Bear Lake County Commissioners' Meeting

September 28, 2026
Commissioners' Chambers – Paris, Idaho

The Board of Bear Lake County Commissioners met in its regular meeting at 9 a.m. Monday, September 28, 2026, in the Commissioners' Chambers in Paris, Idaho. Video access to the meeting was available via Zoom. Members present were Board Chairman Rex L. Payne, Commissioner Wynn S. Olsen, Commissioner Alan P. Eborn, and Clerk of the Board Amy Bishop. Also in attendance were various staff and members of the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board reviewed the agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

DESIGNATE POLLING PLACES FOR THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026, ELECTION

Clerk Amy Bishop reported that there would be no changes to the polling places this election.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to approve the polling place designation for the November 3, 2026, election. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

FUEL SUPPLIERS AND COSTS

Commissioner Olsen reported that the Conrad and Bischoff fuel station near Montpelier has shut off their pumps and are now doing bulk fuel deliveries only. He asked the Board to consider installing multiple tanks for all departments to use. He has contacts at BRP Oil in Blackfoot and Hall Oil in Lewiston, Idaho.

Commissioner Eborn stated he would be in favor of adding more fuel tanks and added that he had obtained bulk fuel from Cardwell in Preston in the past.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to inquire about acquiring a fuel tank and soliciting bid prices from the three vendors mentioned this morning, in addition to Conrad and Bischoff. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR COUNTY REQUEST TO ACQUIRE FEDERAL LAND

Commissioner Eborn reported that Senator Simpson notified counties several months ago that his office may be able to help counties acquire federal land for county use. Four areas were identified in Bear Lake County. The proposed letter is for one of those sites, the Merkley repeater site. This letter requests that 8.21 acres be transferred from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to Bear Lake County. Commissioner Eborn read the proposed letter of support.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to approve the letter of support with the addition of adding access through the BLM property as an easement to access the site. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

CERTIFY PROPERTY TAX LEVIES

Clerk Amy Bishop reported that all taxing districts had completed their requirements and submitted their L-2 forms. She noted one discrepancy with the Geneva Cemetery District that would need to be corrected by the State Tax Commission.

MOTION: Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve the certificate of county levies for Bear Lake County. The motion received a second from Commissioner Eborn. The motion carried.

RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT FOR ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER AT AIRPORT

Commissioner Payne reported that the airport needs to have electric infrastructure installed for the new hangars. Rocky Mountain Power requires an underground right-of-way easement for their power lines. The new infrastructure will not interfere with the current infrastructure.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to approve an underground right-of-way easement for Rocky Mountain Power to extend power to the new hangars. The right-of-way will be ten feet wide and nine hundred feet long. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

SAFETY POLICY

Clerk Bishop reported that she obtained a sample safety policy from Workers' Compensation. The new safety committee will consist of Mason Garbett, Amy Bishop, Todd Boehme, one Road and Bridge employee, Sheriff Bart Heslington, one Sheriff's Office employee, and one member of the ambulance service. Bishop reported that Mason Garbett will be the safety officer. She asked the Board to make changes to the proposed policy and to adopt the policy in a future meeting.

BAR Y ROAD

Commissioner Olsen explained that Bauman Lane in Geneva runs from US Highway 89 to Wood Canyon Road. A house was built on the south end of Bauman Lane within the last ten years. The homeowner reported to Commissioner Olsen that the building inspector changed the name of the road to Bar Y Road, but no road signs have been placed denoting the new name. This creates a lot of confusion for parties trying to find the house.

Clerk Bishop suggested that it may be helpful to have the building inspector include any newly named roads in his monthly report. Commissioner Olsen will follow up with Road and Bridge supervisor, Todd Boehme, about the road name.

MITCH POULSEN – REZONE RECOMMENDATION FOR PAUL ALLEMAN AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR REZONE BY NBL PROPERTIES

Mitch Poulsen, administrator for the Planning and Zoning Commission, presented an application for lot split from Paul Alleman. Alleman requested to separate his home parcel from an agricultural parcel. Poulsen reported that all requirements had been met, and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended the Board approve the lot split.

MOTION: Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve the lot split for Paul Alleman on Nounan Road. The motion received a second from Commissioner Eborn. The motion carried.

Mitch Poulsen reported that an application for rezone was received by the Planning and Zoning Commission from NBL in November 2025. At that time, the Commission found some inconsistencies with Joe's Gap Road. After compiling more information about the existing road conditions and what needs to be done to bring the road up to county standards, the Planning and Zoning Commission would like to move forward with the development agreement. Poulsen read the proposed agreement.

The Board held a discussion about the history of the road and the road improvements needed.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to approve the development agreement for rezone by NBL Properties with the change to add an additional block for a notary signature. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

MOTION: Commissioner Eborn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion received a second from Commissioner Olsen. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.

Rex L. Payne, Chairman

8/13/24

Date Approved

ATTEST: _____

Amy Bishop, Clerk

AUDITOR AND RECORDER
BEAR LAKE
COUNTY
STATE OF IDAHO