

The Board of Bear Lake County Commissioners met in a special meeting on Friday, December 29, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the School District #33 Board Room in Paris, Idaho. Members present were Commissioners Vaughn N. Rasmussen, Chairman, Bradley D. Jensen, Rex L. Payne and Clerk of the Board Cindy Garner.

Others attending were Prosecutor John Olson, County Superintendent Scott Esquibel, Building Inspector Wayne Davidson, The News-Examiner Reporter Daniel Bishop and citizen & volunteer firefighter Mark Parker.

AGENDA APPROVED

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried.

DECISION FOR PETITION ON JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION

Commissioners looked over the sign-up sheets from the public hearing and noted that most were in favor of moving forward with the petition and build a new courthouse. They appreciated all who came and gave comments and suggestions. Commissioners are concerned about raising taxes, but feel the public has been vocal in the three bond elections as they all had over fifty percent of the voters in favor, just couldn't get the two-thirds required. Information given by the Assistant Vice President, J. Michael Tippets, showed that tax impact is only slightly higher today than on the smaller proposed amount in 2015 because the increase of the county's total taxable value, helps keep the levy amount down. Cost per \$100,000 taxable value would be \$32.52, cost for the same \$100,000 with the homeowner's exemption would be \$16.26. The Commissioners felt the hearing did go well. Commissioner Jensen made a motion to go forward with the petition for judicial confirmation, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried.

Commissioner Rasmussen stated that the decision will now go to Attorney Steve Fuller who will prepare the necessary documentation to file the petition which should be done by the end of January, then a judge will be appointed, a date set for the court hearing and then the forty-five days after that which is required by statute. The Commissioners will look at the bidding process, possibly a general contractor with subcontractors and the help of the county crew to help keep costs down. If the judge does not award the petition, the U.S. Department of Justice will step in.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Payne made a motion to leave the regular meeting and go into an executive session pursuant to Idaho Code #74-206 (b) for personnel and an administrative matter, seconded by Commissioner Jensen. All Commissioners voted "Here" in a roll call vote. Also invited to stay were Prosecutor John Olson, County Superintendent Scott Esquibel and Clerk Garner. Commissioner Payne made a motion to leave the executive session and return to the regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, motion carried. One administrative item that came out of the executive session was a winter maintenance sign was placed in the wrong area and will be moved to the appropriate area. Commissioner Jensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.