

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF BLAINE COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MARCH 2019 SESSION**

**Third Day**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Jacob Greenberg and Commissioner Dick Fosbury; County Administrative Services Manager Mandy Pomeroy; and Recording Secretary Sunny Grant.

Commissioner McCleary was absent.

Chairman Greenberg called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Lili Simpson expressed concern for protecting wildlife corridors and winter range in the wildland-urban interface. There are real conflicts with big game and dogs, especially behind Quigley Gulch Road and Old Cutters. Mountain Humane has offered use of a free room for a public education meeting.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – §74-206 (1)(d) INDIGENT** - Consideration of records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code

Present were: Blaine County Services Manager Brooke Baird.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, that the BCC convene in Executive Session, pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(d) to consider indigent medical records that are exempt from disclosure, as provided in Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code. Roll call: Fosbury (aye), and Greenberg (aye). Motion carried 2/0.**

OPEN SESSION RESUMED

**INDIGENT MEDICAL APPLICATIONS - Board of County Commissioners Action**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, to deny Case #2019-13 based on the applicant has sufficient assets and income to cover provider's billings over a five-year period. Motion carried 2/0.**

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Administrative Services** - Mandy Pomeroy

• **Employee Recognition**

Also present: Blaine County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson; and County Chief Deputy Sheriff Will Fruehling.

Administrative Services staff received hardly any phone calls with concerns this year, in spite of heavy snow. County Road and Bridge crews did an amazing job during this winter's very high snow falls. County Administrative Services Manager Mandy Pomeroy and Chief Deputy Sheriff Will Fruehling thanked County road crew personnel: Jeff Harshbarger; Dennis Baird; Matt Dilworth; Kelly Whitworth; Doug Swaner; Kyle Broadie; Lindsey Quillen; Derek Oliver; Barry Pond; Bill Kyes; Alex Alberdi; Greg Eirish; and Cody Baird.

Deputy Fruehling also thanked the County Maintenance crew: County Facilities Manager Patrick Boyle, and Facilities Maintenance Technicians Ben Russell and Tim Green, who kept snow under control in the Public Safety Facility parking lot and around the PSF.

**TAX CANCELLATION**

• **RPK072200C022A - 127 Saddle Road #C22**

Blaine County Assessor Jim Williams said the Assessor's office correctly removed a Homeowners Exemption a number of years ago, then reapplied it at the landowner's request, then again correctly removed the exemption when they realized the landowner was really not appropriate for the exemption. The property owner was recently billed for correct past-due taxes. The owner was also billed for penalty and interest for eight years, which Williams thought was a little heavy-handed. County Treasurer John David Davidson said the Homeowners Exemption payments would be posted as if they were paid on time. The Assessor and Treasurer asked the BCC to cancel penalty and interest, current as of the date the correction is made.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, to cancel late fees and accrued interest on parcel RPK072200C022A, Homestead Idaho Code 63-602G, on the basis that it was not the property owner's fault. Motion carried 2/0.**

**TRANSFER OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY**

• **Blaine County Tax Deed - FR NWSW TL 7998, SEC 7 3N 18E - RP03N180075410**

Also present: Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves.

This sliver of land along the highway is not buildable. ITD is interested in taking it. The County will prepare legal notice of a public hearing and resolution that the transfer of property to another public entity is in the public interest.

**COUNTY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Treasurer's Report** - John David Davidson

- Treasurer's Staff will be attending classes in April.

**Assessor's Report** - Jim Williams

- DMV's current average wait time is 10 min 9 seconds, which includes last summer's occasional long wait times.
- DMV staff get compliments from customers on a daily basis.
- Appraisals were behind 8% last month, but, even with two new appraisers, are now caught up.
- The Appraiser's front office is caught up on processes that were six weeks behind.
- The two front desk receptionists are learning to be mappers, in anticipation of the current mapper's retirement.
- The Assessor is eager to help anyone who has a complaint about his office. He asked the Commissioners to include him in any complaint conversations they have regarding his office.
- The Assessor purchased a new vehicle, \$2,000 under budgeted amount.

Williams said his team members want to "change the public's perception of local government, one person at a time," and they take that mission seriously.

**Road & Bridge** - Steve Thompson

- **Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Planning Study**

Also present: Blaine County Engineer Jeff Loomis.

Blaine County staff are working with Lost River Highway District to draft a Memorandum of Understanding to do a joint application for a Corridor Study of Trail Creek Road in Blaine and Custer Counties. The study is expected to cost about \$200,000, not to exceed \$250,000, with a 7.34% match. The two counties would split the match 50/50.

The study will comprise about three miles in Blaine County and 15 miles in Custer County. Blaine County has more staff, and proposed to prepare the grant application. The BCC directed staff to prepare the MOU with Lost River Highway District for next week's agenda.

**Adams Gulch Bridge Project Closeout**

Also present: Blaine County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson.

The County needs to provide a letter of acceptance to complete the project with Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC). Blaine County Road and Bridge Manager Steve Thompson presented a slideshow of the project.

**CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS**

- **Independent Contractor Agreement with Biota Research and Consulting, Inc.**

**Broadford Road Fisherman's Access Area Stream Alteration Work** ..... Record #659341

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Engineer Jeff Loomis; and Flood Control District #9 Commissioner Dave Bell.

This is a modification of an earlier agreement, and details Biota's responsibility to refine conceptual plans into final design plans, and eventually into construction drawings; and include state and federal permits. The not-to-exceed cost is \$12,623, to do Stream Alteration Permit work associated with the Emergency Stream Alteration Permit work done at Fisherman's Access, on County property. County Engineer Jeff Loomis said spring high water shouldn't change Biota's scope of work, but may change the location. Flood Control District #9 Commissioner Dave Bell supported the project. The study project won't begin until July when the water recedes and settles down.

The BCC tabled the agreement until next week.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- **Junior College Certificate of Residency form**

College of Southern Idaho, Fall 2018-Spring 2019 – Carissa Christensen.

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve the Consent Calendar for March 19, 2019. Motion carried 2/0.**

**BOARD of COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPORTS**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; Blaine County Engineer Jeff Loomis; and County Outreach and Education Specialist Colleen Clark.

**Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) – Greenberg**

Craig Aberbach and Chris Corwin are preparing to do a flood preparedness education outreach campaign.

### **Wildfire Protection Plan Meeting – Greenberg**

The County Hazards Mitigation Plan has to incorporate local fire department Wildfire Protection Plans before the County can apply to Department of Lands for fire mitigation grants.

### **Recycle Center-Definition of Office Paper – Fosbury**

County Recycle Center Supervisor Lamar Waters said it would be resource-effective to focus on newspaper and/or uncontaminated “computer-fax-copy paper”. County Outreach and Education Specialist Colleen Clark said Blaine County residents are eager to resume recycling, but want to make sure the recyclables are recycled. She is excited to begin an education campaign.

**INDIGENT APPEALS - EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(d) Indigent - Consideration of records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code.

#### **Case No. 2018-34**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, that we go into Executive Session, under Idaho Code 74-206 1(d), Indigent, for consideration of records that are exempt from disclosure, as provided in Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code. Motion carried 2/0.**

#### **OPEN SESSION RESUMED**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, that we reverse prior determination of denial in Case 2018-34 and that we direct staff to prepare Findings of Facts to that effect. Fosbury amended his motion to order reimbursement in the amount of \$100 month. Amended motion carried 2/0.**

#### **Case No. 2018-38**

#### **Case No. 2018-44**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, that we go into Executive Session, under Idaho Code 74-206 1(d), Indigent, for consideration of records that are exempt from disclosure, as provided in Chapter 3, Title 9, Idaho Code. Motion carried 2/0.**

#### **OPEN SESSION RESUMED**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, that we affirm prior determination of denial for Case #2018-38 and direct staff to prepare Findings to that effect. Motion carried 2/0.**

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, that the BCC affirm prior determination of denial for Case #2018-44 and direct staff to prepare Findings to that effect. Motion carried 2/0.**

#### **BREAK**

### **LAND USE and BUILDING SERVICES HEARINGS**

#### **• Colorado Gulch Restoration - Land, Water and Wildlife Funding Request**

Also present: Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin; County Engineer Jeff Loomis; WRLT Project Coordinator Ryan Santo; and Land, Water and Wildlife (LWW) Levy Advisory Board (LAB) member Lili Simpson.

**Notice** was by agenda.

**No new materials** since the LAB completed their recommendation.

The Wood River Land Trust wants the Colorado Gulch preserve to be a place where natural stream functions can occur. The goal is to reconnect the main channel to its floodplain by removing riprap and fill material, and increase fish habitat diversity by reconnecting an historic side channel.

The BCC and Land Trust have to discuss if the County is going to have a road in the preserve. The Land Trust just wants a footbridge, but the County foresees need for an access road and bridge that can carry emergency services and bridge maintenance vehicles. Blaine County Engineer Jeff Loomis said the road is a platted right-of-way and the discussion has been to possibly relocate it.

The BCC would like to visit the site when the snow is gone; and want to know what kind of access first responders might need. Commissioner Fosbury said a 120ft span is a fairly long span. He wants to see a plan that shows existing ground for a bridge, and how removing material might affect a future bridge. Army Corps of Engineers is currently reviewing a joint Stream Alteration Permit.

Blaine County Land Use Administrator Tom Bergin asked how the BCC felt about a County-owned LWW project. Commissioner Fosbury felt any entity that meets evaluations should be considered.

Fosbury made an initial motion that was withdrawn and replaced with the following motion:

**Fosbury moved, seconded by Greenberg, to approve Colorado Gulch Stream Restoration Project submitted by Land, Water and Wildlife program for Wood River Land Trust, recommended for approval by the Levy Advisory Board (LAB), finding that it meets the standards of evaluation, with an amount of 44.5% of the cost of the design, not to exceed \$35,000, as submitted. Motion carried 2/0.**

The BCC directed Bergin to facilitate discussion with the County Administrator, first responders and County Road and Bridge about the road right-of-way and bridge; and provide the platted right-of-way to Biota and the Wood River Land Trust. The BCC asked the Land Trust to schedule a site visit when the snow is gone.

**Public Comment:**

- LAB member Lili Simpson said this is the kind of project she conceptualized when she joined the LAB. The application was detailed and a joy to review.
- Simpson added that there's a bunch of rebar, perhaps from a former bridge, in the water in that area, and asked crews to be sure it's removed if it's still there.

**FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES UPDATE**

Also present: Aaron Houston, CEO

Aaron Houston first presented Family Health Services, a not-for-profit community health center with many locations in south central Idaho, to the BCC in June, 2017. Family Health Services would like to open a clinic in Bellevue if they can get a federal grant to do so. Family Health Services offers a sliding fee for healthcare, including medical, dental, behavioral, and pharmacy, for all patients who have a household income of 200% or below the Federal Poverty Guideline.

Houston requested a letter of support from the BCC to include in their application for a federal grant.

**ADJOURN**

**At the hour of 3:07 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
JoLynn Drage County Clerk Jacob Greenberg Chairman