



March 28 & 29, 2022, Emmett, Idaho

Pursuant to a recess taken on March 22, 2022, the Board of Commissioners of Gem County, Idaho, met in regular session this 28th day of March 2022, at 8:30 a.m.

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

Whereupon the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

March 28, 2022

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.

INTERVIEW WITH RONDEE BLESSING FOR CONFLICT PUBLIC DEFENSE: At 9:01 a.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Rekow, seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206 (a) to consider hiring and (d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure with a roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Butticci, Commissioner Elliott, aye and Commissioner Rekow, aye.

Regular session reconvened at 9:13 a.m.

APPOINTMENT OF RONDEE BLESSING FOR CONFLICT PUBLIC DEFENSE: A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to move forward with entering into a contract for conflict counsel with Rondee Blessing. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

LETTER TERMINATING PARTNERSHIP WITH UPPER PAYETTE COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT AREA (CWMA): Noxious Weed Supervisor Larry Shippy advised that he wants to solely focus on Gem County needs. He will apply for funding through ISDA for the entire county. He advised that it is not financially feasible to continue the partnership since services are not being reciprocated back to Gem County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott to approve the

letter terminating partnership with Upper Payette Cooperative Weed Management area. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: A. Gem County Resolution 2022-12 authorizing destruction of Assessor's records, B. Letter of intent to award contract for Gem County Fairgrounds grandstand canopy, C. Gem County Mosquito Abatement Comprehensive Mosquito Surveillance and Control Plan 2022, D. Certificate of Residency for Junior College tuition for Christopher Phillips and Keelin Duncan, E. Porter-Botkin Subdivision re-plat, F. Anderson Reserve Subdivision re-plat, G. Road Project Agreement between Gem County and the USDA, Forest Service, Boise National Forest for Ola Highway Drainage Project and H. Keller Associates Ola Highway Powerline Road to 2nd Fork Road progress report #20 and payment request

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to approve items A-D & G-H as presented & to remove E & F for discussion. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

Development Services Director Jennifer Kharrl reviewed the details of the Porter-Botkin Subdivision re-plat and the Anderson Reserve Subdivision re-plat. She advised that these were large property boundary adjustments. She advised that there are no new lots, but it has to be done as a re-plat due to the adjustment being substantial.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to move forward with the Porter Botkin Subdivision re-plat and the Anderson Reserve Subdivision re-plat. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WALK-IN: Assessor Strang advised that part of the ceiling came down at the Motor Vehicle office and that the repair is the responsibility of the county. She will reach out to the owner to find out who did the original work and to see if there is a warranty. No other members of the public were present.

MINUTES: The minutes for March 21 & 22, 2022 were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott to approve the minutes for March 21 & 22, 2022 as amended. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

EXPENSE CLAIMS APPROVAL: The claims presented were reviewed. Commissioner Rekow made a motion to sign the claims as presented and as initialed on the individual claim forms. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MATTERS: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen spoke on various county legal matters. Items that she talked about were an upcoming trial, a Truck Route Ordinance, land-use amendments, a procurement handbook and staff reports from Development Services.

The Commissioners recessed at 12:00 p.m. for lunch to reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

JAIL STAFFING AND SALARIES: Sheriff Wunder advised that they lost 2 Detention Deputies due to the current wages and 3 more are considering leaving for the same reason. He would like to bring the bottom 8 employees up to \$18.00 per hour. He reviewed comparable nearby counties that have job postings. He advised that they currently have the funds in their budget and would like it to be effective immediately in order to retain the current staff. Clerk Tilton reviewed the percentage of increase that is being asked. She also talked about starting wages for other counties. Sheriff Wunder advised that there is 1 Dispatch position under \$18.00. Commissioner Elliott would like to know what is mandated by the state for services that are provided. There was discussion on what will happen when the economy comes down, such as possibly having to reduce wages or eliminate positions. Clerk Tilton talked about the significant revenue loss due to the reduced amount of out of county inmates that have been brought in for the last 6 months and the impact that has on the justice fund budget. Sheriff Wunder advised that they have brought more in and can get more. Clerk Tilton discussed whether or not once a new state prison is built they will lose that money in the justice fund. Chief Deputy Dave Timony talked about the effects of being understaffed and having to pay overtime and comp time. Sheriff Wunder spoke on the certification mandates that are required for his staff. Dave advised that comparable counties for Dispatch is starting at much higher wages than Gem County. Commissioner Elliott would like a wage survey to be completed. Clerk Tilton suggests that if an increase is considered that increasing the Detention Deputies to \$15.52 would be in line with the similar decision made last week. Sheriff Wunder is asking to get the \$15.52 for the Detention Deputies now and to front an additional 3% increase as well, instead of waiting until October to retain these employees. This would affect the employees making under \$15.52. For those employees making under \$18.00 but over \$15.52 would only receive the 3% increase. The employees would be eligible for any amount that exceed the 3% if there are merit increases for the next fiscal year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to authorize the

Sheriff Detention Deputies to increase all deputies making under \$15.52 an hour to be raised to that level which is to be paid out of the current Sheriff 2022 budget, all deputies making under \$18.00 to receive a 3% pay raise effective March 1, 2022 and continuing to September 30, 2022 to be paid out of the Sheriff's currently budgeted salaries and to maintain the 3% increase for Fiscal Year 2023 which is to be budgeted in the 2023 Sheriff salaries. These employees will be eligible for any amount that exceed the 3%. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION TIME: The Commissioners worked on various administration items.

The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. on April 4, 2022.

March 29, 2022

The Commissioners did not meet as it is a 5th Tuesday.

Approved: _____
Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk