

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF BLAINE COUNTY  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JULY 2023 SESSION**

**First Day**

**Wednesday, July 5, 2023**

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners met this day at 11:00 a.m. Present were Chair Muffy Davis, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary, and Commissioner Lindsay Mollineaux; County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham; County Budget and Finance Analyst Ozzie Gripenrog; County Engineer Jeff Loomis; County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy; County Services Specialist Deidre Dolce; and *Idaho Mountain Express* reporter Kari Harden. County Recording Secretary Sunny Grant wrote the minutes.

Some participants in this meeting were by webconference or teleconference.

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

**INDIAN CREEK ROAD ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION FOR COMPLETION OF ENTIRE ROAD  
REPAIR PROJECT**

This meeting is to discuss if the County should move forward to complete the Indian Creek Road repair project at this time.

County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson said the County could save money by doing the project all at once. He said Road and Bridge and contractors are on board to complete the whole road project when started, probably next week. County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham said there have been some updates on funding that allow the County to complete the project at this time.

Thompson said they can start the project under an Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide permit issued by USACE and designed to streamline Department of the Army authorization of projects. The County is allowed to do regular maintenance within the pond, on County right-of-way.

But the County's Stream Alteration Permit process and public hearing will delay the project, so he asked the Blaine County Commissioners to consider waiving the County Stream Alteration Process and do the work under USACE's National Permit.

Thompson described the various steps of the project, starting with barrow pits and figuring out how to replace the road and when to do the culverts. The road will be rolled and shaped, chip sealed, top sealed, and should be done in September. For now, they think it's best to not stripe it on the edge or down the middle. They'll sign it; and ask the Sheriff to patrol drivers on the nice smooth road with a 35mph speed limit, with pedestrians and bicyclists sharing the road.

Thompson said his crews would have to work extra hours to complete the project and will be given comp time when they want it. Thompson said the updated total project cost is estimated at about \$800,000.

McCleary hesitated to bypass the Stream Alteration Permit process. She said the County has to follow the same rules as anyone else; and she didn't want to set a bad precedent. She asked if the work could be done concurrent with getting the permit. Thompson said he would work with the Homeowners Association and see if they could shut the water off, and then work in the dry streambed. He said local contractors couldn't make time to do the job; and his out-of-town contractor was making a special effort to get up here and do the project now. County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy will work with Thompson and Land Use and the County Attorney to see how they can do the project, possibly with an Emergency Stream Alteration Permit. County Engineer Jeff Loomis will meet with County Administrator Pomeroy and Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson after the meeting.

County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham said the State Legislature this session approved State General Funds and Surplus Revenues for local transportation projects, and the County expects to receive enough funds later this month to cover the cost of the completed project. McDougall Graham suggested the project be paid for from Road and Bridge budget, and a budget adjustment resolution be done when monies are received from the State.

The Blaine County Commissioners received a letter of support for Indian Creek Road from Hailey Mayor Martha Burke, stating that Indian Creek Road is important for the City of Hailey's infrastructure.

**Public Comment:**

- Indian Creek resident Dennis Kavanagh suggested Road and Bridge start now to empty the pond if they want to work in a dry streambed to install the culvert; or they could dig an alternate channel for the stream.

**Mollineaux moved, seconded by McCleary, to approve Indian Creek Road improvement project, as described today, and pay for it out of the Road and Bridge fund. Motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURN**

At the hour of 11:32 a.m., with no more business before them, the Blaine County Commissioners adjourned.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen McDougall Graham Muffy Davis  
County Clerk Chair

DRAFT