



March 1, 2021, Emmett, Idaho

Pursuant to a recess taken on February 22, 2021, the Board of Commissioners of Gem County, Idaho, met in regular session this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2021, at 8:30 a.m.

Present:	Mark Rekow	Chairman
	Bill Butticci	Commissioner
	Bryan Elliott	Commissioner
	Sarah Story	Deputy Clerk

Whereupon the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

March 1, 2021

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The Commissioners reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to approve the agenda as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**GEM COUNTY MOTOR VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION FEE INCREASE PUBLIC HEARING:** While being recorded, a public hearing was held for a request for a fee increase for the Gem County Motor Vehicle department. Commissioner Rekow read the Notice of Public Hearing. Those present were Assessor Hollie Ann Strang, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen, Gem County residents Dan Carlson and Shannon Jones. Those wanting to present were advised that they were under oath.

Assessor Hollie Ann Strang spoke about the administrative fee for the Motor Vehicle department; what it is currently used for and a current temporary position. She advised that less than 10% of motor vehicle customers are non-Gem County residents. She spoke of the length of time it takes for transactions, the need for an additional employee and the need for a leased location for a larger office. She is asking for a total of 4 full-time employees, a leased location, using the entire admin fee to cover expenses, using 1/5 of the current motor vehicle building fund annually for 5 years (\$36,000.00) and the admin fee would need to be raised from \$4.50 to at least \$9.00 per transaction to cover these expenses. She spoke of the number of customers that they are currently seeing daily and how long each transaction was taking.

Commissioner Rekow spoke of the current growth in the

Treasure Valley and the new Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) system that is causing longer transaction times. Assesor Strang spoke of the transactions that their office is required to do for ITD. She advised that they are a fee-based office. She spoke about the motor vehicle building fund, how it is currently funded, how the funds has been previously used and what the funds can be used for. She spoke of the size of the current office.

There were no attendees that spoke in favor. Dan Carlson, who was neutral, spoke of his concerns of the employee skills. Shannon Jones, who is opposed, spoke of the concerns of the wait time, limited windows open, what funds can be used for and employee skills. There were no other public attendees that spoke. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen spoke of a previous resolution that was passed by previous County Commissioners. She reviewed the language of the code and discussed what the admin fee could be used. Assessor Strang advised that employees are county employees, not state employees. She stated that the state only funds the computers and computer equipment and that there are usually only 2 employees at the counter because the 3<sup>rd</sup> is working the back office on on-line renewals and that they are short-handed. She spoke of the staff computer skills and the challenges with the new state program across the state. She said there is no known plan on changes to the state system. Commissioner Elliott spoke of challenges with the state run computer systems.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Butticci spoke of the need of one or more additional employees, building space and that he is in favor of the increase because of the growth in the county. Commissioner Elliott spoke of user-fee, utilization of the current building funds and that he is in favor of the increase. Commissioner Rekow talked about the fee increases, the ITD system challenges and that he is also in favor of the fee increase.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to move forward with the fee increase for motor vehicles to the \$9.00 as requested by the Assessor which includes a total of 4 full-time employees, a leased location, using the entire admin fee to cover expenses, using 1/5 of the current motor vehicle building fund annually for 5 years (\$36,000.00) and the admin fee would be raised to \$9.00. It was seconded by Commissioner Rekow and carried unanimously.

**FAIRGROUNDS BLEACHER BID:** Commissioner Butticci advised that the Fair Board was in support of the Southern Bleacher Company, Inc.

bid. He reviewed the details of the base bid and the bid alternatives. He reviewed the details of the base bid and bid alternatives from CEW Enterprises Inc. He advised that Southern Bleacher Company, Inc. is the lowest bid. He received confirmation from Southern Bleacher that the bid is ADA compliant. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen spoke of contract negotiations and that if Southern Bleacher Company, Inc. was unable to meet the county's needs then they could move forward with the other bid.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to award the bleacher bid to Southern Bleacher Company (801 5<sup>th</sup> St. Graham, Texas) with a base bid item #1 for \$83,300.00, base bid item #2 for \$3750.00, base bid item #3 for shipment & delivery for \$11,070.00, base bid item #4 for installation for \$41,000.00. For the bid alternatives, item #1 for additional capacity of 300 seats \$28,100.00, item #4 for a 66-inch crosswalk at an additional \$1000.00, item #5 for 2 additional stairs at \$1200.00 and on the taxes and fees which is an additional \$1400.00 to bid alternative #1. Southern Bleacher would be ranked #1 and CEW Enterprises (PO Box 965 Strasburg, Co.) will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked bidder. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

Tahja will draft a Notice of Award.

**COVID DISCUSSION:** Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Manager Laurie Boston discussed the current weekly positive COVID cases in Gem County, that Gem County is still in the yellow level, the location of the last vaccination clinic, number of vaccinations administered, upcoming vaccination clinics and the wait-list. She advised that they will not get the medical tent from Southwest District Health. She also spoke of other providers in Gem County that are distributing vaccines. Valor Health CEO Brad Turpen advised that they are 100% at administering the vaccine doses that they are receiving. He also spoke of the 30-day trend, the 7-day trend, the number of patients seen in Urgent Care, Emergency Room and that the vaccination clinic will be moved to Valor Health. He also advised that they are focused on administering vaccines to the 65+ population and that their staffing is currently stable.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The consent agenda included: A. Whitsell Minor Subdivision Findings, Conditions, Conclusions, Order, B. Sophie Farms Subdivision Findings, Conditions, Conclusions, Order, C. Request for tax and/or fee cancellation for Assessor's parcel RP06N01W063505, D. Certificate of residency for Junior College tuition Josiah Riggan, E. Request for tax and/or fee cancellation for Assessor's parcel TP02061100 and F. Request for

tax and/or fee cancellation for Assessor's parcel TP02060400.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott to approve items A-F as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

**DEVELOPENT SERVICES:** Development Services Director Jennifer Kharrl reviewed the River Crossing Estates Subdivision final plat and Capital Improvement Plan Road Mitigation Agreement. Items that she discussed included the size and location of the lot, that all conditions have been completed and that staff supports it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to approve the River Crossing Estates Subdivision final plat and the River Crossing Capital Improvement Plan Road Mitigation Agreement as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MATTERS:** Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen spoke about various Gem County legal matters. Items that were discussed included the Indigent case at the Supreme Court, a Joint Planning Commission, an upcoming public hearing, the jail bid and the technology needs in the Commissioners room. Tahja also spoke of the Commissioners receiving regular updates from department heads, employee evaluations and a scheduled upcoming training she will conduct. Commissioner Butticci spoke of the technical needs for Prosecuting Attorney Erick Thomson. Erick spoke of his need for Adobe licenses to be transferred to new computers. Tahja spoke of remote access to the Prosecutor's Office server. Erick spoke of an upcoming jury trial.

**INDIGENT APPLICATIONS:** It was not necessary to go into Executive Session for this meeting.

21-013 Notice of Lien

Commissioner Elliott made a motion that on case# 21-013 to sign a notice of lien. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

**MINUTES:** The minutes from February 22, 2021 were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott to approve the minutes for February 22, 2021 as amended. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

**EXPENSE CLAIMS APPROVAL:** The claims presented were reviewed. Commissioner Butticci made a motion to sign the claims for the IT department as presented and as initialed on the individual

claim forms. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**ROAD DEPARTMENT UPDATES:** Road & Bridge Department Supervisor Neal Capps provided updates on various projects that the department is working on. He discussed truck repairs, Highway 16 road work, a LED traffic light at Substation and Highway 16, a hot-mix bid, a bidding packet for the county and a safety handbook for the Road and Bridge Department.

**The Board recessed at 11:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on March 8, 2021.**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk