


Madison County		
Madison County Commissioner Meeting Minutes		
OCTOBER 23, 2017	9:00 A.M.	COMMISSIONERS' ROOM
ATTENDEES	Commissioners: Chairman Jon Weber, Kimber Ricks and Todd Smith Deputy Prosecuting Attorney: Troy Evans County Clerk: Kim Muir	

AGENDA TOPICS

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by Commissioner Weber.

Commissioner Ricks was excused from the meeting.

Leslie Petersen was present to observe as was Brent Mendenhall.

Public Comment

County Business

Committee & Board Reports

Commissioner Weber reported that the Fair Committee Monthly Planning Meeting went smoothly.

Commissioner Smith reported on the Mental Health meeting he attended. Suicide numbers in Idaho were discussed. Between the years of 2012 – 2016 Madison County has had twelve suicides, Jefferson County seventeen and Fremont County ten; more males than females. The Crisis Center reported suicide numbers have steadily increased.

Calendar Discussion

The November 13th Commissioners meeting was moved to November 14, 2017 because Commissioner Smith will be out of town.

Canvass vote from the November 7, 2017 Election by November 17 was discussed.

Discussion Items:

Merit raise for Department Heads and Elected Officials

Commissioners discussed and submitted final merit increase numbers.

Contracts/Documents

After review and public hearing (see below), Commissioner Weber made a motion to sign and approve Ordinance #416 Property Tax Exemption. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Weber made a motion to sign and approve the Golf Board Appointment letter. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Weber made a motion to sign and approve the Madison County Ground Water District for 2017 tax roll. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

Routine Matters

After review, Commissioner Weber made a motion to approve the claims presented by the Clerk. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Weber made a motion to approve and sign the Commissioner meeting minutes of October 10, 2017. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve and sign the Department Head meeting minutes of October 10, 2017. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve and sign the Public Hearing minutes of September 20, 2017. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Weber made a motion to approve and sign the Employee Evaluation meeting minutes of October 18, 2017. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

After review, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Certificates of Residency. See attached list. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the personnel actions. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous.

Bradley Petersen, FEMA Floodplain update and meeting with Ryan McDaniel and Maureen, O'Shea, Ord Bank opportunity discussion on future zoning

Bradley and Trevin Ricks were present. Bradley met with Maureen and Ryan last week in Boise. A new flood plain study will be coming out in two weeks; we are hoping it will be slightly better; however it's still not where we want it to be. The key to working with FEMA is to not do our own study. Ryan said this is a tie-in approach and recommended working with FEMA in order to deal with mitigation issues. Trevin Ricks writes the grants for funding opportunities. Bradley said if we are willing to work together with FEMA, we might make more progress. Our Ordinances may need to be changed lowering them from a 0 rise to a 1 or 2 foot rise. Bradley suggested rising to whatever FEMA requests. In addition, we need to look at the possibility of actions the County can take, if any, that would lower the rates for those paying flood insurance. In Madison County there are thirty three residents that currently pay for flood insurance; fourteen are voluntary and nineteen are required to pay for flood insurance. The total claims since 1998 have only been \$19,000. These numbers were questioned by the Commissioners as to their accuracy.

Trevin is working on our Hazard Mitigation Plan; within those plans there are identified projects i.e., bridges and a few minor projects that could be mitigated before a flood happens, however we need to have an overall plan and identify specific projects within the plan. We should receive the new plan from FEMA in about two weeks. Bradley would like to get a team together to identify projects within the plan that can help with flood water, there also needs to be a storm water plan. If we work with FEMA to identify very specific projects, they will help with the funding for carrying out the plan. FEMA asked that we maintain structure and work through the process. Commissioner Weber voiced concern that they will hold us hostage to do what they say, and that the County can't be afraid to disagree with them.

Commissioners would like to have Ryan meet with them to discuss this further. We would like to have our Legislative Delegation present when FEMA comes to meet with us. Bradley recommended we wait until we see the map they present in the next few weeks, then meet with our team and set up a meeting with FEMA. Keith Davidson from the City of Rexburg stated once we get the map, have GIS overlay it with the homes that will be impacted. Commissioner Smith would like to see us work together with FEMA and go through the steps to work with them, however move cautiously after we see their new map. FEMA will fund some of the projects we can look at through our Ordinances to lessen the impact and lower the rates of those that are required to have flood insurance.

Ordinance Bank Discussion

With a \$450 per year fee the company that updates Madison County Code book and the County's online version will update our ordinances and resolutions shortly after they are passed, versus once or twice a year. This will be better for the public to get up-to-date information.

Executive Session Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(b) employee matters, employee evaluations; Bradley Petersen and Kirk Mace and (d) exempt records. Ann Marie Sorensen, Indigent Clerk.

Commissioner Weber made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:21 a.m. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Commissioner Weber-yes

Commissioner Smith-yes

Commissioner Weber returned the County Commissioners to open session at 10:03 a.m. Commissioner Smith made a motion to sign Denials on Case No.s 2017037 and 2017040 and sign an Approval on Case No. 2017039. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous.

Jared Arnold, Drone use and bids for Solid Waste

Jared showed a YouTube video of drones that spray for mosquitoes. The drone would replace two employees and would be very precise and effective. Commissioners were impressed and will discuss this possibility further.

Darby is currently writing an operation plan. The scales, Grizzly, and drainage system are concerns at Solid Waste. Jared presented bids for 2 new pickups. In addition, the cash balance was discussed. Commissioner Smith would like Jared and Clerk Kim Muir to watch the Mosquito balance closely in the next few months.

Sheriff's Office, Proposed fee changes

Suzanne Bagley, Bart Quayle and Rick Henry were present to discuss the fee increase they would like to propose for Sheriff's Office fees. The current fees versus the increased fees were compared and discussed. This matter will be noticed up for a Public Hearing on November 14, 2017. The services provided have never made money for the County; however this will help offset some of the costs so the County can come close to breaking even. These increases are in line with what other Counties are charging.

Public Hearing, Property Tax Exemption Ordinance

Commissioner Weber opened the Public Hearing at 11:03 a.m.

Jon Weber - No conflict

Todd Smith – No conflict

Clerk Kim Muir stated all notices were published correctly, and that the hearing was being recorded. There was no written correspondence.

This Ordinance reflects new legislation from our State Legislators this past legislative session. The previous threshold was a \$3 million investment in a community before they could qualify. Legislators lowered the amount to \$500,000 and redefined the restrictions. The exemption does not apply to commercial or industrial. The purpose is to make sure it is fair and equitable. We can deduct up to 90% of the companies property tax.

The exemption defined applies to non-retail Commercial and Industrial development while providing adequate health, safety and general protection of Madison County residents. Even though a company qualifies, it is not a guarantee for this exemption. Each applicant must show economic and job growth. In addition, they need to show what they are going to bring to our County. Property cannot be on the tax roll at the current time; this is pre- tax roll companies only. Companies need to apply when they are getting building permits.

It is appropriate and necessary to adopt reasonable requirements for plan investment to be eligible to receive the Property Tax Exemption pursuant to this State. In year one (1), 90% will be deducted off property taxes, year two (2), 80% deducted off property taxes, year three(3), 60% deduction, year four (4), 40% deduction and year five (5), 20% deduction. At the end of the five years the plant investment will be 100% taxed, but cannot be counted as new construction dollars. The County will inspect each approved site annually to ensure all criteria is being met and if not the exemption could be pulled. In addition, conditions can be placed on the exemption if the Commissioners desire. The new business applying for the exemption will be responsible for their public hearing notice costs.

Commissioner Weber commented that when you create economic growth and create jobs it helps in a big way. It takes time to see the growth; however, in the end it makes a huge impact on the economy. This needs to be caught when a new business applies for a building permit. Pro Pete will be contacted and made aware of the new exemption.

Commissioner Weber then asked those in favor, against and neutral to stand and provide testimony. No one came forward and spoke on this issue.

Commissioner Weber then closed the Public Hearing at 11:17 a.m., and the Commissioners discussed this matter further and the Ordinance was passed. (See above).

Cindy/Reo, North 2000 West, Horrocks Engineering

Kelly Hoopes was present and presented Commissioners maps. He introduced Mike McKee, who came over from ITD to work with Horrock's Engineering.

The Hibbard intersection near the LDS Church is seeing increased traffic. Kelly said there are head on conflict points and the safest intersection here would be a 4-way stop. The map also shows a roundabout which would maintain mobility, safety and keep the flow going, however that will require land for an easement. Vehicle speed headed into the intersection is a big issue. The roundabout would be about 170 feet with a 20 mph circulating speed limit. Commissioner Smith asked about farm trucks navigating the roundabout. Farmers generally like the roundabouts, they can keep rolling and it saves them gas, time, etc. What they struggle with is the apron coming into the round; it is hard on their

axles. Commissioner Smith asked if farm equipment would be accommodated by the roundabout. The most difficult issue is that they hit signs. It is a rural situation so the curbing would probably be rolled and snow removal would not be an issue. The roundabout allows for growth and most people do well with them. Commissioners would like to move forward with the grant application and design of the roundabout.

Jared Sommer, Dessert Rose Ent. LLC discrepancy on taxes, tax cancellation request

Jared was not present, though he knew of the date and time for this meeting with the Commissioners. He missed paying for one parcel and Treasurer Sherry Arnold advised him she could not waive the late fee and that it was a Commissioner decision to make. Sherry has asked Jared every year if all the properties are included in his payments.

Commissioner Weber made a motion to uphold the Treasurer’s late fee and penalty. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the voting was unanimous.

Lunch Break, and meeting with City/County/Ambulance personnel.

Dr. Don Campbell and Dr. Craig Johnson presented their findings to the group.

Chief Miskin explained the Ambulance Department has been running a deficit for years. There was a reserve fund used, however it is now depleted. The Department has eliminated costs and cut as many expenses as possible. They have increased the ambulance billing rates and changed agencies which have helped collection costs dramatically. In 1999, all entities entered into a joint powers agreement that dictates how we operate today, operation and personnel costs have been shared since that time. We have found that there is an imbalance in current procedures, cost allocations will be reviewed. There is some question whether the current allocations are correct. There were discrepancies found and six new allocation proposals were discussed and reviewed. Chief Child stated a plan will be needed for replacement of ambulances, the oldest are now ten years old. Chief Child would like to have a District Fire meeting to come up with a ratio that everyone can survive on. We are three governmental entities working for one cause. Mayor Merrill would like to see the numbers the District needed to sustain the current level of service. The County and City will meet with those involved to review the numbers presented and come back together for further discussion by December 2017.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn the Commission meeting at 1:40 p.m. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous.

Approved:

Jon O. Weber, Commission Chairman

Todd Smith, Commissioner