



Cassia County Board of Commissioners

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 20, 2023

Cassia County Courthouse ▪ Commission Chambers
1459 Overland Ave ▪ Room 206 ▪ Burley ID 83318

9:00 AM

The Cassia County Board of Commissioners met today at the place and time as posted by agenda pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-204 for Open Meetings Law.

ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

- 1) 9:03 AM Call to order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance and prayer
- 3) 9:04 AM Roll call

Roll Call.

Present: Leonard M. Beck - Chair, Kent R. Searle - Member, Bob Kunau - Member, Cally Velasquez - Deputy Clerk
(Not voting).

- 4) 9:04 AM Calendar, meetings, committee reports, and correspondence were reviewed.
 - a) RC&D meeting 3/24/2023 - Kunau
 - b) The Fair Board has decided to hold meetings twice a month until fair time to try to work through several items needing their attention.
 - c) The Commissioners received complaints about the condition of the roads in the Elba-Almo area due to recent snow and rain.

9:09 AM Mr. McMurray entered the meeting

- 5) 9:07 AM Approve payables for 3/20/2023

9:07 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve payables as presented on 3/20/2023, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

- 6) 9:10 AM Approve minutes from 3/13/2023

9:10 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve minutes from 3/13/2023 as presented, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

- 7) 9:11 AM Review and approve alcoholic beverage licenses for which there is a transcribable verbatim record of the proceedings.

CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
Monday, March 20, 2023

Instrument # 2023000955
BURLEY, CASSIA, IDAHO
4-10-2023 11:45:23 AM No. of Pages: 9
Recorded for : CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOSEPH LARSEN Fee: 0.00
Ex-Officio Recorder Deputy
Index to: COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

EU

- a) El Toro Taqueria - Bottled/Canned beer ON premises consumption, wine by the drink

9:13 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve one alcohol license request as presented, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

- 8) 9:14 AM Approval of Clerk's Office recommendations regarding junior college Certificates of Residency

9:15 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve Clerk's Office recommendations to approve two junior college Certificates of Residency as presented, **Moved by** Bob Kunau - Member, **Seconded by** Kent R. Searle - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

- 9) 9:16 AM Personnel Matters - Change of Status Requests

- a) Treasurer - Patricia M Smith - Deputy Treasurer - new hire
- b) Assessor - Dan Jones - Appraiser - voluntary resignation - amended COS
- c) Weed & Pest - Tyson Young - Weed Technician - new hire

9:18 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve Change of Status Requests as presented, **Moved by** Bob Kunau - Member, **Seconded by** Kent R. Searle - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

- d) 12:04 PM MCCJC - Alejandro Lopez - Detention Deputy - new hire

12:05 PM **Motion and Action:** Approve Change of Status Request as presented, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member

- 10) 10:30 AM Executive Sessions

10:31 AM **Motion and Action:** Enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code § 74-206 (1) (b) to consider personnel issues and Idaho Code § 74-206 (1) (d) to consider records that are exempt from public disclosure, **Moved by** Bob Kunau - Member, **Seconded by** Kent R. Searle - Member.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 3).

Yes: Kent R. Searle - Member, Bob Kunau - Member, Leonard M. Beck - Chair.

12:04 PM Upon exit of Executive Session, the board took the matter under advisement.

11) 10:11 AM Sign Affidavits of Lost Title and Application for Title for four county vehicles - Velasquez

10:14 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve signing the Affidavits of Lost Title and Application for Titles as presented, **Moved by** Bob Kunau - Member, **Seconded by** Kent R. Searle - Member
Motion passed unanimously.

12) 10:16 AM Review and approve DEQ compliance and/or tank monitoring expense - Searle

- a) Commissioner Searle and Mr. McMurray visited with Mr. Whitman from Nwestco Company last week. Everything was brought up to par except one tank needs a new float kit. The cost is \$758.00 plus labor, estimated between \$120.00 - \$150.00 to install. This is needed to be in compliance with DEQ.
- b) Mr. Whitman also visited with the Auditor's Office about what their needs for monitoring usage of the fuel tanks would be so that he can put together a quote.
- c) There is another probe that may need to be replaced at some point. The cost would be approximately \$1,500.00.

10:19 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve spending up to \$1,000.00 for the float kit and installation to bring us into DEQ compliance, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

13) 10:21 AM Approve hiring of an appraiser - McMurray

- a) At the direction of the Commissioners, Mr. McMurray reached out to a couple of appraisers in the area with regards to obtaining an appraisal on a couple properties the Commissioners are interested in.
- b) One offer from Pat Merrigan was \$1,500.00 per property with a three month wait on the reports. A second appraiser, Doug Vollmer from Twin Falls, offered \$2,400.00 on the first property, \$2,000.00 for the second and 15 days wait for the reports.
- c) Mr. McMurray reported that Mr. Vollmer would require half of the fee at the time of inspection and the second half upon completion.

10:26 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve hiring Doug Vollmer from Twin Falls for \$4,400.00 as presented, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

14) 10:27 AM Review and approve invoice from erstad for payment – McMurray

- a) It was discussed that the invoice being presented is for professional services through 2/28/2023.
- b) The invoice would be included in the originally authorized services in the professional services agreement.

10:29 AM **Motion and Action:** Approve payment to erstad in the amount of \$3,680.89 as presented, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

10:30 AM Prosecutor Larsen entered the meeting

SCHEDULED ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

15) 9:19 AM VSO periodic update report

- a) Mr. Driscoll reviewed his report for February and detailed upcoming activities.
- b) His office is working with Vietnam Vets and the View Community to upgrade their marker board and dedicate it on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend.
- c) There is a Vietnam Veterans dinner on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 in which the Daughters of the American Revolution will come to honor them and widows of vets who've passed in service.
- d) Mr. Driscoll explained how a typical home visit is conducted.

16) 9:24 AM Review annual report for the Mini-Cassia Juvenile Probation Center - Stace Geirhart.

- a) Stace Geirhart, District VI Liaison for the Department of Juvenile Corrections gave an annual statistical report to the Commissioners.
- b) In Minidoka and Cassia Counties combined, for the year 2022, there were 112 youth arrests and 198 detention admissions. Both numbers are down from 2021. There were 261 charges filed, of which 18 were felony, 226 were misdemeanor and 17 were status offenses. The felony and status charges were up from 2021 while the misdemeanor charges were down.
- c) Probation success rate for 2022 is 95%, which is very high. This is attributed to the juvenile probation officers working hard with the youth. The success rate for diversion is 60%, which is down from last year's 91%.
- d) The average youth offender in Mini-Cassia area was a 14-16 year-old Hispanic male at 55% at the point of intake. Minidoka and Cassia Counties are two of only four counties with that demographic in the state.
- e) The community service hours the youth have worked to complete is 2,135. This is impressive even for two counties combined, according to Mr. Geirhart. The recidivism rate of the youth is 30%, which can be attributed to home life. If there is a good support structure at home, the youth is less likely to recidivate than those youth without that structure. The state average is between 34%-35%.
- f) The funding received for both counties in 2022 from the Legislative Pass-Through Funds was \$102,944.00 from the Juvenile Correction Act, \$106,029.00 from Tobacco & Cigarettes, and \$15,454.00 from the Lottery.

17) 9:38 AM Reschedule Tax Deed Hearing date and time for 2019 delinquent properties - Treasurer

- a) The Treasurer felt there were still too many people and parcels on her rolls who owed 2019 taxes that she is trying to work with to collect. She has approximately 25 individuals and 83 parcels still to collect on. Her next step would be to order litigation guarantees which cost \$220.00 per parcel. The title companies would combine some parcels fees but not all.
- b) She would like to push out the hearing date to allow more time to collect on the monies owed. She requested moving the hearing date to June 26, 2023 at 9:30 AM. This provides her one month to continue working with the property owners. She will have one property for certain at the time of the hearing because the owner is deceased.

9:47 AM **Motion and Action:** Continue the May 22, 2023 hearing to June 26, 2023 at 9:30 AM, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

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- 18) 9:47 AM Consider property tax exemption request for Waters Edge Fellowship - Assessor
- a) The Assessor's Office received an application for a religious exemption for two parcels.
 - b) There is an active nonprofit organization that claims to be meeting each week in the mobile home.
 - c) Commissioner Beck requested that the Assessor reach out to the applicant and invite them to appear before the Board to answer questions.
 - d) The Assessor also said he would email the statute regarding religious facilities exemption to the Board for their information.
- 19) 9:54 AM Canvass of Votes for the March 14, 2023 Consolidated Election per I.C. 34-1410 - Keck
- a) The Cassia County School District # 151 Plant Facilities Reserve Fund Levy measure passed districtwide with approximately 57% in favor.
 - b) The Power County School District #381 Supplemental Levy passed district wide at approximately 71% in favor.
 - c) The overall voter turnout was 16% with the majority of voters turning out between 4:00 pm and 7:30 pm. The highest precinct turnout was View at 30%. There were 17 new election day registrations overall. A total of 1,646 ballots were cast.
 - d) There will be an election on May 16, 2023 for the City of Burley Library Levy and the Burley Highway District.

10:09 AM **Motion and Action:** Certify the Canvass of the Votes for the March 14, 2023 Consolidated Election, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member.
Motion passed unanimously.

12:05 PM Recess for lunch

1:32 PM Reconvene

20) 1:32 PM Budget Workshops

- a) 1:32 PM Treasurer – Laura Greener
 - i) Treasurer Greener didn't foresee any changes or extraordinary expenses for her budget.
- b) 1:35 PM Assessor and Revaluation – Mart Adams
 - i) They would like to trade their car for a truck as being more practical.
 - ii) They have one vacant appraiser position.
 - iii) HB85 passed by the Governor which will allow the Commissioners to set a fee related to the DMV, effective July 1, 2023.
 - iv) It is possible that the education line may need to be increased due to new employees that will require training.
 - v) They are looking at going to ArcPro mapping, which may not increase in costs if several other departments that use the mapping system combine licenses.

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- c) 1:49 PM Building & Zoning and 911 – Kerry McMurray & Todd Quast
 - i) There may be a need to look at fee increases for building permits and zoning permits. Cassia County is the lowest in the area.
 - ii) 911 is looking at contributing to the new CAD/RMS system that the Sheriff's Office is looking to acquire.
- d) 2:07 PM Public Defender – Tim Schneider
 - i) The office still has open positions. There have been no applications received in nine months.
 - ii) They don't produce any revenue and they don't foresee any extraordinary needs or changes from this year.
- e) 2:12 PM Prosecuting Attorney – McCord Larsen
 - i) Larsen suggested a possible consolidated contract with Tore-Up since several departments use it.
 - ii) He would like his reception area at least finished. He would like to take out the glass window for the reception area and put in a digital system that worked like a Ring doorbell system.
 - iii) He is considering using a forfeited vehicle as an office vehicle. All costs for fuel and maintenance would come from the seized assets line so there would be no additional costs to the County.


UNFINISHED BUSINESS ACTION AGENDA ITEMS

- 21) 2:33 PM Discuss cost of living increases
 - a) Beck wanted to utilize as much time as possible to develop a united effort to present.
 - b) Kunau wanted to see what the State of Idaho does before making any decisions.
 - c) Searle wanted to talk with the Auditor's Office and get more information.
- 22) 2:35 PM Discuss Lava Ridge Resolution
 - a) Prosecutor Larsen pointed out an error with the resolution. There is not a place for Cassia County Commissioners to sign. They added spots for Camas County Commissioners to sign but did not list Camas County in the body of the resolution.
 - b) The Commissioners didn't like the misleading nature of the statement about how much water would be used in the construction of the project. The amount of water reported as estimated to be used is not a significant amount for farmers to be impacted by.
 - c) There also seemed to be contradictions between what was being reported in the newspapers and what was stated in the resolution such as how many of the windmill towers were actually going to be 740 feet tall and how many substations there would actually be. The resolution stated seven substations while reports that Kunau read said only four.
 - d) Beck will call Commissioner Johnson to try to work out the inconsistencies to get the resolution to be as accurate as possible so that it can be signed before their desired due date of April 6, 2023.

23) 2:57 PM Adjourn

2:57 PM **Motion and Action:** Adjourn, **Moved by** Kent R. Searle - Member, **Seconded by** Bob Kunau - Member. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED:



Leonard M. Beck, Chair

DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD:



Sharene Ahlin

Cassia County Commissioner Meeting

Attendance Log

Date: 3/20/2023

NAME (Please Print)	TOWN	REPRESENTING
1. Stace Gearhart	Peritelli	IDJC
2. J. Thompson		CCSO
3. Miyella Manias	Burley	Assessors
4. Matt Adams	Burley	Assessors
5. Laura Guller	Burley	Treasurer
6. George Warrell	Coley	Sheriff
7. Susan Keck	Almo	Elections..
8. Tim Schneider	Burley	P.D.
9. Todd Quast	Rebo	9-1-1
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SUMMARY CLAIMS APPROVAL REPORT INCLUDING BUDGET BALANCES

BOTH UNPAID CLAIMS & DEMANDS GENERAL GOVERNMENT FUNDS

46% OF FISCAL YEAR ELAPSED

* UNAPPROVED DEMANDS APPEAR IN ACTUALS AND ALSO AS AN INVOICE.

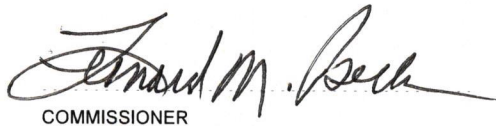
Fund	Budget	Actual	Demand/Claims Amt	Budget Remaining	% Budget Remaining
0001 GENERAL FUND (CURRENT EXPENSE)	5,237,898.00	2,288,839.74	19,292.92	2,949,058.26	56%
0006 DISTRICT COURT	374,120.00	151,004.74	427.50	223,115.26	60%
0008 JUSTICE FUND	12,291,405.00	5,384,685.43	85,653.69	6,906,719.57	56%
0012 M-C MISDEMEANOR PROBATION	1,098,450.00	482,547.83	1,357.08	615,902.17	56%
0013 911 COMMUNICATIONS	871,000.00	73,512.73	4,083.96	797,487.27	92%
0016 SOCIAL SERVICES-ASSISTANCE	747,118.00	89,715.61	18,802.29	657,402.39	88%
0020 REVALUATION	452,825.00	187,365.37	87.63	265,459.63	59%
0027 NOXIOUS WEED & PEST	426,030.00	130,162.35	21,057.90	295,867.65	69%
0032 PREVENTIVE HEALTH FUND	272,300.00	134,898.72	22,684.44	137,401.28	50%
0048 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS FUND	3,621,490.00	1,358,250.00	98,010.65	2,263,240.00	62%
		Total Amount Paid	271,458.06		

STATE OF IDAHO
CASSIA COUNTY

WE, THE CASSIA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, BEING DULY SWORN DO HEREBY CERTIFY AND DECLARE THAT
WE HAVE REVIEWED THE DEMANDS ENUMERATED AND REFERRED TO IN THE FOREGOING REGISTER, AND THAT THE SAME ARE
TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE ACCURATE AND ARE JUST CLAIMS AGAINST THE COUNTY, AND THAT THERE ARE FUNDS
AVAILABLE FOR PAYMENT THEREOF IN THE COUNTY TREASURY.

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION AS OF

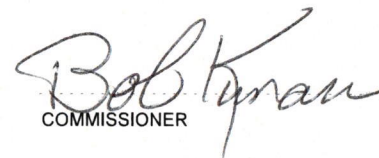
3-20-2023



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

* WARNING: This fund is over budget