

**OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BLAINE COUNTY
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JUNE 2022 SESSION**

First Day

June 8, 2022

Pursuant to Statutory Provisions, the Board of Blaine County Commissioners (BCC) met this day at 9:00 a.m. Present were Chairman Dick Fosbury, Vice-Chairman Angenie McCleary, Commissioner Muffy Davis; Chief Deputy County Clerk Leslie Londos; County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy; Administrative Services Manager Stephanie Carlson; Human Resources Generalist Justin Highhouse; and Recording Secretary Joana Guerrero; *Idaho Mountain Express* staff writer Mike Shultz. Minutes written by Deputy Clerk-Auditor-Recorder Joana Guerrero. Chairman Fosbury called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NONE

**FY2023 COUNTY DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS
WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

BUDGET PROCESS OVERVIEW - County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy

Blaine County upgraded to ClearGov budgeting software this year. The transition was made to streamline the budgeting process for elected officials and department heads. County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham and Pomeroy instructed presenters to modify their presentations and only present key factors in their FY2023 budget requests such as:

1. FY2022 Highlights: Develop a performance matrix for FY2022. Present accomplishments, general FY2022 projects that were completed.
2. FY2023 Highlights: Present and highlight noteworthy request for FY2023.
3. Overview of FY2023 anticipated highlights or anticipated growth within the departments.

**FY2023 COUNTY DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS
WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy

- FY2022 Highlights: The Blaine County campus space evaluation study was completed. The security upgrades for Blaine County facilities are on schedule to be completed in FY2022.
- FY2023 Highlights: The Colorado Bridge project will be moved from FY2022 to FY2023.
- FY2023 Overview: The BCC will discuss the FY2023 reserve funds during the projects and priorities workshop in July.

IDAHO COUNTIES RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (ICRMP) LIABILITY INSURANCE – County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy

- FY2023 Highlights: The ICRMP FY2023 county employee benefit cost will increase by 7.4% making it a total of \$205,452. The total includes the discount the county receives for having employees complete cyber security and online training.

COMMISSIONERS – County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy

- FY2023 Highlights: The Opioid Advisory Committee and BCC would like to use Opioid Settlement funds to create a full-time employee position that would be called County Services Coordinator. The County Services Coordinator would provide services to individuals who are awaiting pre-trial or sentencing that may need public assistance. They would provide assistance with community resources and connect individuals with the correct organizations. Pomeroy is working County Clerk Stephen McDougall Graham on if this employee could assist County Services Department with indigent services.

Blaine County will reserve \$5,000 for a contract for services Spanish translation.

- FY2023 Overview: Blaine County's Drug Court Coordinator is full time position that is 100% funded and contracted through the Fifth District Court. The contractor current commutes from Twin Falls and is not currently serving as a Drug Coordinator fulltime. Pomeroy suggested restructuring the position in the future.

**FY2023 COUNTY DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS
WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS – GIS Manager Sam Young

- FY2022 Highlights: GIS has completed twenty-five projects of the twenty-eight total projects.
- FY2023 Highlights: GIS is requesting for a higher-quality aerial photography service that would benefit the GIS department and other county departments. Young is exploring possible funding possibilities for the aerial photography software.

BREAK

**FY2023 COUNTY DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS
WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

PUBLIC DEFENDER - Chief Public Defender Doug Nelson

Also present; Deputy Public Defender Cheri Hicks; Deputy Public Defender Tom Curl.

- FY2022 Highlights: Public Defenders office has been appointed forty-eight felony cases, one hundred and seventy-eight misdemeanor cases, fourteen juvenile cases and seven mental commitment cases from October 2021 to May 31, 2022.
- FY2023 Highlights: Public Defenders Office increased the budget for FY2023. During COVID-19 they attended Counited Legal Education (CLE) classes remotely. The CLE classes have transitioned back to in-person attendance. These classes require for attorneys to travel. Travel expenses were not budgeted in the previous years. These classes are a requirement by the state of Idaho.
- FY2023: Nelson agreed a County Services Coordinator would be extremely beneficial. Nelson explained most of their clients are in need of public assistance and/or community/county resources. This coordinator would be able to connect with other county departments like probation department, prosecuting attorney office and law enforcement agencies. Both Nelson and McCleary believe that having a coordinator may lessen the number of repeat offenders if they were given the right resources.

BREAK

**FY2023 COUNTY DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS
WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

HUMAN RESOURCES – Human Resources Generalist Justin Highhouse

- FY2022 Highlights: Human Resources Generalist Justin Highhouse has successfully filled seventeen full time employee positions in the past five months. He has scheduled and organized workshop, support groups and classes for employees.
- FY2023 Highlights: Human Resources will update Blaine County mission statement. Highhouse would like to begin awarding employee recognition awards.

**FY2023 COUNTY DEPARTMENT BUDGET HEARINGS
WITH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

SHERIFF - Blaine County Sheriff Steve Harkins

Also present; Chief Deputy Sheriff Will Fruehling; Blaine County Sheriff's Lieutenant Bryan Carpita; Detective Lieutenant Mike Abaid; Patrol Lieutenant Fabrizio Lizano; Patrol Lieutenant Jamie Shaw; Blaine County Jail Administrator Captain Jay Davis; Sheriff Administrative Specialist Holly Carter; Civil Administrator Ginger Clement; Records and Evidence Administrator Marsha Head.

- FY2022 Highlights: Blaine County Sheriffs has spent \$3,500 of the Education Budget on education and training programs. Thirty patrol and detention deputies have taken Implicit Bias Training and over forty other training events both in-house and at the Twin Falls Police Department K9 unit.

The Sheriff's Department created a Hispanic Liaison Team and has attended ten Hispanic community events. This team was created to build a relationship between law enforcement and Blaine County's Hispanic community.

Blaine County Sheriff's Social Media platforms has been constructive. They have been able to alert the public on operational service updates, community public safety information and county services information in real time.

There is one Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) in Blaine County who can evaluate if a person is under the influence. Harkins expects to increase the number of DRE's for FY2023.

There was a false shooting alarm at the Wood River Middle School in May 2022. Blaine County Sheriffs, Hailey, Ketchum Police, Bellevue Marshal, Ketchum and Sun Valley Fire, Wood River Fire and Rescue responded efficiently. Harkins was very pleased departments response time. The false alarm was beneficial and has made local law enforcement, fire district and the school district aware of needed improvements.

- FY2023 Highlights: The Sheriff's Department is ready to begin phase two of the radio replacement plan started in FY2022. The current Motorola XLT2500 mobile radios they have now have reached their end of life. The manufacture will no longer service or provide replacement parts. The replacement radios will be Motorola APX6500 and be on the 700MHz digital network. Having these radios will provide service in areas that cell phones do not have service.

Watchguard Server Upgrade supports Blaine County Sheriff's body and in-car video system. This data has been beneficial for the Prosecuting office, and documents the interaction between officers and offenders.

The Sheriff's department is requesting purchasing three new vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and for Ketchum Patrol. They have three new vehicles that have milage and the cost to repair will only increase. There will also be an increase in vehicle expenses due to inflation in services, parts and fuel. The cost to uplift the three new vehicles will be included in the vehicle expenses budget.

The Sheriff's Department is currently in need of more full-time employees. The department is asking for an increase in the salary budget to accommodate a new FTE. Harkins explained that his department is having problems attracting new hires and the need to have competitive wages. They are also asking for a 9% market increase for the new FTE position and current employees.

- FY2023 Overview: Harkins emphasized that his department is in desperate need of a new FTE. His department is understaffed and with the population influx they are now in more need of an FTE. There has been a significant increase in traffic stops with 16,000 more for FY2022. The Sheriff's Office also patrol waterways and back country areas year-round. They have received positive feedback when patrolling these areas.

Detention Center – Blaine County Sheriff Steve Harkins

- FY2022 Highlights: The Idaho Sheriff Association inspected the detention center and they received a passing grade with no issues. Jail inspector Cindy Malm complimented the detention center stating it is one of the cleanest, well managed and staffed jail in Idaho.

The detention center received safer gym equipment for inmates and washers and dryers for inmate linens.

- FY2023 Highlights: COVID-19 suspended all out-of-county transfers and out-of-county inmate housing for Blaine County. The suspension decreased the detention centers revenue significantly. They were able to start accepting transfers and out of county housing inmates in FY2022. However, the cost of medical services with IV Medical increased by 5% a total of \$12,000 for FY2023. Food Services cost with Summit Food Services increased by 10% a total of \$10,000.

The detention center added a new line item to purchase uniforms and bullet proof vests for detention center employees.

- FY2023 Overview: The detention center will be increasing inmate transfers and housing fees for FY2023. They are requesting to increase overtime and protective custody hours for employees.

KETCHUM POLICE DEPARTMENT – Ketchum Police Chief Jamie Shaw

- FY2022 Highlights: Ketchum Police Department moved into the new City of Ketchum building.

Ketchum-funded Deputy Dallas Faile graduated the P.O.S.T academy and is now scheduled to earn his Basic Patrol Certificate. Sergeant Andrew Schiers and Garrett Ruckel both earned P.O.S.T. Supervisor Certificates.

KPD participated in narcotics training, International Police Mountain Bike Association Certificate Training, Taser and firearm training and Implicit Bias training.

KPD purchased fourteen new Motorola APX6000 that are on the 700MHz digital network.

- FY2023 Highlights: KPD is ready to begin phase two of the radio replacement plan. They will be purchasing the same Motorola APX6500 700MHz digital network mobile radios as the Blaine County Sheriff's.

They have requested to upgrade the Watchguard server. The current server they have now is outdated and has created problems when adding new cameras or when an update is performed. An upgraded version would allow them to add more cameras, more storage room, higher resolution.

KPD has a patrol vehicle that needs to be decommissioned and included the purchase of new uplifted patrol vehicle. KPD also requested a milage reimbursement for KPD officers.

County Administrator Mandy Pomeroy advised Blaine County Sheriff Steve Harkins to apply for the Cop Hiring Grant in FY2023 for FY2024. This grant would be in addition to county funding.

**COMMUNITY SERVICES ORGANIZATION PRESENTED THEIR FY2023 FUNDING REQUESTS
TO THE BLAINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

SOUTHERN IDAHO SOLID WASTE- Southern Idaho Solid Waste Environmental Manager Nate Francisco

Also present; Sustainability Manager Lynne Barker; Southern Idaho Solid Waste Chief Financial Officer Stephanie Kelly; Southern Idaho Solid Waste Daniel Kranz.

- FY2022 Highlights: Southern Idaho Solid Waste created a 5-Year Strategic Plan.
- FY2023 Highlights: Solid Waste will have a market increase of 6% and 2% for merit. The current medical benefit company increased their cost by 34%. Liability insurance increased by 15%.

Solid Waste increased vehicle expenses budget due to the increase inf fuel prices.

They requested for five new FTEs for different locations, one employee would be in Blaine County.

- FY2023 Overview: All surrounding counties charged a travel fee; Blaine County is the furthest station from the land fill. Blaine County will raise the tipping fee prices by 10%.

ADJOURN

At the hour of 4:12 p.m., the BCC finding no more business before them adjourned.

Attest: _____ Approved _____
 Stephen McDougall Graham Dick Fosbury
 County Clerk Chairman