



November 8 & 9, 2021, Emmett, Idaho

Pursuant to a recess taken on November 2, 2021, the Board of Commissioners of Gem County, Idaho, met in regular session this 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 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:

**November 8, 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.

**FAIRGROUNDS BLEACHER COVER BID OPENING:** There were no bids that were received. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen advised that it can now go out to the open market. Commissioner Butticci will take point on contacting companies for the bleacher cover.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott that since there were no bids received for the bleacher cover they will now go out to the open market. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

**GEM COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:**

Development Services Director Jennifer Kharrrl advised that they received 19 applications from the public, plus 1 from the Zoning Commission. She talked about the process that was followed when choosing the committee members. Commissioner Elliott expressed concerns on members having a vested interest in growth.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to accept the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee presented by Development Services. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY BROADBAND PLAN DISCUSSION:** Tina Wilson with Western Alliance talked about the county broadband plan that she created for the Commissioners to review. She would like to schedule a

workshop to work through the plan line by line with the Commissioners and Gem County IT Support Specialist Corbin Vickery. She talked about funding for this program, the need for a plan and high-speed connectivity in surrounding counties. She also talked about the relationship between the Broadband Plan and the Comprehensive Plan. A workshop was scheduled.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to recess as a Board of County Commissioners and convene as a Board of Canvassers. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**CANVASS OF NOVEMBER ELECTION:** Clerk Shelly Tilton reviewed the November election which included City Council, School District Trustees and a Commissioner seat for Fire District #1. She advised that there was a 20.3% turn-out. She talked about the new equipment that was used and some challenges that the poll workers had with the equipment that staff was able to work through that morning. She advised that by printing the ballots at the precinct it saved money since she didn't have to buy a lot of extra pre-printed ballots and ensured each voter received the correct ballot depending upon which district(s) they reside in. She talked about the balancing process, the closing process and same day registrations. She talked about grant money that was used for the purchase of the equipment. There were no known errors or mistakes that would cause the results to be inaccurate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Butticci to certify the results for the November 2, 2021 election as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to adjourn as a Board of Canvassers and reconvene as a Board of County Commissioners. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The consent agenda included: A. 2021 Defending Attorney annual report for Coonts Law Office, B. 2021 Defending Attorney annual report for Joshua Taylor, C. Gem County Resolution 2021-17 authorizing destruction of county records, D. U.S. Department of the Interior Groundwater Study agreement, E. Medical services contract with Sawtooth Correction Medicine, F. Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance Amendment Findings, Conditions, Conclusions, Order, G. Gem County Ordinance 2021-13 amending Title 13 (Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance), H. Request for tax and/or fee cancellation for Assessor's parcel MH08N01E284801, I. Request for tax and/or fee cancellation for

Homeowner's Exemption applications on various Assessor's parcels and J. Request for tax and/or fee cancellation for Assessor's parcel RPE1850B010150.

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

**MINUTES**: The minutes for November 1 & 2, 2021 were reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to approve the minutes for November 1 & 2, 2021 as presented. It was seconded by Commissioner Elliott and carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WALK-IN**: There were no members of the public present.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**: Commissioner Rekow advised that the day after Thanksgiving is a paid day off. There was discussion on COVID cases within the county offices and the county surplus auction. Commissioner Butticci advised that there is a new Weed Supervisor. Rebecca Mills from the Extension office talked about various projects that they are working on. She also talked about year-end reporting, a new phone system, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Fair Board, classes they are offering, the Leadership Association and challenges with volunteers. Maintenance and Grounds Supervisor Chuck Shambaugh talked about items on order for Dispatch and various projects they are working on. Landfill Supervisor Martin Joyce talked about a truck that is not working and clean-up projects they are working on. Road and Bridge Supervisor Neal Capps talked about various projects they are working on. Commissioner Rekow talked about the grandstands canopy at the Fairgrounds.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**: At 11:35 a.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Rekow to go into executive session under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) for matters of personnel with a roll call vote as follows: Commissioner Butticci, aye, Commissioner Elliott, aye, and Commissioner Rekow, aye

Regular session reconvened at 11:52 a.m.

**INDIGENT APPLICATIONS**: At 11:53 a.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.

21-026	Medical Emergency
21-027	Medical Emergency
22-001	Medical Emergency

16-026 Amended Approval  
22-004 Notice of Lien

Regular session reconvened at 12:01 p.m.

A motion was made by Commission Elliott to deny case 21-026 because the clerk was unable to determine if the applicant is medically indigent, unable to determine if the county is the last resource, applicant failed to appear for an interview and applicant failed to cooperate with the county. On case 21-027, deny because the applicant is not medically indigent and the county is not the last resources. On case 22-001 to deny because the clerk was unable to determine if the applicant is medically indigent, unable to determine if the county is the last resource, Gem County is not the obligated county and the applicant is not an Idaho resident. On case 16-026 to sign the amended approval and on case 22-004 to sign a notice of lien. It was seconded by Commissioner Butticci and carried unanimously.

**PROSECUTING ATTORNEY MATTERS:** Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen spoke on various legal matters.

**NATIONWIDE OPIOID SETTLEMENT:** Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tahja Jensen talked about the opioid settlement. Commissioner Butticci would like the funds to come directly to the county versus the Health District. There was discussion on who would manage the money and what programs it could provide. Further discussion is needed with different departments that may be effected and to determine how it will be managed.

**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 Butticci and carried unanimously.

**The Commissioners recessed at 12:45 p.m. for lunch to reconvene at 2:00 p.m.**

**ADMINISTRATION TIME:** The Commissioners worked on various administrative items.

**The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. on November 9, 2021.**

**November 9, 2021**

**ADMINISTRATION TIME:** The Commissioners worked on various

administrative items.

**VALOR HEALTH ARPA FUNDING REQUEST:** Valor Health CEO Brad Turpen and Valor CFO Corey Furin met with the commissioners to ask for ARPA funding from the county. Items that they are wanting to use the funds for are an EMC lobby remodel in the amount of \$300,000.00, an emergency expansion in the amount of \$2,000,000.00, a new CT machine in the amount of \$582,718.00 and a floor mounted x-ray machine in the amount of \$80,000.00. Corey advised that the current CT and x-ray machines are very old and are in need of replacement for diagnosis and treatment plans for COVID-19 patients. He advised that the EMC lobby remodel will allow for a well and sick area, allow for more social distancing and air filtration. The ER expansion will create larger rooms, decrease wait time, lessen the chance of exposure to illnesses, more isolation and better flow for patient treatment. He advised that any or all of these projects will help provide better treatment to the community. He spoke on the funds that they have currently received and what they have applied for. Brad talked about prioritization of projects. Corey spoke on guidelines on how funding can be spent. Commissioner Butticci spoke on the funds that the county has received and what is expected for next year. Commissioner Rekow spoke of the projects that the county wants to complete. Commissioner Butticci is in support of the floor mounted x-ray at this time. Brad talked of the crucial need of the Emergency Room expansion. Corey stated that he believed the CT machine is the highest priority, but any of the projects would be beneficial. Brad talked about maintenance agreements for imaging equipment that they have purchased. The Commissioners will check with Clerk Shelly Tilton to determine what funds are available and what they can provide to the hospital.

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

**ADMINISTRATION TIME:** The Commissioners worked on various administrative items.

**The Board recessed at 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 a.m. on November 15, 2021.**

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

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