

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2011

Present for the meeting was: Commissioners Skip Hurt, Lee Miller and Jordon Stoddard,

Also attended by: Deputy Clerk Jody Flores, Deputy Clerk Jeanie Chavez, Prosecuting Attorney Joette Lookabaugh, Juvenile Probation Administrator Darin Burrell, Extension Agent Lance Ellis, Weed Administrator Bryce Fowler, Emergency Management Coordinator Keith Richey, 4-H Coordinator Dana Miller, Sheriff Len Humphries, Five County Detention Administrator Nicky Chavez, IT Administrator Lisa Turner, Chief Deputy Treasurer J'lene Cherry, Assessor Kathy Thompson, Planning & Building Administrator Stephen Loosli, Island Park Sewer Supervisor Dan Lostutter

Commissioner Hurt called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

Budget Review with Department Heads and Elected Officials

Commissioner Hurt stated that this was an informal meeting to discuss this year's budget and that it has been sent to the media. No major changes may be made at this time. Commissioner Hurt expressed appreciation to those who made cuts to their budgets. The Commission is glad to announce that no positions or salaries were cut. The cuts that were made came from travel, supplies etc. budget line items. There will be a 3% raise to employees across the board – this is a result of cuts that were made.

Discussion was held regarding changes to the insurance program for the county. It was decided that we will now be insured thru Pacific Source for our medical insurance. The Commissioners met with Pacific Source Area Manager Travis Packer and was impressed with what the company had to offer. This will be a fully funded insurance program that is similar to Blue Cross. Employees will be asked to pay a small portion of the premium – raises should offset most of this cost in approximately 95% of cases. Contributions to HRA VEBA will be discontinued. Balances that are remaining in the employees accounts will remain for their use or savings. The wellness program will also be discontinued. Commissioner Miller stated that they feel this was the best they could find. Transition will be simple for employees with dental coverage remaining the same.

Coverage with the new insurance will begin October 1st. The Commissioners strongly encourage employees to check with their medical providers to ensure all billing matters have been submitted and taken care of before this date. The new insurance company will not cover any of the carry over. There will be mandatory employee meetings on the insurance August 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

Deductibles will be carried forward from Meritain to Pacific Source. This means that any deductible that has been met while insured with Meritain will be carried to the new company thru the end of the year. Deductibles were reduced from \$2000 per individual and \$4000 for the family to \$1000 per individual and \$2000 for families.

Discussion was held regarding the budget. Some departments will see additional cuts other than what was originally planned. The Commissioners stated that they tried to keep these cuts to training, travel and supplies etc. Anyone who has any issues with their budgets may return this

afternoon to discuss these issues further in detail with the Board. Brief explanation was given on the IT Department budget and reimbursement for cell phones.

Commissioner Hurt stated that some employees will receive more of a raise but this was because they were at the bottom of the pay scale. Brief discussion was held and example was given. Approximately 25% of the revenue for the budget comes from property tax – the remaining is collected from other revenue sources such as, landfill and sewer fees and sales tax etc.

Commissioner stated that some monies were put back into indigent services. This fund is more speculative.

Discussion was held regarding some changes to certain positions. The Parks and Recreation Department was moved to the Annex Building and now is under the Planning & Building Administrator Stephen Loosli.

Planning & Building Administrator Stephen Loosli RE: Final Plat and Development Agreement for Rivers Edge Subdivision

Mr. Loosli stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission met August 1st and unanimously approved the final plat and development agreement for the Rivers Edge Subdivision. This is the first phase. Mr. Loosli commented that the only recommendation from the P&Z Commission was that there was indication of the 50 foot setback from the river.

Commissioner Hurt made the motion to approve the Final Plat of Rivers Edge Phase 1 to be signed later today after other signatures are obtained. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Social Services – Debbie Adams Re: Indigent Claims

Commissioner Skip Hurt 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 11:07 a.m. Commissioner Lee Miller seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Jordon Stoddard voting "Aye", Commissioner Lee Miller voting "Aye", and Commissioner Hurt voting "Aye". Commissioner Skip Hurt declared the meeting open at 11:12 a.m.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to deny case #M2011-32. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Eastern Idaho State Fair Representative Corey Foster RE: Fair Update/Discussion

Mr. Foster presented a package to the board with their gate passes and concert tickets. There will be big changes this year. The grandstands have been painted and the appearance is much better. Brief discussion was held regarding 4H projects and prize monies that are available. Mr. Foster stated that he would like more kids from area to receive these funds.

Emergency Management Services Coordinator Keith Richey RE: Western States Fuel Reduction Project Grant

Discussion was held regarding the Western States Fuel Reduction Project Grant. Administration of this grant would cost \$42,750 thru Northwest Management. Mr. Richey visited the project site

which is located in Potpourri Subdivision 1, 2, and 3 with approximately 250 homeowners. This is a huge project and he feels that the county is receiving a really good deal. Recommendation was made for the Commissioners to sign the grant administration contract.

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to approve and sign the grant administration contract for the Western States Fuel Reduction project. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all Commissioners voting in favor.

Public Works Director Marla Vik RE: Department Reports

Road & Bridge: Discussion was held regarding the meeting with the Department of Lands about the Meadow Creek gravel pit. They would like an attendant on site when it is open for slash. Ms. Vik is proposing to open it for three hours on Wednesday mornings with one of the landfill attendants there. We will have to update the mineral lease and reclamation plans – the sticking point will be if they insist on putting up a fence.

The St. Anthony Road & Bridge Crew is working on the roadway by the Salem Road bridges this week. Butler Engineering has a revised proposal to inspect the Fun Farm Bridge Rehab work. Brief discussion was held.

Sewer: Ms. Vik is trying to set up an appointment to meet with Monica Dexter this week that has the cleaning contract for the county restrooms at Macks Inn.

Landfill: They will be pulling more water tests next week.

Budget Discussion

Juvenile Probation Administrator Darin Burrell expressed his appreciation to the Commissioners for all of their hard work. Vehicle usage was also discussed.

Assessor Kathy Thompson stated that she was good with her budget. Discussion was held regarding cell phone usage and her laptop computer. She stated that she would be willing to bring her computer from home and repair costs would be approximately \$200. This would be cheaper for the county rather than purchasing a new one.

Commissioner Hurt made a motion to approve repairs to Kathy Thompson's laptop for approximately \$200. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Miller made the motion to approve the claims as submitted. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all voting in favor.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

Skip Hurt, Chairman
Fremont County Commission

Attest: _____
Jeanie Chavez, Deputy Clerk