

JEROME COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Monday, July 6, 2020

PRESENT: Charles Howell, Chairman
Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman
John Crozier, Commissioner
Jane White, Deputy Clerk

Meeting convened at 9 A.M.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Crozier reported he had discussed a rifle design for a raffle with the Fair manager and had also looked at the water leak at the Jerome Airport, which he said had many weeds.

Commissioner Crouch had participated in a jail expansion meeting, and he and Commissioner Howell had also checked the Airport while the manager was on vacation.

All three Commissioners had listened to Governor Little's press conference regarding the coronavirus and had attended the recognition for First Responders in a Jerome city park, hosted by Jerome 20/20.

APPROVE TIME RECORDS

The Board signed Employee Time Records for Cody Cantrell, Brent Culbertson, Deserae Jones, Tim Larson, Nancy Marshall, and Mario Umana for the June 21, 2020, through July 4, 2020, payroll period.

BUSINESS AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

The Board signed leave requests for Deserae Jones and Cody Cantrell.

The Board signed Catering Permits to the South Hills Bar & Grill, LLC, Hansen, to be used July 11, 2020, from 3 P.M.-1 A.M.; July 25, 2020, from 3 P.M.-1 A.M.; and August 1, 2020, from 4 P.M.-1 A.M., all at the Risk Barn.

STATE OF THE COUNTY POWER POINT

The Commissioners reviewed a power point presentation they had prepared to give to the Jerome Chamber of Commerce on the State of the County.

HEALTH DISTRICT UPDATE ON THE CORONAVIRUS

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson was present. Also present, by speakerphone, were County Emergency Management Director Tanya Stitt, Jerome City Administrator Mike Williams, Jerome Mayor Dave Davis, and South Central Health District Representatives Melody Bowyer, Logan Hudson, and Linda Montgomery.

As director of the Health District, Melody Bowyer reported the eight-county District was experiencing an increase in coronavirus cases but that the number of cases in Jerome County was

Monday, July 6, 2020

Page 1 of 5

decreasing. She stated that hospital capacity was doing well. Bowyer encouraged everyone to do the right thing in order for the number of cases to remain manageable.

Logan Hudson said the District's public information officer would be asking residents to practice social distancing and encourage them to wear masks. He added that the Health District is requested to investigate large outbreaks but that precaution requirements were up to facilities.

Linda Montgomery, chairman of the Health Board, asked if the virus is airborne. Bowyer said there is no proof that it is. Hudson said N95 masks are the only ones that would definitely stop transmission.

Commissioners Howell and Crozier asked about restaurant compliance with Health District guidelines and the turnaround time to receive test results.

Commissioner Crozier questioned about school reopenings. Hudson said Health District representatives are on committees with school superintendents to write a comprehensive plan for reopening. The Commissioner also asked which age group showed the smallest percentage of cases; Bowyer said it would be those younger than 18, with the 18 to 29 age group the highest.

MICHELLE EMERSON—CLERK MATTERS

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson was present.

Michelle Emerson requested to purchase a laptop computer for an employee to use when working at home.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to purchase another laptop computer for use in the clerk's office. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Clerk and Elections Budget Presentations: Emerson requested three percent salary increases. She stated she had frozen her "B" budgets, keeping the travel and education lines the same with the anticipation of more travel in the next fiscal year.

Indigent Budget: Emerson requested three percent salary increases for the two deputy clerks in Social Services. She recommended reducing Medical-Professional Services and DE/Mental Health lines each from \$100,000 to \$75,000 and reducing the Contract-Medical (Jail) line to \$230,000. She said the Contracts-Jail Dental line was not needed because dental was included in the contract for medical services.

Non-Medical-Other Expenses was increased from \$2500 to \$3000 because of the amount used in the 2020 budget.

Sign Public Defender Grant: Emerson presented supplemental paperwork for the FY 2021 Indigent Defense Financial Assistance application and answered questions from the Commissioners about the application.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crozier to approve the Supplement to Compliance Proposal & Application for Indigent Defense Financial Assistance. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Discuss COVID-19 Relief Funds: Treasurer Tevian Ekren-Kober was present. Emerson said the Idaho counties that are reluctant to take COVID-19 funds are asking for a legal opinion from the State. She said she would have some figures for the Board on July 13.

Budget Workshop: This workshop was continued until 1:30 P.M.

Meeting recessed at 12:02 P.M.

Meeting reconvened at 1:15 P.M.

BRENT CULBERTSON—MAINTENANCE MATTERS

Maintenance Supervisor Brent Culbertson was present.

Paving of the Ambulance Building Parking Lot: Brent Culbertson presented a proposal for new asphalt at the ambulance building rented by the County to St. Luke's.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to approve the J&D Seal Coating bid to tear out and redo the Jerome Paramedics parking lot for \$25,241. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

Landscaping for the Courthouse Commemorative Wall: Culbertson gave the Board an estimate to make improvements to the commemorative wall at the Courthouse.

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to pay 3-D Landscaping and Spraying \$2,993.75 to finish the landscaping, curbing, sprinkler heads, and cleanup for the commemorative wall completion. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

MICHELLE EMERSON—BUDGET WORKSHOP

Clerk/Auditor/Recorder Michelle Emerson was present.

Michelle Emerson discussed with the Commissioners amounts to budget in the General Fund for FY 2020-21. She recommended not funding the Refunds, Reimbursements line because the \$2,000 budgeted had not been used in the 2019-20 budget, and she said if an expenditure became necessary it could be taken from Contingency.

Emerson requested reducing the Contingency, Dues/Memberships, Snake River Study Group (Mid-Snake), and Capital-Other lines.

Emerson recommended increasing SIEDO Dues to \$12,400 to allow the County to participate in the REDS (Rural Economic Development Services) program.

Commissioner Crouch stated he would like to increase the donation to the Eden/Hazelton American Legion Hall to \$6,500 to match the Jerome American Legion Hall donation. The

Board determined not to increase the Jerome Legion Hall donation and not to donate to it after FY 2020-21 unless the Legion writes a plan to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Commissioners requested to increase the donations to the Interfaith Association to \$3,000; Interlink Care Givers to \$2,500; Victory Home Recovery to \$1,500; Little Wood River Veterans of Foreign Wars to \$2,500; Animal Control to \$1,750; the Historical Society to \$7,500 because of a request for additional funding for the I-Farm; and Snake River Parks Cleanup to \$1,750.

Voices Against Violence was not funded because of no response from the agency. Emerson said an amount for the Digital Imaging Project would not be necessary for the clerk's office but that she would check whether Planning & Zoning needed funds in that line.

Emerson said she wanted to put the same amount as in the current year in the Building Fund and that she would consult the extension office about its building fund line.

GEORGE PANAGIOTOU—DEVIL'S CORRAL DEVELOPMENT

Present was Attorney Mike Seib. Also present were Melissa Ault, videographer; Kyle Bastian, Wright Brothers Law; and Scott Bybee, Bybee Engineering.

Kyle Bastian stated he had been advised by Commissioner Howell on June 1 to apply for a rezone of George Panagiotou's property, which he had accomplished with the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Office. He said he had given Mike Seib a revised proposal, to be filed with P&Z later that day.

Bastian asked if the Commissioners had directed P&Z to effectuate changes to the Comprehensive Plan and to create a Recreation Zone in compliance with the Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Crozier stated that the P&Z Office is working on creating a Recreation Zone. He said that two major projects needed to be completed before moving forward with the creation of the Zone.

Bastian verified with the Board that the Jerome County Comprehensive Plan was amended in 2018. He then asked if creating a Recreation Zone was a proposal sponsored by the Board of Commissioners, which Seib confirmed and told Bastian why the County wrote the sponsorship language in the Zoning Ordinance.

Commissioner Crozier showed Bastian a report from the Planning and Zoning administrator that referred to the Recreation Zone, which he said was evidence that the P&Z Office was working on the Zone.

Bastian agreed that the evidence was helpful.

MIKE SEIB—LEGAL COUNSEL

Attorney Mike Seib, Planning and Zoning Administrator Nancy Marshall, and Kacie Buhler were present.

Monday, July 6, 2020

Page 4 of 5

Mike Seib told the Commissioners he had been working with the Planning and Zoning Department creating language for a Recreation Zone and that the Comprehensive Plan gives guidance where the boundaries need to be drawn.

Nancy Marshall clarified that circles drawn around where zones should be are different from drawn lines on a map. Seib said the Zoning Ordinance map is the actual map.

Commissioner Crozier said a Recreation Zone is not a geographical area but a category.

Seib stated that the Commissioners' sponsorship is agreeing that something is a good idea and that the County will do what it can to create new legislation.

READ AND APPROVE MINUTES

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve the minutes of June 22 and July 1 as read. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes.

INDIGENT MATTERS

❖ A Motion was made by Commissioner Crouch to follow staff recommendations for indigent matters. It was seconded and carried with unanimous ayes. Dismissed were Case Nos. 1920-041 and 1920-031.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

Respectively submitted:

Charles M. Howell, Chairman

Jane White, Deputy Clerk

A. Ben Crouch, Vice Chairman

John Crozier, Commissioner