

1 OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
2 OF BLAINE COUNTY
3 REGULAR MEETING OF THE JANUARY 2023 SESSION
4
5

6 **Sixth Day**

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

7 Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at
8 9:00 a.m. Present were Chair Muffy Davis, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary; and County Administrator
9 Mandy Pomeroy; Administrative Assistant Morgan Baird; and Deputy Clerk-Auditor-Recorder Joana
10 Guerrero. County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham; Blaine County Assessor Jim Williams; Appraiser
11 Gretchen Stinnett; Appraiser David Vanderpool; Human Resources Generalist Justin Highhouse; Blaine
12 County Prosecuting Attorney Doug Nelson; Blaine County GIS Analyst Chris Corwin; GIS Manager
13 Sam Young; Blaine County Floodplain Manager Kristine Hilt; Emergency Communications Director
14 Robin Stellers was present for the morning session.
15

16 Some participants in this meeting were by web conference or teleconference.

17 Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

18 Commissioner Fosbury was absent.

19
20 **PUBLIC COMMENT:** NONE

21
22 **CLAIMS** – Deputy Clerk-Auditor-Recorder Hal Jardine

- 23 • Claims for January 17, 2023.
24

25 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Blaine County Claims for January 17, 2023.**
26 **Motion carries 2/0.**
27

28 **CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS**

- 29 • CodeRED IPAWS Integration Service Order. Record #**698601**
30

31 This workorder is for a three-year contract that will allow the integration between IPAWS and
32 CodeRED.
33

34 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the 3-year contract CodeRED IPAWS**
35 **Integration Service Agreement in the amount of \$3,600. The subscription, renewal annually, is in**
36 **the amount \$1,200 for the service period of January 21, 2023, through January 21, 2024. Motion**
37 **passed 2/0.**
38

39 **BLAINE COUNTY AMBULANCE DISTRICT CONTRACT**

40
41 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to convene as the Blaine County Ambulance District**
42 **Board. Motion passed 2/0.**
43

- 44 • Assignment and Agreement for Collections Services. Record #**698970**

45 Blaine County has had a contract with Blaine County Collectors since 2011. The Blaine County
46 Collectors have been sold to Omni AR, LLC; however, the contract will remain the same. The BCC
47 questioned how much of the past due monies has been collected. The BCC did not take action and
48 would like a response from the Omni AR, LCC.
49

50 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to reconvene and the Blaine County commissioners.**
51 **Motion passed 2/0.**
52

53 **COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1 **Public Defender – Doug Nelson**

- 2 • Nelson expressed there is tension in his department because of the lack of information
3 regarding the future of the Public Defense Department. Nelson has continuously checked the
4 Idaho State Legislature for information.
5 • The BCC reassured Nelson and his department is greatly appreciated.
6 • Nelson requested instruction from the BCC on how he should respond to being asked to testify
7 on the matter. The BCC requested Nelson to alert the BCC, they may want to make public
8 comment, provide a letter and/or accompany Nelson.

9 **Assessor’s Report – Jim Williams**

- 10 • The home sales increase has leveled off and is stabilized.
11 • The State Tax Commission did their studies, and the County is undervalued by 1% - 5%. The
12 State Tax Commission will retest at the end of the year to ensuring the County complies.
13 • The DMV has received push back on the “by appointment” however they do accept walk-ins.
14 • Williams shared that his department attended classes hosted by the Idaho State Tax
15 Commission.
16 • Davis asked if the Assessors would participate in a Yew Plant training with the Wildlife Smart
17 Communities.

18 **Clerk/Recorder – Stephen McDougall Graham**

19 **Letter to State Tax Commission certifying amounts previously levied for Indigent Public**
20 **Defense.**

- 21 • Blaine County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham explained the letter could affect or constrain
22 the BCC during FY2024 Budget season.
23 • McDougall Graham questioned how the County should determine the monies “levied” for the
24 Public Defense Department.
25 • Other counties are using different approaches with lowered amounts. McDougall Graham
26 explained the pros and cons of using certain methods.
27 • How should the County handle the Public Defense revenue received by the state? Can the
28 monies be transferred into the general fund; how would the County show the monies were used
29 for the Public Defense Department?
30

31 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to authorize the Clerk to submit a letter to the State Tax**
32 **Commission. Motion passed 2/0.**

33
34 **Disaster Services – Chris Corwin**

35 • **Flood Inundation Mapping for National Weather Service Website Funding Request**

36 GIS Analyst Chris Corwin requested funding to publish the Blaine County Flood Inundation Map on the
37 National Weather Service Website.
38

39 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the funding request for Flood Inundation**
40 **Mapping for the National Weather Service Website in the amount not exceed \$5,000 to be spent**
41 **from contingency fund. Motion passed 2/0.**
42

43 **Justin Highhouse – Blaine County Human Recourses**

- 44 • The Red Cross blood donation was a success; there were 56 donors, 63 units of blood that
45 saved 189 lives. The Red Cross will be hosting another blood drive on July 7th, 2023.

46 **Steve Thompson – Road and Bridge**

- 47 • During inspection County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson found a trailer that is no
48 longer reliable. Thompson found a replacement trailer in Utah for \$30,000. Thompson requested
49 to purchase the trailer.
50

51 **BREAK**

52
53 **BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS**

1 **Public Comment letter regarding the Proposed Wood River Diversion 45 Stabilization and Fish**
2 **Passage Remediation Project in Blaine County**

- 3 • District 45 applied for funds to modify the concrete structure in the Big Wood River (lower
4 Bellevue) The dam is causing stress on the river system and the freshwater habitat. The dam
5 cannot be moved, only modified. Floodplain Manager Kristine Hilt questioned if BCC would like
6 to submit a letter or comments to the Bureau of Reclamation?

7 **South Central Public Health District Board Meeting**

- 8 • McCleary shared disappointment that the board has not completed the director's evaluation.
9 She fears the director may become discouraged. McCleary has received positive feedback from
10 Twin Falls, Camas, and Ada County. The Board Chair did share 3 complaints with the board
11 that McCleary did not feel were correct.

12 **Wood River Wildlife Smart Communities**

- 13 • Davis and County Administrator Services Director Kristy Heitzman attended the Wood River
14 Wildlife Smart Communities meeting, they were not able to discuss what wildlife resistant trash
15 containers Clear Creek Disposal will be using. The group is also questioning what areas will
16 receive new containers and when the transition will begin.
17 • The group is focused on how to raise public awareness about seasonal closures, leash rules,
18 and wildlife harassment.

19 **Housing Action Plan**

- 20 • The shelter houses 41 people, 7 children ages 2 – 13. The BCRD has opened its showers and
21 gym to assist those staying in the shelter. The shelter will need to close February 5th for 3 to 5
22 days.
23 • The shelter has posted a needed supplies/materials list.
24 • The shelter is intended to be open through March/April.
25 • There is a meeting on January 25, 2023, for the city mayors, BCHA to discuss the future of the
26 BCHA. The County is considering using the ARPA funds committed for the BCHA and BCCF for
27 rentals and homelessness, for the shelter.

28 **Correspondence**

- 29 • McCleary has received various comments on Highway 75, primarily regarding wildlife. In the
30 past she was part of a wildlife committee. She would like to bring back the committee to work on
31 the issues that have been brought to her attention.
32 • Davis received a letter from the Idaho Bike Alliance regarding the widening roads, and how it
33 makes more traffic versus less traffic.

34 **Other**

- 35 • The BCC will have a regular meeting on February 14th to discuss the FY24 budget. They will not
36 have any presentations that day but will accept public comments.
37 • Pomeroy requested for the BCC to question the Rule of 80 for Emergency Communications
38 upper management positions at the IAC Legislative Conference. Pomeroy is concerned if the
39 Rule of 80 is not extended to dispatch's upper management they may lose employees.
40

41 **FOREST SERVICE OUTFITTER-GUIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

42 Present; SNRA Recreation Program Manager Susan James; USFS Sawtooth National Recreation Area
43 Ranger Kirk Flannigan; Sun Valley Trekking Francie & Joe St. Onge; Sawtooth Huts Founder Bob
44 Jona; Sun Valley Guides Zach Chris; Sun Valley Economic Development Executive Director Harry
45 Griffith; *Idaho Mountain Express* staff writer Mike Shultz.

- 46 • **SNRA Recreation Program Manager Susan James**
47 ○ Explained the updated exceptions to the Preferred Alternative Outfitter-Guide Management
48 Plan.
49 ○ The exceptions were to address the issues the local Outfitter-Guides submitted previously to
50 the BCC and the SNRA.
51 • **USFS Sawtooth National Recreation Area Ranger Kirk Flannigan**
52 ○ Explained how objections are being resolved now. The SNRA has a team that reviews the

1 objections and reasons behind the objections. The team will work on resolving the issues
2 before it is taken into litigation. In the past they would only address objections through
3 litigation.

4 **Public Comment** –

- 5 ○ Joe St. Onge submitted a letter opposing the Outfitter-Guide Management Plan along with
6 the proposed alternatives.
- 7 ○ Sun Valley Economic Development Executive Director Harry Griffith explained his issues
8 with the updated plan, including the limited usage and the dated capacity analysis.
- 9 ○ The Nordic Backcountry Skiers Alliance of Idaho Sarah Michael objects to Alternative Plan B
10 and the restrictions it imposes on small business outfitters. The SNRA is a large recreational
11 area with existing huts that have been operating for over 40 years. Limiting the usage will
12 impact the economy and small businesses.
- 13 ○ Sun Valley Guides Zach Christ disagreed with Griffith regarding the doubling of people
14 recreating. He explained he has only seen an approximate 10% increase. He agrees with
15 the updated plan and would like the SNRA to address Galena Pass.
- 16 ○ Sawtooth Huts Founder Bob Jonas is opposed to the plan. He expressed that the Sawtooth
17 Huts enabled families and small kids to participate in the backcountry skiing experience. He
18 questioned if there was an environmental impact in the past, and what is the reasoning for
19 limiting hut usage.
- 20 ● **Recreation Program Manager Susan James responded to public comments:**
 - 21 ○ The management plan is not dictating the permits. It is required by policy that they establish a
22 certain amount of days/uses.
 - 23

24 **The BCC would like to continue this topic and process the updated Alternative B and Public**
25 **Comments.**

26
27 **BREAK**

28
29 **APPROVAL OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**

30 • **September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting**

31
32 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Blaine County Commissioner Meeting**
33 **Minutes for September 6, 2022, as amended. Motion passed 2/0.**

34
35 • **September 7, 2022, Special Meeting**

36
37 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Blaine County Commissioner Special**
38 **Meeting Meetings for September 7, 2022, as amended. Motion passed 2/0.**

39
40 • **September 13, 2022, Regular Meeting**

41
42 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Blaine County Commissioner Meeting**
43 **Minutes for September 13, 2022, as amended. Motion passed 2/0.**

44
45 • **September 15, 2022, Special Meeting**

46
47 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Blaine County Commissioner Special**
48 **Meeting Minutes for September 15, 2022. Motion passed 2/0.**

49
50 • **September 19, 2022, Special ARPA Meeting**

51
52 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Blaine County Commissioner Special**
53 **Meeting Minutes for September 19, 2022. Motion passed 2/0.**
54

1 The BCC requested copies of the 2017 and 2018 draft minutes to begin revising.

2

3 **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Idaho Code Sections 74-206(1)(a) and (b) – Evaluation, Dismissal or
4 **Disciplining of Employees or Public Officers.**

5

6 **McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code**
7 **Section 74-206(1)(a) and (1)(b). Davis (aye), McCleary (aye) Fosbury (absent). Motion passed 2/0.**

8

9 **ADJOURN**

10 **At the hour of 3:56 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners**
11 **adjourned.**

12

13

14 Attest: _____ Approved _____

15 Stephen McDougall Graham
16 County Clerk

Muffy Davis
Chair