

BEAR LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' SPECIAL MEETING

AUGUST 17, 2020

COMMISSIONERS' CHAMBERS

The Board of Bear Lake County Commissioners met in a special meeting on August 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Chambers 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 present were Assessor Heber Dunford, County Superintendent Scott Esquibel, Chief Deputy Clerk Amy Bishop, citizens Kathi Izatt, Claudia Cottle and Roy Bunderson.

APPROVE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve the agenda as posted for August 17, 2020, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried.

BUDGET HEARING

MOTION: Commissioner Payne made a motion to leave the regular meeting and go into a budget hearing for the FY2021 budget, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, motion carried.

Commissioner Rasmussen explained the hearing process, would not have a signup sheet to pass between people because of COVID, but will accept any comments the public would like to make. Deputy Clerk Amy Bishop explained there was one (1) change with the Solid Waste as the Regional Landfill is not quite ready, the salary and benefits for the 1st quarter will go back in Solid Waste. The total dollar amount will not change. There were no other changes and did include some money for courthouse capital to take care of the old building, no other major projects other than ongoing grants with the airport.

Roy Bunderson inquired why the County Fair was fully budgeted since it was cancelled. Commissioner Payne mentioned they were building more restrooms by the grandstands and possibly a concession stand. Commissioner Rasmussen encouraged them to use funds for capital improvements that were needed. Bunderson questioned if \$322,000 was enough funds for the demolition of old courthouse. Bishop mentioned it was based upon the amount for the Montpelier City Hall, it was closer to \$200,000 and our amount is based upon what funds are available and includes a bond payment. There was discussion on the new Regional Landfill and how it will function, first started working on this about ten (10) years ago. Each county will have a landfill for C & D (construction & demolition) garbage, as it is not contaminated material, each county will have a transfer station. The budget for the county is very tight and will be for several years. Bunderson inquired about revenue from new construction, Bishop pulled totals of \$17 million of which about \$64,000 revenue comes in from it.

MOTION: Commissioner Payne made a motion to accept the FY2021 budget as published, seconded by Commissioner Jensen, motion carried.

Commissioner Rasmussen inquired of Assessor Heber Dunford about speaking to Franklin County Assessor's office about contracting and helping with mapping. It will tie all the map systems together. State Tax Commission will offer help. Would like an update in September on the mapping. Will put on the agenda for October to have the contractor visit with the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Roy Bunderson mentioned the Use of County Equipment Resolution not being on the agenda, Commissioner Rasmussen encouraged the attorney to hold off as they had a few changes, along with needing comparable rates. Had a special assignment that he and the Sheriff needed to take precedence so asked attorney to wait. Bunderson felt there was no need for a resolution as public equipment is meant for the public but can use in an emergency for private and leave it at that. Would like to see some realistic rates.

Claudia Cottle would like to see maps with expanding transparency and the Planning and Zoning minutes and agendas on the County website, maybe some kind of link to what is detailed on those items. Commissioner Jensen mentioned the minutes are there under the Planning & Zoning heading. Commissioner Rasmussen showed on the bearlakecounty.info website, go to Planning & Zoning and can find the minutes. Would like to see a bit more clarification of what is on the agenda items. Appreciate additional effort. Would like to see the ordinances codified and cleaned up. Bishop mentioned she and Commissioner Jensen just spoke about the same item and it just takes a lot more budget, it has been talked about for years, but they are working on it.

SCOTT ESQUIBEL, COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT and KELLER ASSOCIATES – COUNTY ROAD STANDARDS – ACTION ITEM

Scott Esquibel, County Superintendent mentioned that Keller Associates had made the changes requested from the prior meeting and would encourage the Commission to accept the Roadway Standards.

MOTION: Commissioner Jensen made a motion to accept the Roadway Standards as of August 17, 2020, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried.

Commissioner Rasmussen expressed appreciation to the road crew for all they have done to help improve the County roads. Esquibel gave an update, mentioning they finished on budget with magnesium chloride, with so much traffic every other year does not hold the retardant, but only can go so far with a small county budget. The damaged speed limit sign out in Nounan has been replaced.

SPENCER BAILEY, SCOTT LIVINGSTON & ALAN ARTHUR – BEAR LAKE LUXURY RENTALS & STURDY STRUCTURES – LAND DEVELOPMENT FISH HAVEN CANYON

Spencer Bailey, Bear Lake Luxury Rentals, wanted to meet with the Commission as suggested by Planning and Zoning Administrator, Mitch Poulsen, to discuss their proposal for development at the top of Fish Haven Canyon, the feasibility of putting it together, the need for road improvements and have conversation about the next steps to work on the road issues up Fish Haven Canyon. Bailey wanted to clarify road width of 60 feet, it was currently about 36 feet so they would have to cut away quite a bit, but others did not meet those widths. Commissioner Jensen informed Bailey about a road being a deeded right of way and so prescriptive right of way does not meet standards. Commissioners would need to look at roads prior to any decision. Bailey did a study earlier and seeing all the access coming up and down the road, would want to take their responsibility, but many others also using. Public parking space they would deed to the County, as issues in the past of the road being blocked off for Canyon Estates. Want this to work for the County as well as developing the indicated parcel. Commissioner Jensen will look into and study the road and other items. Commissioners encourage keeping Planning

and Zoning in the loop, get with them and see if they would approve before road issue, then their recommendation comes to the County. Bailey runs one of the largest rental operations and ninety-eight percent of guests are from outside of the valley and encouraged a localized tax to benefit the County. Bishop and Commissioner Rasmussen mentioned it is State governed and limited to cities. Commissioner Rasmussen appreciated Bailey's support and bringing it up, but the Association of Counties would not agree, had commissioners that would not vote for it at that time. Things are changing so maybe it could be brought up again. Commissioner Rasmussen agrees the user should pay.

CARY HAMBLIN – BUILDING IN EASEMENT – BERN – ACTION ITEM

This was brought back from a previous meeting regarding building without a permit. County Prosecutor McKenzie directed Commissioners to have Hamblin get with Planning and Zoning to apply for a variance. Commissioners decided to give him the variance.

MOTION: Commissioner Jensen made a motion to allow Cary Hamblin the variance for a setback in Bern to build on the county road and a building permit be issued, seconded by Commissioner Payne, motion carried.

JAYSON LOWER – SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Jayson Lower, overseeing the upcoming Regional Solid Waste District met with the Commission and wanted to thank them as it is a team effort to get this up and running and to go over any questions or any concerns they may have. They are working with ICRMP on insurance and on the health side, working with the Gem Plan. Lower is looking forward to the transition and they have received favorable interest rates. Commissioner Rasmussen mentioned the need to do a survey of the property prior to deeding to the Regional Landfill District, as the county desires to keep the shooting range and still have plenty of room for the C & D landfill. The Shooting Club has applied for grants and is working hard on the range. All the counties will have a transfer station. Lower is wanting to work with the employees, people are the most important part of this equation. The next twelve months will operate as we already are and then look at ways to improve, working with the employees, then maybe have someone come over and help. Take what we have and make it better, there will be a board member from each county to represent their interests. Commissioner Payne mentioned the roads and fencing matters they would need to take care of, Lower agreed it would be taken care of. As soon as the transfer stations are built, will close existing cells, re-slope, regrade and keep open for a C & D pit, everything will be paid as we go and not pass future liability to our children. Residents now are allowed five (5) tons free, Lower reaffirmed it will stay how the county wants to have it continue. County Superintendent inquired if there was an estimate of any new employees needing to be hired to be fully operational. Lower affirmed at the district level, may have to hire a couple, a mechanic and someone to help manage books and a float driver to each county. Do need a Solid Waste Ordinance with specific charges. Tires will be handled the same way, haul and separate, load on own equipment and transfer. Lower mentioned several other states are watching the process and how it will work together. Commissioner Jensen mentioned other counties may join in but would need to financially catch up to be equally represented. Commissioner Rasmussen mentioned DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) has been very supportive of this action and Commissioners appreciated Lower coming to give an update and answer questions.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

VAUGHN N. RASMUSSEN, Chairman

Date Approved

ATTEST: _____
CINDY GARNER, Clerk