. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

1:00 PM To Gather Public Input/Discuss Election Machine Grant Award

Also, present: Savanna Willer, Timmie Hunter, Colleen Rosson, Josh McDonald, Douglas Thurber, Joe Avery, Jann Higdem, Matt Beehner, Minde Beehner, Melanie Carter, John Dickey, Robert Peterson, Laurie Osterberg, David Hernandez

Commissioner Dose explained they will be limiting public comment to a few minutes. He said there will be no vote today, the purpose of this meeting is to gather public input. He asked Savanna Willer of the elections department to show what machines are being proposed and to explain where the funding is coming from. Savanna explained what they are looking to purchase are express vote machines which we currently have at each polling location. They are asking for an additional four machines. One for Pinehurst, Wallace, Osburn and Kellogg which all have a higher voter registration count. She said over the last week she has called several other counties that are similar in size to Shoshone County to see what they use. She said Idaho County uses ES&S at every election, they have 1,001 registered voters. She said Owyhee County has about 5,000 registered voters and they use ES&S and express votes every election. She said the machines have a blank piece of paper that is placed in the machine, you make your selections and then the ballot prints out. The voter can see what was selected and then it's placed in the DS200 machines which is the tabulator machine. Jann Higdem provided the board a packet of information for review. She said she was one of the original members of the team that put out the video '2000 Mules.' She said she has been following election fraud for a long time. The first document is County's Using Paper Ballots to Ballot Boxes from 2014. She said the counties that Savanna called that use ES&S machines are required to have them. Other documents she

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provided for the board and briefly reviewed were the following articles. Chinese parts, hidden ownership, growing scrutiny: Inside America's biggest maker of voting machines, Securing the Vote, Findings of the State of Idaho, Office of the Secretary of State, Laptop USB drive stolen from Philly Election Staging Site, Serious Design Flaw in ESS Express Vote Touch Screen, Online and Vulnerable, Voting Rights Advocates Sue over express vote machines, Election Integrity Advocates Sue to stop the sue of touch screen voting machines in New York. She said there are hidden costs associated with these machines. She said she has been a poll watcher for the last three elections and has never heard a machine be offered to a voter. Douglas Thurber thanked Savanna for her information. He said just because other counties use these machines, doesn't mean we should. He said 50% of people don't trust the vote. He said there are two ways to cheat, mail in and electronics. He referenced two articles from yesterday's newspaper. He said he previously provided the board with copies of '2000 Mules.' He said there is a crisis in confidence, and this year there are the same presidential candidates. He asked the board to please delay more machines, and let the voters recover from voter fraud in 2020 election. Melanie Carter said she has a lot of security concerns. She thinks these machines shouldn't be considered at all. She said has experience with soldering computer boards and you can write scripts to alter how things are done. She thinks the public should be made more aware of what is being considered, she thinks there would be more concerns if so. She said she has been a poll worker, and she has never seen a machine being used by voters. John Dickey asked where the commissioners asked the public about what they want. He thinks it should come to a public vote. Matt Beehner said the county is broke, grants are nice, but we can't afford the match. He noted several grants that have been presented to the board recently that it wasn't noted where the match would come from in the budget. Robert Peterson said there is no demonstrated need for additional machines. He said the board has a duty to safeguard funds. He said there are people available to help those who are disabled to vote. He thinks we should do away with all machines. He said he has poll watched twice and hand counting has gone smoother and there were fewer spoiled ballots. Minde Beehner said she came to this meeting because a lot of the things she was hearing. She thanked Savanna for her information, she said she has learned a lot and plans to go to the ES&S website Savanna mentioned with some of her own questions. John Dickey asked if the grant was designated for these specific machines only. Savanna said no, the grant is for election machines or cyber security, other machines can be used. She said it was her opinion that these machines would be best utilized. Laurie Osterberg said she agrees with Minde, Savanna did a great job. Laurie asked for an estimate of how much the pre-printed ballots cost. Savanna said it depends on the election; she orders a percentage of each precinct. She asked if pre-printed ballots were more expensive vs. blank ballots that go into a machine. Savanna said yes. Laurie asked by how much. Timmie Hunter said its hard to answer that question, she has been trying to look at that data. Laurie asked how many extra poll workers would be needed if we went away with these machines and just did paper ballots. She asked the best way to advocate for getting these machines removed. Commissioner Dose said this meeting. Douglas Thurber said any issue with voting should be on the ballot. David Hernandez said the board needs to think about the financial aspect of this. He said if we're adding financial cost to the county, how will we supply those costs? He said he thinks they should wait on this. There being no further business the meeting adjourned. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

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3:00 PM Public Hearing: Continue a Public Hearing To Discuss, Review and Consider:
Private Road and Driveway Standards Ordinance

Also, present: Britney Jacobs, Dan Martinsen, Trish Brown, Colleen Rosson, Shawn Leroy, Josh McDonald, Ryder Gauteraux, Chuck Jones, Matt Beehner, Minde Beehner, Joe Avery, Chris Pfahl, Mike Branstetter

Commissioner Dose explained this is to continue a public hearing that was held a few weeks back. The board had requested some changes from Planning and Zoning that are now before them. Dan said they have produced a new staff report that gave the minutes for the last hearing and identified what was asked of Planning and Zoning. He said they have produced a draft ordinance with changes. Britney said she has been working closely with Planning and Zoning and have taken comments and concerns that were given by the public at the first hearing and have implemented some that Planning and Zoning and the commissioners felt were appropriate. Dan reviewed the changes in the draft proposal before the board. Commissioner Dose stated that at the first meeting there was opportunity for public input. He said that a couple things have changed, and there has been misinformation going around about proposed amendments, and yet there is no opportunity for public input at this time. Commissioner Zimmerman made a motion to close the public hearing with no action and schedule a new public hearing primarily for the purpose of allowing public comment and to allow more time for review, seconded by Commissioner Dose. The motion carried. Commissioner Zimmerman said he knows people are worried about this affecting existing roads, but they need to make it clear that it will only be affected by new construction. Dan said that the way that the proposed ordinance is written is such that new development is the trigger. He said with notice requirements they are probably a month out for a new hearing. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

3:30 PM Consideration of County Clerk Nominees

Also, present: Colleen Rosson, Timmie Hunter, Karey Eddy, Ben Allen, Matt Beehner, Minde Beehner, Shawn Leroy, Josh McDonald, Joe Avery

Commissioner Dose explained they are here to consider the nominees for county clerk as presented by the Democratic Party. He said code required the Democratic Party to provide the board with three numbers. As of this morning they had three nominees, Peggy White, Rachel Lyons and Jay Huber. He said Rachel Lyons has since withdrawn her name. Commissioner Zimmerman made a motion to accept nominee Peggy White as county clerk, seconded by Commissioner Dose. Commissioner Dose said he interviewed a few nominees over the weekend. He thinks Peggy brings expertise that will be helpful in the current financial situation. The motion carried.

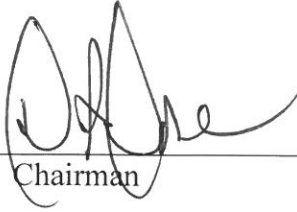
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ATTEST: Timmie Hunter
Chief Deputy Clerk

Approved: _____


Chairman

By: Sydney Millard
Deputy Clerk

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Wednesday, February 14, 2024

NO QUOROM – NO MEETINGS

Idaho Panhandle National Forest Meeting – Coeur d'Alene – Zimmerman

ATTEST: Timmie Hunter
Chief Deputy Clerk

Approved: 
Chairman

By: 
Deputy Clerk

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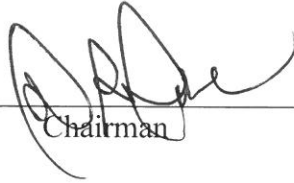
Thursday, February 15, 2024

There were no regular business meetings scheduled this day.

8:00 AM Silver Valley Economic Development Corporation Meeting – Casady

ATTEST: Timmie Hunter
Chief Deputy Clerk

By: Sydney Millard
Chief Deputy Clerk

Approved: 
Chairman