

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF THE MARCH 2023 SESSION**

Fifth Day

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chair Muffy Davis, Vice-Chair Angenie McCleary; County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy; Commissioners Assistant Jenny Lovell, County Administrator Services Director Kristy Heitzman, Administrative Assistant Morgan Baird, Blaine County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham, Human Resources Generalist Justin Highhouse, IT Security/Network Engineer Jon Eaton, Noxious Weed Supervisor John Cenarrusa, Blaine County Disaster Services Coordinator Chris Corwin, Blaine County Treasurer John David Davidson, Blaine County Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Tim Graves, Appraiser David Vanderpool, Appraiser Gretchen Stinnett, Blaine County Land Use and Building Services Director Tom Bergin, Land Use and Building Services Permit Technician Tina Lewis, Floodplain Manager Kristine Hilt, Blaine County Prosecuting Attorney Matt Fredback, Deputy Clerk-Auditor-Recorder Brooke Baird, Deputy Clerk-Auditor-Recorder Hal Jardine, and Deputy Clerk-Auditor-Recorder Joana Guerrero, Volare Communications Debra Grigsby, *Idaho Mountain Express* staff writer Mike Shultz was present for the morning session.

Some participants in this meeting were by web conference or teleconference.

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The room had a moment of silence in honor of Commissioner Dick Fosbury who passed on March 12, 2023.

- Davis shared kind words and thoughts.
- McCleary shared kind words and thoughts.
- IT Security/Network Engineer Jon Eaton shared kind words and thoughts on behalf of the IT department.
- Lili Simpson shared kind words and thoughts.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Present; Lili Simpson, Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve Superintendent Wade Vagias, Rebecca Patton, Brian Bean.

- Lili Simpson suggested the Bike/Ped Committee include a representative from each municipality and to consider allowing the public to join as well.
- Craters of the Moon National Monument & Preserve Superintendent Wade Vagias is requesting support from the County regarding the Tomcat Hill project. Vagias stated he has tried to contact ITD and discuss his concerns with the project but has been unsuccessful. Vagias is concerned with the impact the Tomcat Hill project will have on wildlife, higher traffic speeds, and aesthetics. Vagias would prefer the District 4 to manage the project instead of the Region 6, since a majority of the project would be in District 4 lands.
- Lava Lake Ranch Owner Brian Bean would like Region 6 to relinquish management over the Tomcat Hill project and allow the District 4 to manage it. Brian Bean is concerned with the impact the Tomcat Hill Project will have.
- Landowner & Wood River Land Trust Board Member Rebecca Patton is concerned that straightening the road will impact the surrounding wildlife. She questioned if ITD performed a wildlife impact study? Patton doesn't believe ITD is being transparent or considering public comments.

McCleary replied to Simpson's comment on the bike/ped plan. The group continuously looks for ways to engage with the public.

McCleary received emails with similar concerns regarding the Tomcat Hill Project. The agenda has a letter regarding the Tomcat Hill project; they will continue the discussion at that time.

Davis requested to amend the agenda and only review time sensitive action items.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to amend the agenda and to continue several items. Indigent Considerations and Executive Session, County Department Reports, Approval of Board of County Commissioner Meeting Minutes, Land Use and Building Services Hearings, Executive Session. Motion passed 2/0.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Junior College Certificate of Residency forms
 - College of Southern Idaho – Spring 2023
Lorena Horne

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Consent Calendar for March 14, 2023. Motion passed 2/0.

TAX CANCELLATIONS

- RP002460000C2 - Common Area - I.C. 63-602C, Tax Exempt

The Wood River Community Association requested a tax exemption for the common area in the amount of \$3,473.43.

- RPH04170080080 - 931 Buckskin Drive - I.C. 63-602G, Homestead

The request is to cancel \$549.48 in property taxes; the homeowners qualify for a homeowner’s exemption.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to cancel the taxes for parcel RP002460000C2 owner Wood River Community Association in the amount \$3,473.43 due to the property being a common area and being exempt by I.C. 63-602C. Motion passed 2/0.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to cancel the taxes for parcel RPH04170080080 owner Lori Dean in the amount of \$549.48, due to homeowner qualifying for the Homeowners Extension under I.C. 63-602C. Motion passed 2/0.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to convene as the Blaine County Ambulance District Board. Motion passed 2/0.

BLAINE COUNTY AMBULANCE DISTRICT

- **Professional Services Agreement with Woolpert Company.** Record #**699348**
 - Blaine County will have a contract for services with Woolpert Company to consolidate the Ambulance District, and Fire Departments/Districts. Hilary Fletcher will be the project manager/facilitator.
 - Woolpert Company sub-contracted AP Triton for data collection. AP Triton will be collecting data such as types of calls, response times, dispatch, response, on scene times, and call costs. The data analysis will allow Fletcher to provide the County, Ambulance District, Fire Departments and municipalities with recommendations, consolidation costs, and savings.
 - Pomeroy informed the Commissioners that the Ambulance District has \$40,000 set aside for professional services, in addition to the monies set aside in the Capital fund. The City of Ketchum is interested in committing funds to explore consolidation. Davis suggested asking all the interested parties to commit funds for the consolidation.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the contract between Blaine County Ambulance District and Woolpert Company for the remainder of FY2023 in an amount not to exceed \$95,000 for facilitation and project management for the consolidation of Fire and EMS Services. Motion passed 2/0.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to reconvene as the Board of Blaine County Commissioners. Motion passed 2/0.

TOMCAT CURVES PROJECT - NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON MIGRATING PRONGHORN AND OTHER WILDLIFE LETTER

- The public has submitted several letters to the Commissioners regarding ITD’s transparency and lack of communication on the Tomcat Hill Project.
- The Commissioners added that the Land, Water and Wildlife Program is supportive of the letter. McCleary will contact District 4 and ITD to discuss a possible request to change project oversight.

No motion was made, the Commissioners agreed to submit a letter.

THE INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE COEXISTENCE NETWORK GRANT SUPPORT LETTER

- Wood River Wolf Project for Non-Lethal Wildlife Mitigation asked for a grant support letter. The grant would fund a co-existence educational podcast/webinar series. The Commissioners added that the Land, Water and Wildlife Program is supportive of the letter.

No motion was made, the Commissioners agreed to submit a letter.

IDAHO RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT LETTER

The U.S Economic Development Administration awarded the Idaho Rural Water Association \$1,400,000 for Idaho’s water and wastewater treatment infrastructures. Idaho Rural Water Association Chris Johnson asked for a support letter.

No motion was made, the Commissioners agreed to submit a letter.

DRAFT SUPPORT LETTER FOR THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT’S (BLM) LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUNDS (LWCF) APPLICATION TO ACQUIRE INHOLDINGS, HUDDLES HOLE AND SNOWDRIFT CRATER FARM

BLM asked for a letter of support regarding land acquisition.

No motion was made, the Commissioners agreed to submit a letter.

LAND USE and BUILDING SERVICES

- **P&Z Discussion: Letter of Support - Warm Springs Preserve**

Wood River Land Trust Program Director Corey McCaffrey informed County Floodplain Manager Kristine Hilt the WRLT is interested in applying for a grant to restore the Warm Springs Preserve. Hilt drafted a letter of support for the Commissioners to review.

No motion was made, the Commissioners agreed to submit a letter.

CONTRACTS, GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS

Present; Blaine County Charitable Fund Executive Director Mary Fauth, Sarah Michael, Friedman Memorial Airport Manager Chris Pomeroy.

- **CWMA Cost Share Request to Accept Funding.** Record #6

County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham requested for the motion to include the award total of \$7,491.75 and the required match of \$16,790.00.

Administrative Assistant Morgan Baird and Grants, Elections and County Services Specialist Deidre Dolce will attend a cost share training and reporting workshop.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the request to accept grant funding from the 2023 Idaho Department of Agriculture's CWMA in the amount of \$7,491.75 and approve County matching funds of \$16,790. Motion passed 2/0.

- **Resolution 2023-09 Idaho Airport Aid Program Grant Offer - Consideration of Recommendation of Acceptance.** Record #669244

The Airport Board recommended for the Commissioners to consider accepting the grant in the amount of \$15,000. The grant is intended to be used to offset the local cost related to the land acquisition last fall.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve Resolution 2023-09 of Blaine County, Idaho accepting the Grant Offer of the State of Idaho through the Idaho Transportation Department, Division of Aeronautics, in the maximum amount of \$15,000.00 to be used under the Idaho Airport Aid Program, FS Program number: F238SUN, Project number: AIP059 in the development of the Hailey-Friedman Memorial Airport; and be it resolved by the Chair and County Commission of Blaine County, Idaho. Sec. 1. That the County shall accept the Grant Offer of the State of Idaho in the amount of \$15,000.00, for the purpose of obtaining State Aid under FS Program Number: F238SUN, Project Number: AIP059 in the development of the Hailey-Friedman Memorial Airport; and Sec. 2. That the Chair of the Blaine County Commissioners is hereby authorized and directed to sign the statement of Acceptance of said Grant Offer on behalf of the County, the County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to attest the signature of the Chair and to impress the official seal of the County on the aforesaid statement of Acceptance; and Sec. 3. A true copy of the Grant Agreement referred to herein is attached hereto and made a part thereof. Motion passed 2/0.

- **Contract for Services - ARPA/SLFRF Reimbursement the Blaine County Charitable Fund, Inc. for hotel rooms.** Record #699443

- The County previously earmarked \$100,000 for the Blaine County Charitable Fund (BCCF); \$50,000 for rental assistance/eviction prevention and \$50,000 for emergency housing/hotel rental assistance.
- The BCCF has served 136 individuals, 47 of those individuals were children.
- The hotel program to date costs \$210,000. The BCCF has received around \$100,000 from private donations. The City of Ketchum awarded \$250,000 to the BCCF to be used for transitional housing.
- The BCCF has assisted five families with secure long-term housing and moving costs.
- Fauth questioned if month-to-month hotel rentals can be considered as long-term rental assistance instead of emergency housing assistance.
- The BCCF received monies from the CARES Act Fund from the Idaho Department of Commerce, however the grant funds are restricted to applicants with documented legal status.
- The Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA) administered the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). The ERAP program provided funding for families in need of emergency housing and utility assistance. IFHA cut funding for emergency hotel rentals in October 2022 due to limited remaining funds, the ERAP program ended in January 2023.
 - There are seventeen families who applied for ERAP but were not approved due to the program ending. The Idaho State Legislature has not approved additional ERAP funding. If they were to deny the additional funding the BCCF would provide the seventeen families with assistance.
- The BCCF may change the amount requested for long-term rental assistance. The J&J families may request additional funding for the mobile home pads installations.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the Contract for Services between Blaine County and Blaine County Charitable Fund for FY2023 for securing hotel room rentals to

provide emergency housing for displaced persons using ARPA/SLFRF Funds in the amount of \$50,000. Motion passed 2/0.

- **Harmony Design and Engineering-Blaine County Community Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan 2022 Update-Revised Scope and Fee Schedule. Record #699354**

The City of Hailey, Ketchum, Sun Valley, and Recreational District agreed contribute equal amounts for the upgraded scoop of work.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve the updated scope of services between Harmony Design and Engineering and Blaine County for the Blaine County Community Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan 2022 Update in the amount not to exceed \$10,150 and for the Cities of Hailey, Ketchum, Sun Valley, and the Blaine County Recreational District to contribute each \$2,030 for the scope of work. Motion passed 2/0.

- **Contract with Brockway Engineering for Bridge and Stream Bank Engineering Services. Record #699354**
 - Commission Fosbury, County Engineer Jeff Loomis, and The Flood Control District put together a contract for Brockway Engineering. They would address the stream bank erosion near the Glendale Road Bridge and provide a stabilization treatment that would protect the exposed abutment above the bridge. Funding for this contract would be from contingency.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve a contract with Brockway Engineering for engineering services for stream work near the Glendale Bridge not to exceed \$12,574 through December 31, 2023, to be paid from contingency. Motion passed 2/0.

RESOLUTION 2023-06 2022 ALL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN ADOPTION Record #699242

- The plan includes projects, mitigation hazards and risks. The County is required to adopt a Hazzard Mitigation Plan to be eligible for hazard mitigation, flood preparedness, wildlife fire protection grants. The County would be able to amend this mitigation plan without having to approve a new resolution.

McCleary moved, seconded by Davis, to approve Resolution 2023-06 a Blaine County Resolution Adopting the 2022 All Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion passed 2/0.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 3:30 p.m., with no more business before them, the County Commissioners adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
 Stephen McDougall Graham Muffy Davis
 County Clerk Chair