

BEAR LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING

MARCH 23, 2020

BEAR LAKE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Board of Bear Lake County Commissioners met in a special meeting on Monday, March 23, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse courtroom in Paris, Idaho. Members in attendance were Commissioners' Vaughn N. Rasmussen, Chairman, Bradley D. Jensen, Rex L. Payne and Clerk of the Board, Cindy Garner.

Others attending were Treasurer Tricia Poulsen, Sheriff Bart Heslington, Prosecutor Adam McKenzie, Chief Deputy Assessor, Dale Thornock, Superintendent Esquibel and Emergency Manager, Alan Eborn, all keeping the recommended CDC distance.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Payne made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Information to the Citizens of Bear Lake County, Discussion on Disaster Declaration and Discussion on a Call-In Number, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, motion carried.

INFORMATION to the CITIZENS of BEAR LAKE COUNTY

Commissioner Rasmussen presented an updated statement of Information to the Citizens of Bear Lake County for review prior to getting it out to the public. The information will be sent to The News-Examiner, to the meeting agenda email list, put on the County website, Facebook and put in the post offices and cluster mailbox sites. There is a need to set up a conference call-in number to alleviate large numbers at upcoming meetings, will look into that service. The Proclamation from the Governor regarding the open meeting law suspends public in-person attendance, requires at least one of the governing board by physically present at the location of the meeting, requires public attendance using telecommunication devices at the meetings subject to the Open Meeting Act. This will be the practice till further notice.

DISCUSSION on DISASTER DECLARATION

Emergency Manager, Alan Eborn, presented a Disaster Declaration document to be reviewed in the event the Commissioners feel it is warranted. The State has declared the (SBA) Small Business Administration will provide help for small businesses affected by COVID-19. Eborn mentioned the Region Incident Command Model is looking at high level security, but he informed them they cannot bypass the elected Commissioners as they have the last say. Governor Little has urged everyone to stay united and not do own thing.

Chief Deputy Assessor, Dale Thornock, reviewed some documents from the Department of Motor Vehicles regarding extension on some items and some being done over the phone. New titles can be sent by mail and they are encouraging dealers to issue a 60 day temporary. Some people have been calling for appointments, which does help.

Oregon Trail Center cancelled all April meetings and Senior Center will keep someone for pickup and delivery.

DISCUSSION on a CALL-IN NUMBER

Commissioner Rasmussen mentioned setting up a conference call number for future meetings.

Commissioners and Eborn encouraged officials to track any COVID-19 related costs, may possibly get reimbursement.

Sheriff Bart Heslington mentioned having protective equipment for his staff, dispatch is screening to know if there were issues prior to, and handling telephonically when possible. If need to take someone into custody, they will have them put on protective equipment also.

Commissioner Rasmussen mentioned a notice from PacifiCorp and they have set the target lake elevation for Bear Lake at 5917.4 feet and are adjusting Bear Lake outlet channel flow to achieve it. It is currently at 5918.12. They are not pumping water from Bear Lake, but bypassing the Rainbow Inlet Canal flow downstream to the Outlet Canal and anticipate opening the causeway to store Bear Lake water in Bear Lake beginning March 31, 2020.

Treasurer Tricia Poulsen, along with Thornock, expressed concern on HB562 on the Homeowners' Exemption deadline, which will especially hurt small counties. They both had sent letters against and encouraged postponing the bill, they will forward their letters to Commissioner Rasmussen. Regarding another concerning bill, HB518a, Poulsen mentioned all 44 Treasurers have put the levy on all bonds on their websites, rather than try to include on tax notices, which would make them several pages long.

Commissioner Payne mentioned that Big D has been following social distancing rules as well as they can. They may have some delays on getting supplies at this time.

MOTION: Commissioner Jensen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 p.m.

VAUGHN N. RASMUSSEN, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: _____

CINDY GARNER, Clerk of the Board

DATE: _____