



April 3 & 4, 2023, Emmett, Idaho

Pursuant to a recess taken on March 28, 2023, the Board of Commissioners of Gem County, Idaho, met in regular session this 3rd day of April, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.

Present:	Bill Butticci	Chairman
	Mark Rekow	Commissioner
	Kirk Wille	Commissioner
	Shelly Tilton	Clerk

Whereupon the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

April 3, 2023

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Commissioners reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to amend the agenda to remove Anna Walton from item E on the consent agenda as she has decided to not be reappointed (from the hospital board), and approve the rest of the agenda. It was seconded by Commissioner Wille and carried unanimously.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MATTERS: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen discussed various county legal matters including Avimor being annexed into the City of Eagle; hospital changes, leases and a request for information and Brian Morrow's appeal questions regarding property that was developed near his property.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT UNANTICIPATED EXPENSES: Chief Deputy Dave Timony, Dispatch Supervisor Lisa Resinkin and Civil Deputy Edith Jones met with the Commissioners to discuss unanticipated expenses in the Sheriff's budget. Lisa discussed two bills from Motorola, one is for \$56,000 that has been paid; there is an additional invoice of \$6,000+ for maintenance that was included in the contract the first few years. This is being looked into as a potential billing error, Lisa will let us know. If it isn't an error it will be included in the budget adjustment next week. Lisa said Lumen is for service on the dispatch phone system. There is a bill that didn't get invoiced to us last fiscal year. When last year's bill should have come out Lumen was trying to upsell and may have gotten sidetracked and didn't provide the invoice after

the quote was signed. Lisa didn't realize the bill hadn't been received. The budget will need to be adjusted with cash from the E911 fund to cover the additional invoice. Dave explained that they would like to get away from the US Bank credit cards as they are specifically tied to the Sheriff and Chief Deputy's personal information. They are looking to switch to credit cards through First Interstate Bank. The new account would be have 2 cards issued on one account. First Insterstate provides access to watch activity online which isn't available with the current bank and cards. They will maintain the current account for a few months to ensure there is nothing outstanding that comes in to be paid. With this topic not being on the agenda, it will be added to next week's agenda for approval and signature. Edith will forward the documents to the clerk this week. Dave discussed industry standards regarding preservation of evidence. The reserve deputies weren't included when body cameras were purchased. They have purchased 4 additional body cameras and 2 additional cell phones to issue to to reserve deputies that assist the Sheriff's office. Dave is requesting to use funds from the Reserve Deputy salary line that were budgeted that they don't anticipate being used this budget year to cover those expenses. This will be added to the budget adjustment.

CONSENT AGENDA: A. Designation of polling places for May 16, 2023 election, B. Hat Trick Minor Subdivision plat, C. Professional Services Agreement for architechural services for addition to Gem County Weed Control building with William Slabaugh, D. Letter of support for Gem Soil and Water Conservation District grant request for pivot project on Bissel Creet at Hillview and E. Re-appointment of Anita Taylor and Earl Defur to the Hospital Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to approve items A-E on the consent agenda as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Wille and carried unanimously.

MINUTES: The minutes for March 27 & 28, 2023 were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to approve the amended minutes for March 27 & 28, 2023. It was seconded by Commissioner Wille and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WALK-IN: Marty Fry met with the Commissioners. He said the jail service is run well. He believes there is a big drug problem in the county. He would like the Commissioners to ask the Governor to see if more probation officers could be hired. He feels that might be less expensive than hiring more police officers/sheriff's deputies. He wondered about running a drug dog though the schools. He would like to see the drug problem

slowed down. He suggested having officers/deputies and fire personnel talking with kids, maybe starting at the 4th grade, to build communication, trust and respect. He asked if funding could be budgeted to allow the Sheriff's office to meet with kids in the schools. Marty also discussed school funding and the annual Kiwanis scholarship fundraiser. Commissioner Butticci said he would talk with the Sheriff about school outreach. Deputy Prosecutor Tahja Jensen stated that currently the City Police have the contract with the schools for School Resource Officer. The Commissioners suggested Marty talk with the City Counsel also.

Dr. Brett Mumford met with the Commissioners to discuss his concerns with ending Obstetric (OB) services at the hospital. He feels the meeting in which the decision was made was held outside of the public meeting, stating that not even the physicians were aware of the decision that was being made. He stated that several doctors are unhappy with the decision and feel this is a disservice to our community, specifically pregnant women and babies. Poor traffic conditions between our community and services over the hill could be detrimental to these patients. He discussed the OB service that has been provided and stated they have been performed successfully and within standards. He asks and encourages the Commissioners to look into this. He discussed a number of pregnant women who are upset and concerned for their care. Commissioner Butticci said that the Commissioners are looking into the matter. Commissioner Wille stated that he sits on the board and the board didn't know about the decision until the board meeting, he said he does have a lot of questions that he will be asking. He would be interested in knowing which hospitals have successful OB clinics in small communities to know how their staffing and financial liability work. Dr. Mumford will provide the list of hospitals and contact information.

ROAD DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Road and Bridge Supervisor Neal Capps provided updates on various projects they are working on throughout the county. Topics discussed included completion of the first phase of the Farmer's Coop Bridge, snow in Ola and resulting water runoff, asphalt bids, road grading and repair of the flashing traffic light in Sweet.

COMPUTER ARTS FINANCIAL/PAYROLL/RECORDING SYSTEM UPDATES: Clerk Tilton discussed a proposal by Harris Solutions, the company who bought out Computer Arts. They have proposed to create a Financial, Payroll and Recording system specifically for Idaho. Clerk Tilton discussed other software options and costs for the Harris proposal and a Tyler Technologies proposal she had

received. Commissioner Butticci stated he would be in support of the Harris program being built specifically to our needs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to support the Harris development of new software for the county. It was seconded by Commissioner Wille and carried unanimously.

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

BUILDING PERMIT FEE INCREASE PUBLIC HEARING: While being recorded, the Commissioners held a public hearing to review the proposed building permit fee increase. This meeting was held in person and virtually via Zoom. Those present were Development Services Director Jennifer Kharrrl, Development Services Coordinator Stephanie Crays, Development Services Assistant Planning Director Olivia Mocnik, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen, Road and Bridge Supervisor Neal Capps. Commissioner Butticci read the notice of public hearing.

There were no conflicts or declarations pertaining to this meeting such as site reviews or other conversations outside of this hearing. A letter received from Terry Gardner was received and included with the packet.

Jennifer Kharrrl discussed the increase that is being requested. She said the request is a 50% increase on property valuation with some permits having an increased flat fee. This has been emailed to approximately 30 contractors and noticed in the newspaper, there was only one written comment received. Jennifer said this increase will bring the fees to current comparable rates. This is a fee that hasn't increased in many years.

There were no members of the public in attendance. The one letter received was in opposition.

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

Commissioner Butticci stated that the current building boom brings in fees but when that ends the county would be back to insufficient fees to cover the costs. Commissioner Rekow stated the fees being increased are long overdue and supports the increase.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to approve the building permit fees as presented by Development Services. It was seconded by Commissioner Wille and carried unanimously.

MOUNTAIN CREEK MINOR SUBDIVISION REPLAT: While being recorded, Development Services Director Jennifer Kharrrl reviewed the Mountain Creek Minor Subdivision replat. It was subdivided as

two parcels to separate the restaurant, they are now proposing 4 lots for the second parcel. The forest service is on lot 1 with other businesses proposed for a couple of the other lots. Minimum lot size for commercial property was discussed. This is in the Area of City Impact.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wille to approve the re-plat application for Mountain Creek Minor Land Division as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Rekow and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DEFENSE- CLIENT SERVICE, CONFLICT COUNSEL, BUDGET: Public Defender Jay Kihha met with the Commissioners. Commissioner Butticci stated the county is going out for proposal to try to obtain additional conflict attorneys. Jay said only one conflict attorney currently contracted with the county is taking cases outside of simple or child protection cases. Commissioner Butticci stated that there are concerns on the budget being a bit over, Jay said the budget won't go over (negative) unless it is with conflict counsel. Commissioner Butticci discussed a court date last week that didn't have a public defender in attendance. Jay said last week's missed date was a scheduling issue. Commissioner Wille discussed complaints being received that clients aren't able to get ahold of the public defender.

Jay wondered what the Commissioners were looking to do regarding House Bill 236 that allows for a state managed public defense system.

How to assign conflict counsel cases was discussed. Jay suggested he could subcontract conflict cases and case assignment to an outside attorney or agency and pay them out of the public defense regular contract budget.

PART-TIME FAIRGROUNDS MAINTENANCE POSITION POSTING: Commissioner Butticci discussed the part-time maintenance position for the fairgrounds. The minimum salary for that position based upon the salary schedule was discussed.

ADMINISTRATION TIME: The Commissioners worked on various administrative items.

The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. on April 4, 2023.

April 4, 2023

YOUTH APPRECIATION DAY PROCLAMATION SIGNING: The Commissioners attended the Youth Appreciation Day proclamation signing at Shadow Butte Elementary School.

ADMINISTRATION TIME: The Commissioners worked on various administrative items.

The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. on April 10, 2023.

Approved: _____
Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk

