

**JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 24, 2021**

Meeting called to order at 9:00. Those present are Commissioner Clark, Commissioner Young, Chairman Hancock, Prosecutor Mark Taylor, Emergency Management Rebecca Squires, Treasurer Kristine Lund, Assessor Jessica Roach, Extension Lorie Dye, Sheriff Steve Anderson, Probation Tammy Adkins, Noxious Weeds & Invasive Species Mitch Whitmill, Public Works Dave Walrath, IT Garn Herrick, Clerk Colleen Poole; Audrey Moon is clerk of the board. Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Young. Prayer offered by Chairman Hancock.

**DUE TO COVID-19 COMMISSIONER MEETING WILL BE HELD IN PERSON OR ON ZOOM.**

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**COMMISSIONERS – ELECTED OFFICIALS – DEPARTMENT HEADS**

• **STAFF MEETING**

**9:03:30 AM** Extension Office Lorie Dye said they are moving forward with the youth programs. Chairman Hancock asked on the new pickup. Lorie said they have not heard anything yet. Is really hopeful they will get this soon.

**9:04:31 AM** Public Works Dave Walrath have three employees out that have tested positive. They will be back on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Will be getting another quote for a compactor today. Really nice text from Weston this weekend who had went to the landfill and was very complimentary. Gearing up for a busy season starting next month. With the wind today will have a lot of garbage out at Circular Butte.

**9:06:03 AM** Treasurer Kristine Lund said they have their tax deed hearing later today. Only have six parcels for this. After this is waiting for June collection. A lot of refinancing makes these payments come in earlier.

**9:06:31 AM** Assessor Jessica Roach they are stuffing assessment notices to be sent out next Friday. There will be a letter trying to explain the increase in values. The new DMV employee started today. Came from Bonneville County so just threw her right in. Know they have had comments on the wait but there are a lot of variables with the new system. Chairman Hancock asked on the new system will this get better or faster at some point. Jessica said no. It is a mixture of growth and the system is twice as slow. Was told it is what it is at this point. Know they get phone calls but it's not like they are not working. They are working all day long. This is what they have been given and are doing the best they can. Rebecca said this is public procurement rules where they get the system that costs the least. Jessica knows the Courts have had some of the same issues. Bonneville is a four hour wait so they are getting some from there. Hard to turn people away after they have waited in line. Everybody that can mail in has been the majority of the day is new vehicle title. Have titles coming from dealers.

**9:10:28 AM** Sheriff Anderson said ITD put out a system that is not vetted it doesn't work. Then ITD puts more unfunded mandates on the county. They got the cheapest system they could and does not believe there will be a fix. In their office had to shut down and do training. Did get a \$5 increase and that still does not cover the costs. With everything that's been going on in the county thinks they have handled this well. Met with Senator Burtenshaw and Representative Furniss and the support they are getting from Boise is good. Rebecca said it was the best worst day ever. Chairman Hancock said they got their new vehicles. Sheriff Anderson said they did. Chairman Hancock asked on the state bid. Dave said this depends on vehicle types as well.

**9:13:50 AM** Probation Tammy Adkins does not have anything. It is business as usual. Courts will be opening up a little bit more around June 1. Chairman Hancock asked Tammy to come and talk to him about their drug court after the meeting.

**9:14:35 AM** Noxious Weeds & Invasive Species Mitch Whitmill said they are out treating roadways and got some shoulder treatments done. Wind and the rain is their nemesis. Working with ITD to create zones along the I-15 corridor to attract the monarch butterflies to use this corridor to commute. Chairman Hancock asked if they will plant milkweed. Mitch said it's possible. Also the website they have their weather stations on had some people that wanted the wind direction meter is traveling the direction of the dial.

**9:17:53 AM** IT Garn Herrick said there were four people that clicked on their latest phishing attempt. Good job on not clicking on these things. Next is showing them their new website this goes live next week on June 1. Have a rotating photo screen with buttons. Will have a calendar and highlights on news within the county. Each department will be in charge of their content. It will be reviewed prior to being published. This is a big improvement and a long time coming. Rebecca said they may be adding an intranet for the employee only section. When they get signed in will have all of the policies together, SOP's, time card portal and Sendio. Garn said it will be jcgov.us. Emails will follow eventually. Rebecca said they did a training last week only had so many slots open. Will work with the rest of the departments to get someone trained.

**9:22:31 AM** Emergency Management/HR Rebecca Squires said they have a Community Recovery Committee for the school shooting to help with coordination. The main focus is on support for victims and finding avenues for these individuals. Will have the Sheriff, Prosecutor, Superintendent and a counselor coming in. There is a Zoom option for those that cannot come in person. On the HR side if the evaluations are not done they are late. Please get these completed as they are your tools for budgeting. Jessica asked for any active shooting trainings here at the courthouse. Rebecca said they could have an active shooting training will coordinate with the Sheriff's Office.

**9:24:34 AM** Prosecutor Mark Taylor echoes the sentiments of the Sheriff that nothing is happening. In all honesty they are actually quite busy. Are fully staffed. Now it is getting the workflow down. The budget they have turned in had some savings but thinks there will be some costly litigations coming.

**9:25:53 AM** Clerk Colleen Poole would like to reiterate what Tammy said. The Courts will be opening up and are allowed to have jury trials. Will be having one weekly for the foreseeable future. Thanks everyone that has for turning their budgets in. If they have not please do so as soon as possible. Also revenues are now due if they have not already been turned in. If they need either conference room then there is no charge if they

have one in the evening there is a \$25 charge. Reminds them if they have one in the evening there is a rental fee that is charged if it is not county related.

[9:27:07 AM](#) Commissioner Clark wants to express his appreciation to everyone.

[9:27:19 AM](#) Commissioner Young is happy they are done with the subdivision ordinance amendments. No longer have the moratorium in the county.

[9:27:41 AM](#) Chairman Hancock thanks everyone for being here. Throws out a special thanks for the Sheriff and First Responders. Reached out that day and are here to support them all. Knows this is a difficult and trying time. Appreciates everyone's effort. Knows that Emergency Management was out helping and providing meals. Had several calls from their Detention Center who have not had anything this high profile there. Thanks everyone thinks things will get back to normal. Encourages everyone to get their vaccinations.

## **NOXIOUS WEEDS & INVASIVE SPECIES – MITCH WHITMILL**

### **• COST SHARE AGREEMENT – (ACTION ITEM)**

[9:30:02 AM](#) Mitch said he sent an email to them last week on the cost share agreement with the State of Idaho. They are behind on getting this in for getting a signature. They are all part of the cooperative weed management. According to High Country RC&D they just need any signature from one of the commissioners to activate this. Asked if they had any questions. Commissioners did not have any questions. Mark said he has not reviewed this it is probably still in his inbox.

[9:31:40 AM](#) Mitch said they have a lot of legal individuals that review this. This is something they sign each year. The only change is there are grants that change from year to year. The county has two projects on this grant. For compensation for private landowners that ISDA pays the cost for the herbicides and for the sage grouse habitat. Working with the INL to purchase a drill to allow the public to use as well. They have been awarded a pretty good amount this year. Gives the taxpayers some of their money back.

[9:33:55 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to approve the cost share agreement with Idaho State Department of Agriculture. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS – DAVE WALRATH**

### **• UPDATE**

[9:35:12 AM](#) Dave said they are trying out a mower will be using this on the ski hill road. This has an arm that can extend and this can take out trees. Their seasonal employees start back next Tuesday. Looking forward to next year would like to buy another dump truck. Will have to pay off the grader thinks it's around \$165,000. On the Kettle Butte Dairy project thanks Mark for his efforts. Thinks this clears the way for progress. With any federal project this is a reimbursement situation. Has submitted a claim for Horrocks being paid through April 30. Will get reimbursed eighty percent. Had a meeting with the Development Company and the engineers last week.

[9:39:52 AM](#) Will be busy out at Circular Butte. When the wind blows Bonneville takes their trash out there. They keep the working face small. Chairman Hancock asked about the possibility of putting up dividers. Dave said they had a meeting and talked about operations. Will stop taking garbage at 4:00. This will help them to get the needed cover on each night. Added another operator position for the next fiscal year. Mentioned that Bingham wants to come. Dave said the shields have come up. The seasonal employee will be picking garbage and will put together an agreement with the work camp to pick garbage. Will be a little short-handed this week.

[9:42:40 AM](#) Commissioner Clark said they had a question on a claim a hitch for a pickup was \$2,500. Dave said this was for three vehicles. Commissioner Young asked on the tires for Solid Waste. Dave said that is just one tire.

[9:45:13 AM](#) Chairman Hancock asked if the scales have been adequate. Dave said the scales came up at the meeting. A lot of trucks come in too hot and leave too hot. Is going to put in some speed bumps before and after. Chairman Hancock said that Ted does a good job out there. Dave said he does know that they are stressed with the increased quantity. Will be hiring out there. It has been challenging.

## **COMMISSIONERS**

### **• CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCY – (ACTION ITEM)**

[9:47:06 AM](#) Audrey said on this the certificate it was turned in late. Have talked to the mom and the college. Was told to proceed with our procedure of denial.

[9:47:13 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Clark to deny certificate of residency for the College of Western Idaho for Justyce Abernathy due to application being turned in late. Second by Commissioner Young. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

### **• APPROVE COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES – (ACTION ITEM)**

[9:49:36 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Clark to approve commissioner meeting minutes from May 10, 2021 with noted change. Second by Commissioner Young. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

[9:52:02 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to approve commissioner meeting minutes from May 17, 2021 with noted change. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

### **• APPROVE CLAIMS – (ACTION ITEM)**

[9:53:18 AM](#) Chairman Hancock said they had the one question on the hitches. Then have the public defender in a court line. Colleen said she has that one marked. Chairman Hancock said they had quite an expense for an autopsy. Asked on the Fair support what does this cover it is not  
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*May 24, 2021*

broken out. Audrey said this is usually their allocation. On the claim have this broken out some. County support for Rigby \$17,292, Mud Lake \$11,528, General \$2,500, 4-H \$9,000, and FFA \$5,000. Believes then Ruth puts this into the Fair account and keeps track what this is used for.  
[10:00:07 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to approve claims from 5/10/2021 to 5/21/2021 for \$468,665.01. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

#### **PLANNING & ZONING – KEVIN HATHAWAY – JENNY KERR**

- **WRITTEN DECISION – SOUTH FORK BUSINESS PARK – (ACTION ITEM)**

[10:02:58 AM](#) Jenny has the written decision from South Fork Business Park. (Exhibit A)

[10:03:15 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to approve the written decision for South Fork Business Park. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

- **UPDATE**

[10:03:44 AM](#) Erik hands out the update. (Exhibit B) As they can see a few have eleven days. Usually the Building Official only schedules five inspections in the morning then works on these in the afternoon. Lately he has had to go out on inspections in the afternoon as well. Shows that the inspections have picked up. That is the reason for some of the permits taking a little longer. Generally they are pretty consistent with the year. Chairman Hancock said they are moving along. Erik said they are now they have the ordinance adopted. Also have gotten someone hired for their open position.

#### **INSURANCE – CARLOS APONTE**

- **REPORTS – AGGREGATE SETTLEMENT – (ACTION ITEM)**

[10:07:15 AM](#) Carlos has some good information today. They actually got a check a few weeks ago from Blue Cross on an aggregate settlement on last year's contract. What happens is they go through claims and reconcile and make sure everything is allocated. They got an \$86,000 check back. When Marilyn called he suggested they put this in the VEBA account. There was some confusion on this. Couple weeks ago there was a notice that came out from a lawsuit that was settled with Blue Cross and Blue Shield. There was a notice going out to individuals relaying information on getting money on a settlement. Getting a lot of phone calls. These are two separate things this was part of the aggregate settlement. All Blue Cross and Blue Shield has given for this is an 800 number that discusses in greater detail if people get anything from a settlement. This has nothing to do with Idaho this is part of the national plan. If people have questions they can call and they will revert them back to this site.

[10:11:37 AM](#) Carlos said next has been doing some research the last little bit to see what is out there for telehealth. Came across this company a few months ago. Are offering telemedicine that compares to Teladoc. Still working on some numbers. If this works out the way he envisions they could possibly go a step beyond Teladoc. This is First Stop Help. They offer the ability to speak to actual physicians. Have some unique items. They have a performance guarantee. As part of the fee they will guarantee a return on the service fee. If they do not hit that then they give the county back a portion of the fee. With this program it can be used for mental health resources. Some companies have limits but this is unlimited. This is included in the actual program with telehealth. Trying to negotiate so they can come in less than they are paying right now. This is something they can move forward with even before open enrollment. Could come and introduce this to employees.

[10:17:36 AM](#) Chairman Hancock would like to see cost and response time. Carlos asked if they want to do a full presentation. Commissioner Clark thinks he could just bring the data back in and then they can discuss this. Carlos is confident that they will get this below cost.

#### **SOCIAL SERVICES – AMY JOHNSON**

- **EXECUTIVE SESSION 31-874 & 74-206 (D) – RECORDS EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE – (ACTION ITEM)**

[10:21:09 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Clark to go into executive session 74-206 (D) – Records exempt from disclosure. Second by Commissioner Young. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

- **APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF INDIGENCY APPLICATION – (ACTION ITEM)**

**Open session 10:29**

[10:29:13 AM](#) Chairman Hancock said they discussed an indigent case and payment.

[10:29:36 AM](#) Recess

**Open session 11:01**

#### **TREASURER – KRISTINE LUND**

- **TAX DEED HEARING – (ACTION ITEM)**

[11:01:27 AM](#) Kristine Lund has passed out the tax deed agenda. (Exhibit C)

[11:01:47 AM](#) First is Legacy Development on parcel #RP0048001011A. This piece of ground is 2.05 acres between Lakewood and Riverbend Estates. This was originally platted as a common area. Kendall for a few years paid taxes on this was hoping an adjoining landowner would take care of this. Generally this type of area is taken care of by a homeowners association. Riverbend never had an association. Legacy Development is a dissolved entity so nobody is left to sign a quitclaim Deed if anyone would be willing to pay the taxes and take over. A tax deed is recommended with an auction date ninety days out. Chairman Hancock said the people in the subdivision could take this over. Kristine said there were key people of Legacy Development. Still working on this. If this is past the tax deed time they can redeem this. If they do a tax deed auction notifies anyone with touching property so they know this property touching them is up for sale. This is a hope that the county can transfer this property. Commissioner Young asked if there is access. Kristine said the access is through the subdivision because it was a common area.

[11:07:22 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Clark to issue a tax deed on Legacy Development on parcel #RP004840010011A and will go forward with a sale in ninety days. Second by Commissioner Young. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

[11:08:29 AM](#) Kristine said the next one is the same owner with two parcels. First is parcel #RP04N40E201450. This is 25.59 acres of farm ground. Mr. Brown has been sent notices and has signed for them. Have had zero communications. These properties are common, but have never made it to a tax deed. Has recommended a tax deed for May of 2022. The other parcel is #RP04N40E207840 this is the residence and 3.67 acres. Also again Mr. Brown has been sent notices that have been signed for with zero communication. Would recommend a tax deed for May of 2022.

[11:10:03 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to issue a tax deed on parcel #RP04N40E201450 and #RP04N40E207840 to be held by May of 2022. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

[11:10:44 AM](#) Kristine said the next property is owned by Dial Properties parcel #RP05N39E327372. This is a small strip of ground that was left between residential lots and commercial lots. Devin Dial has received a legal and would do a quitclaim to anyone wanting to take over on this but have yet to be notified on this. Tax deed is recommended with ninety days out. The Assessor's Office went through the motions to get them a complete legal description.

[11:12:24 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Clark to issue a tax deed on parcel #RP05N39E327372 and set this within ninety days. Second by Commissioner Young. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

[11:13:02 AM](#) Kristine said on the last property have Louise Keele on parcel #RPB0175011003D. This is .11 acres. Ms. Keele had a mobile home on this property that caught fire. The City of Ririe had to clean up the property that has resulted in a city lien. Has been in touch with both lien holders on the property. Mr. Keele has walked away from this. Requests a tax deed with ninety day sale. Had pulled this last year from the tax deed hearing. Has been careful making sure everyone has been notified and knows what is going on.

[11:15:12 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to issue a tax deed sale on parcel #RPB0175011003D within the next ninety days. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

[11:15:54 AM](#) Kristine said that is everything for this year's tax deed. They do have some parcels that need to be purchased that they will be working on.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/HR – REBECCA SQUIRES**

### **• COMMUNITY RECOVERY COMMITTEE UPDATE**

[11:16:41 AM](#) Rebecca brought this up earlier. They have a committee with the Sheriff's Office, School District, Upper Valley Advocacy, Prosecutors, City of Rigby Police Department, herself, Red Cross and possibly others. This is to find the doors for those that need assistance feeling safe. Looking at cost recovery options. This is a different source of funding which she is not as familiar with. There is a community meeting at South Fork at 4:00. Invites them to come if they can. Asked if they have any visions or goals.

[11:18:29 AM](#) Chairman Hancock said this was not good this happened but has helped make them more aware. Allows them to look at safety measures. Commissioner Clark said they are seeing support available. Commissioner Young asked if they need a community event. Rebecca said the wound is still pretty raw for some right now. Maybe eventually. Commissioner Young thinks that is something they would want to participate in. Chairman Hancock said a big concern from parents is if they believe the schools are safe. Mark said on Commissioner Young's comment will want to wait until the facts are out and the actions they take. Do not want to influence their jury pool. Is a strong believer in transparency and being open but this is a juvenile case. Anything they do influences the public's opinion. Rebecca said a reason for the meeting is to have transparency. Wants to be able to share as much as they can. Mark, Sheriff and the superintendent will be there. Need to realize they cannot promise safety anywhere. They do what they can to mitigate the risks. They have to prepare and support and help their community heal. So many things went right that day and this could have been a lot worse. Can never promise safety. Right now they have a lot of eyes on them with this being the first school shooting in Idaho. Really want to make sure they get this right. Chairman Hancock said they want everyone to know they are taking the necessary steps to mitigate this. Rebecca said they are identifying the needs for improvement. Commissioner Clark said this will make people more aware.

[11:23:31 AM](#) Chairman Hancock said the paper talked about the teacher whose comment was that this child needs help. 5C is a treatment facility. Commissioner Young said they are lucky no more physical harm happened now they have to look at the mental harm. Rebecca said some people will be fine right now and then the feelings can be brought back up. If they have any feedback or guidance please reach out.

### **• EXECUTIVE SESSION 74-206 (B) – PERSONNEL – (ACTION ITEM)**

[11:25:06 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to go into executive session 74-206 (B) – Personnel. Second by Commissioner Clark. Roll call taken. Commissioner Clark – aye, Commissioner Young – aye, Chairman Hancock – aye. Motion passed.**

**Open session 11:38**

[11:38:26 AM](#) Chairman Hancock said they have discussed some personnel issues with no actions taken. Colleen mentions that next week is a holiday and is the fifth Monday will not be meeting.

[11:38:53 AM](#) **Motion by Commissioner Young to adjourn at 11:39. Second by Commissioner Clark. All in favor – aye. Motion passed.**

*Scott Hume*  
Chairman of the Board

*Audrey Moon*  
Clerk of the Board

*Colleen C. Role*  
County Clerk



6/21/21  
Date

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