

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2009

Present for the meeting were Commissioners Paul Romrell and Skip Hurt.

Commissioner Lee Miller was excused from this meeting due to attendance of RAC meeting.

Also attended by: Clerk Abbie Mace, Deputy Clerk Jody Flores, Prosecuting Joette Lookabaugh, Treasurer Pat McCoy, J'Lene Cherry, Assessor Kathy Thompson

Department Heads & Elected Officials

Assessor Kathy Thompson reported that there is \$43,000,000 in new construction to date and they are still working on this. Discussion was held regarding tax appraisals.

Treasurer Pat McCoy reported that they are continuing to work on pending issues.

Clerk Abbie Mace reported that her trip to Washington D.C. went well. Opportunities for the county to attain stimulus funds will be miniscule with most funding only filtering to the state level.

Prosecuting Attorney Joette Lookabaugh stated that her office has been very busy this last week. They are continuing to work on legal issues as they arise.

Commissioner Hurt reported that he has been busy meeting with engineers and land owners etc. Brief overview was given. They are continuing to work with the engineers on finalizing plans.

Commissioner Romrell reported that more layoffs occurred at Five County Detention. There have been a total of 11-12 employee layoffs. Numbers continue to drop coming from the state level. Troy Evans is working on a Joint Powers Agreement between the five counties. Commissioner Romrell also attended a Mental Health Board Meeting in Idaho Falls. The Commissioners were invited to the Search & Rescue Appreciation dinner. He stated his gratitude and appreciation for this organization and their service to this county. Discussion was held regarding RAC grant requests. The Board would like to see these requests come to the Commissioners so that they are aware of what is being submitted.

Sheriff Len Humphries reported that they have had a very busy week in his department. They made a couple of arrests in regard to the burglaries in Ashton and Island Park. They also made traffic stop that netted four arrests on drug charges. They also seized a considerable amount of money. Joette Lookabaugh commended the deputies for calling on her while at the stop regarding search warrants. This is beneficial and lessens the possible loopholes. The sheriffs department currently has 20 inmates in custody.

Kellie Eager & Owen McLaughlin of the Eastern Idaho Public Health Department (Island Park Water Quality)

Commissioner Romrell gave a brief overview and history of the water quality studies in the Island Park area. Ms. Eager and Mr. McLaughlin were introduced. Water studies indicate an upward trend of human bacteria due to increased usage in the area, but levels are still within the acceptable EPA standards. The Board wants to actively address this issue before it reaches a crisis point that involves DEQ and the Public Health Department.

Ms. Eager stated that they would like to use tracer tablets to try and determine if properties have proper working sewer systems. These tablets would be flushable and would produce a colorful plume if the system has a leak. The tablets would need to be methodically dealt with; some scheduling would be needed. Cooperation with property owners is necessary. If they do not

choose to cooperate, they may need support from the county. Those without the proper documentation of a proper sewer system would be targeted first. They will come before the Board again on May 11th with Keller & Associates also being involved. Education for homeowners on septic care and maintenance is needed.

Fremont County Fairboard Chairman Sid Keller (State of Fremont County Fairgrounds)

Mr. Keller presented a handout on Fair Board expenditures etc. Most all of the monies spent were done so locally. Accomplishments of 2008 were outlined and goals from 2009 reviewed. Watering the arena is still a big issue. They are currently watering with dragging hoses across from the fire hydrant.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed racetrack. The Commissioners would like the Fair Board to develop a master plan and then hold a public hearing.

Bid Opening for Macks Inn Sewer Storage Building

The following bids were submitted and reviewed for the Macks Inn Sewer Storage Building (The "a" schedule indicates steel construction and "b" indicates wood construction):

- Double E Construction: \$171,320 (a)
- Ron Palmer Construction: \$212,447.65 (a)
\$200,525 (b)
- Bloom Construction: \$200,329.51 (b)
- Larry Chapple Construction: \$199,680 (b)
- DePatco Construction: \$230,862 (a)
\$244,631 (b)
- Western Builders: \$180,449 (b)
- Harold Harris Construction: \$161,034
- Shook Construction: \$186,674 (a)
\$183,830 (b)

Commissioners directed Public Works Director Marla Vik to review the bid and report back later today.

Carlos Aponte (Executive Session IC67-2345 (b) Insurance Review)

Commissioner Romrell made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC67-2345 (b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student at 11:31a.m. Commissioner Hurt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Romrell voting "I" and Commissioner Hurt voting "I". Commissioner Romrell declared the meeting open at 11:58a.m.

Public Works Director Marla Vik (Department Reports)

Problems with Harris Bids and he did not properly fill out some of the blanks within the application. Clarification was made and missing figures was included in the submitted bid for the building. Per Joette Lookabaugh, contractor indicated on the application that those numbers were included on the original submitted bid. Commissioner Hurt made a motion to accept the construction bid from Harold Harris Construction for the Macks Inn Sewer Storage Building in the amount of \$161,034. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all voting in favor.

Road & Bridge:

Ms. Vik reported that the BLM has been raising the price per yard on gravel taken from the Meadow Creek gravel in Island Park. Rate has been raised their price from \$0.50 to \$1.00 per cubic yard. The county has been charging the public \$2.50 per cubic yard. Questioned if we

should raise the price we are charging the public for gravel from that gravel pit. Discussion was held. A rate change will need to be addressed through the public hearing process.

Sewer System:

They are scheduled to meet with the Forest Service on April 7th to discuss the NEPA requirements for the land application field expansion. Discussion was held regarding the difficulty finding a deed for the property next to Vern Harris. The Board questioned if she has looked into hiring a surveyor to finalize that deed. The Prosecuting Attorney will review a legal description and have it recorded.

Planning & Building Administrator Kurt Hibbert (Department Reports)

Mr. Hibbert presented request for Storm Water Training for Joshua Chase. A handout was given. Discussion was held regarding a transportation access plan to Highway 20 in Island Park. He will be requesting that no claims be paid out of his budget without his authorization. He has been receiving feedback and concerns on insurance. Brief discussion was held. He will be down one employee for 12 weeks – he will not hire for that position. Discussion was held regarding the proposed Cabin Rental Ordinance.

Prosecuting Attorney Joette Lookabaugh, Josh Warnke, & Lisa Turner (Email Retention Policy)

Discussion was held regarding Email Retention Policy. Joette consulted with with ICRMP on this matter and was informed that this is good practice to do so for two years. Commissioner Hurt made a motion to approve the Computer and Internet Security SOP by Resolution 2009-10. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all voting in favor.

Planning & Zoning Planner Joshua Chase / Tom Jernigan (Fairground Rezoning & Request for Approval of Race Track)

Overview was given of the purpose and reason for zone changes to the fairgrounds. Mr. Chase recommends that a public hearing be held with those within 300 ft of the fairgrounds on these changes. Discussion was held.

Discussion was held regarding racetrack. The Board encouraged Mr. Jernigan to participate in the process of formulating a master plan with Fair Board Chairman Sid Keller. The Commissioners voiced their support of putting something at the fairgrounds, but feel the proper planning and considerations need to be made.

Executive Session IC67-2345 (f)

Commissioner Romrell made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC67-2345 (f) to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement at 2:51 p.m. Commissioner Hurt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Romrell voting "I", Commissioner Hurt voting "I", and Commissioner Miller voting "I". Commissioner Romrell declared the meeting open at 3:01 p.m.

Social Services Debbie Adams (Indigent Claims)

Commissioner Romrell made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 67-2345 (d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code at 3:04 p.m. Commissioner Hurt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Romrell voting "I", Commissioner Hurt voting "I", and Commissioner Miller voting "I". Commissioner Romrell declared the meeting open at 3 20 p.m.

Commissioners signed one new lien and three releases of lien.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve case #G09-68. Commissioner Hurt seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all voting in favor.

GIS Administrator Bonnie Moore (Executive Session IC67-2345 (b))

Commissioner Romrell made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC67-2345 (b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student at 3:27 p.m. Commissioner Hurt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Romrell voting "I", Commissioner Hurt voting "I", and Commissioner Miller voting "I". Commissioner Romrell declared the meeting open at 3:38 p.m.

Brent Singleton (Gravel Sources)

Mr. Singleton came before the Board to discuss the possibility of the county purchasing 67 acres as a possible gravel source. There are no issues for access and the property is currently zoned for commercial/industrial use. The purchase price would be \$10,000. Discussion was held regarding the cost.

Items to Discuss

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to authorize Commissioner Romrell to sign the Milfoil Grant acceptance letter. Commissioner Romrell seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with Commissioners Hurt and Romrell voting in favor.

Discussion was held regarding the Last Chance Sewer Line Extension LID. The current balance is \$206,129.89.

Clerk Abbie Mace stated that she has been made aware that gravel pit royalties are increasing. Brief discussion was held.

Discussion was held regarding a grazing lease on 26 acres by Hale Canyon Estates. The Forest Service has requested that we post this opening in a prominent place in the courthouse.

Discussion was held regarding fairground expansion – race tracks etc. The Board wants these ideas to go through the Fair Board so that they are aware and have a say in those expansion ideas. Final approval could possibly come through the Board of Commissioners. Through the public hearing process, the zone change was made.

Commissioner Miller reviewed the approved requests for the RAC grant. The following requested amounts were approved:

- Aquatic Nuisance: \$66,000 (first year)
\$66,000 (second year)
- Duck Creek / Henry's Fish Passage: \$30,000
- Grandview Boat Launch: \$5,000
- Power Creek Fish Passage: \$20,000

Thus being no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned.

Paul Romrell, Chairman
Fremont County Commission

Attest: _____
Abbie Mace, Clerk