



September 13 & 14, 2021, Emmett, Idaho

Pursuant to a recess taken on September 7, 2021, the Board of Commissioners of Gem County, Idaho, met in regular session this 13th day of September 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:

September 13, 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.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH GEM COUNTY RECREATION DISTRICT FOR ISLAND MAINTENANCE: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen talked about the application process for island use. Facilities Manager Chuck Shambaugh talked about who would need notification of special events and water scheduling. There was also discussion on having a lock box or a slot put into Chucks door for applications and payments and also how the public will get into contact with his department. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be sent to the Recreation District for review. There was no action taken on the MOU.

ISLAND USE FEE STRUCTURE: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen reviewed the fees and checklist for a special event use application at the island. She will send a draft copy of the fees to the Recreation District for review.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to move forward with the special events fees for publication and public hearing as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: The consent agenda included: A. Certificate of residency for Junior College tuition for Connor Heideman, B. Gem County Mosquito Abatement District Fiscal Year 2022 budget and

C. Gem County GIS and use agreement with Zillow, Inc.

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

GEM COUNTY LOCAL DISASTER (COVID) DECLARATION EXTENSION: The Commissioners talked about extending the Gem County Local Disaster (COVID) declaration extension to December 31, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to extend the Gem County local disaster declaration extension with the amendments to #5 to read extending the Local Disaster Declaration for 92 days, expiring on the 31st day of December 2021. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

AUTHORIZE THE SAVE THE OLA SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO BE A THIRD-PARTY GRANT ADMINISTRATOR ON THE CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT CLG-2021-003 FOR GEM COUNTY: Commissioner Butticci said the state

Heritage Conference was cancelled due to COVID. There is \$5000.00 additional funding we will receive in grant funding from state from funds that were left over due to cancellation of that conference. They need to utilize this money by the end of fiscal 2021. He would like the Ola School Committee to be able to submit directly to the state instead of having to go through the county. Commissioner Butticci will oversee this.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott to authorize the Save The Ola School committee to be a third-party grant administrator on the Certified Local Government Grant CLG-2021-003 for Gem County. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MATTERS: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen spoke on various county legal matters. Items that she talked about were opioid related mitigation projects, funding that the county could receive if it was decided to opt in, replacement of the ambulance, jury trials, the executive order from President Biden, the Gem County RV Park and ARPA funding.

PUBLIC WALK-IN: Jim England spoke about the need for maintenance on Spring Creek Road. Commissioner Rekow spoke of the Road and Bridge Department being shorthanded; he will talk to Road & Bridge Supervisor Neal Capps.

DEPARTMENT HEADS: The Commissioners met with various Department Heads. Commissioner Butticci spoke of COVID protocols. He suggests split shifts and working from home when possible. Commissioner Rekow spoke of staffing shortages at the hospitals. Commissioner Butticci spoke of the responsibility of department

related paperwork being done within each department; once the paperwork is completed, legal can review if necessary. He also talked about pay increases. Road and Bridge Supervisor Neal Capps provided updates on various projects they are working on. Other items that he talked about included salt, sanders, traffic volumes, winter maintenance and irrigation. Landfill Supervisor Martin Joyce talked about the scales and a new program they are looking at. Juvenile Probation Supervisor Shannon Carter talked about caseloads, the yearly IJJA conference for post credits and an open position for a part-time secretary. Facilities Supervisor Chuck Shambaugh talked about water leaks at the island. Rebecca Mills with the Extension Office talked about livestock judging, 4-H, a new enrollment system, fair record books, fair reviews, their budget, new phones, parking lines and various projects they are working on. Information Technology (IT) Support Specialist Corbin Vickery talked about the IT ticket system. Commissioner Butticci advised that the Weed Supervisor position is still open. Commissioner Rekow spoke on ARPA funding.

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

IDAHO OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Director Brad Richy met with the Commissioners to discuss emergency management. Items that he talked about were upcoming exercises, how the state and federal agencies work together, wildfires across the nation, national disasters, reimbursements to agencies for debris removal and utility mitigation projects. He advised that power has been put underground in some locations and explained how FEMA pays for projects. Emergency Operations Manager Laurie Boston talked about the working relationship between Gem County and their office and how well it works. She advised that when area field officers were reallocated it was a challenge for her. Brad talked about how they work with the Health Districts, a survey that was done for personal protection items that were needed, a Public Safety Communication Commission and he stated that he would like the Commissioners to be on the Board. Commissioner Butticci talked about his concerns with losing internet, however, broadband may rectify that. Brad talked about micro grids, the Cascadia Subduction zone, debris removal and different private sectors that they work with. There was discussion on cybersecurity.

IMPACT FEE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY AGREEMENT: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen talked about an Intergovernmental Agency Agreement with Fire District #1 and

Middleton Fire for management of impact fees. Items that she talked about included software, who collects what and a new funding line item to be created within the budget. She also talked about administrative fees and which departments would be affected. The Commissioners discussed the pay schedule cycle. Tahja also talked about an annual audit from each department that will be receiving impact fees. This will be added to next week's agenda for further discussion and decision.

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 as well as the Indigent claims. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

MINUTES: The minutes for September 7, 2021 were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to approve the minutes for September 7, 2021 as amended. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

AMBULANCE REPLACEMENT OPTIONS: Fire Chief Rick Welch advised that, due to the damage caused by the accident an ambulance had been involved in, he got some quotes for a remount of the box to a new chassis and sent them to the adjuster; he has not heard anything back from them.

INDIGENT APPLICATIONS: At 3:32 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1) (d) for indigent matters with a roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Butticci, aye, Commissioner Elliott, aye, and Commissioner Rekow, aye.

21-023 Emergency Medical Application
21-022 Notice of Hearing

Regular session reconvened at 3:37 p.m.

Commissioner Rekow made a motion that on case 21-023 to deny because we are unable to determine if the applicant is an Idaho resident, unable to determine if the applicant is medically indigent and unable to determine if the county is the last resource. On case# 21-022 sign the notice of hearing. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE TIME: The Commissioner worked on various administrative items.

The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. on September 14,

2021.

September 14, 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE TIME: The Commissioner worked on various administrative items.

SHERIFF ARPA FUNDING REQUEST: Sheriff Donnie Wunder and Chief Deputy Dave Timony met with the Commissioners to discuss ARPA funding requests for the Sheriff's Office. Chief Deputy Dave Timony reviewed the requests and discussed the benefits of the requested items. Requests included a UPS backup for dispatch, moving the part time dispatch position into a full time position, hazard pay, IT support position, a new control board in the Detention Center, AED units for patrol vehicles and Detention Center, and a zoom kiosk to facilitate meetings, court appearances, and trainings.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci for the Sheriff's Office ARPA requests to approve item #2 to move the part time dispatch position into a full time position at a starting wage of \$33,075.00, item #6 to purchase the AED units of 17 units at an approximate cost of \$1700.00 for each unit, and item #7 zoom kiosk in the Sheriff's conference room with funding to be approved by the Commissioners. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

COUNTY RV PARK DISCUSSION: The Commissioners discussed the county RV park. Commissioner Elliott doesn't see it as a benefit to the county, he sees it more as a benefit for those passing through. He also feels it competes with private business and thinks private business would pick it up if it were needed. He would like to see the space used for the expansion of county needs. Commissioner Rekow discussed the revenue that has been generated from the park. Commissioner Butticci discussed expansion on that corner, moving the Extension office to that corner and building a storage building for election. He is not sure the RV park is worth the time and money it takes to keep it going. He thinks there could be minimal work done to get it back in service for short term stating the fair board could take it over while plans are developed for use of that corner. Commissioner Elliott thinks it is a good area for the Extension office. He also thinks with the value of frontage property it could be a good idea to sell that area and move to another area for election storage. Access to the RV Park and the Park and Ride lot were discussed. Use of the sand lot on

the west side was discussed also.

FAIR BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION: Fair Board Secretary Debbie Lawrence met with the Commissioners to discuss electrical expenses for upgraded lighting and fans in the pavilion, expo building and other buildings on the fair grounds. She said a swamp cooler was installed in the expo building that required additional electrical. She asked that the remaining \$7200 in the capital budget line be used for these electrical expenses.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to authorize the payment of the Mackey electrical bill with the funding that is remaining in the budget. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

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

COUNTY BROADBAND PLAN DISCUSSION: Tina Wilson with Western Alliance Economic Development talked about the importance of a broadband plan in regards to cyber security, education, remote workers and businesses. She talked of highways of fiber that could be used to access additional internet service providers (ISP) to businesses and residential locations. She also talked about creating islands of service and connecting them together to have high-speed internet throughout the community. Commissioner Butticci stated that the county does not want to become a utility company, but would like to help lay the infrastructure including towers to the more remote locations. Commissioner Rekow spoke of the challenges with industrial park. Commissioner Elliott also stated that he wants it to be the simplest way as possible and with the possibility of leasing it out. Tina talked about how the city has fiber out by Shadow Butte Industrial Park and are intending to expand to the airport. She also spoke about trunk lines along highways and county roads. She talked about funding opportunities, rooftops, dedicated fiber, airways and ISP's. There was discussion on an existing plan from another county similar to Gem County. Tina spoke of the broadband plan being the key to applying for any grants. She talked about getting public input. There was discussion on the importance of tele-health. Tina spoke of funding for this project, population density, contracts with the ISP's and the procurement process. Road and Bridge Supervisor Neal Capps about the size and depth of the trenches. Commissioner Elliott spoke of existing and new developments.

ADMINISTRATIVE TIME: The Commissioner worked on various administrative items.

The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. on September 20, 2021.

Approved: _____
Chairman

Attest: _____
Clerk