

FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES
November 30, 2015

Present for the meeting was: Commissioners Lee Miller, Jordon Stoddard, and Bill Baxter

Also attended by: Clerk Abbie Mace and Deputy Clerk Laura Singleton

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

Public Hearing RE: Proposed Rate Increase to EMS billing

Attended by Commissioners Jordon Stoddard, Lee Miller, and Bill Baxter

Also attended by Clerk Abbie Mace, Deputy Clerk Laura Singleton, EMS Director Bob Foster, and EMS Administrative Assistant Kena Ricks

Commissioner Stoddard welcomed everyone and stated that the purpose of the hearing is hear public comments regarding the proposed rate increase to EMS billing. Clerk Mace stated that the hearing has been properly noticed. The commissioners had no conflict of interest.

Mr. Foster stated that these are actually rate adjustments. Medical billing codes changed in October and that is the reason that the rates are increasing. The allowable fee schedule has also changed. Mr. Foster explained why those changes occurred. Mr. Foster stated that there are some allowable fees that they have opted not to charge and explained what those were. They are trying to align their fees with the insurance companies.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Stoddard closed the hearing at 9:11 a.m.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-08, increasing Fremont County Ambulance fees. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Tim Solomon/Rocky Mountain Power RE: Updates

There was a little bit of discussion regarding hydro-electricity. Mr. Solomon stated that this type of electricity is slowly going away. He discussed the progress of the company. He predicts that using coal as an energy resource will be reduced in the next few years and they will be adopting more wind and solar resources. He discussed some of the challenges of using solar power. They are continuing to come up with energy at the least possible cost to the consumer.

Suzanne & James Bagley RE: Council member for City for Eagle Scout Project

The Bagleys had to cancel their appointment.

Tom Cluff & Richard St. Clair by phone RE: Hailey Street Vacation in Island Park

Mr. Cluff reviewed what was discussed in the previous meeting with Mr. St. Clair on the road vacation in Island Park. The County would be willing to trade land with Mr. St. Clair if he would be

willing to dedicate a pathway on his property that would allow public access to the river. There would be costs involved because a survey and plat amendment would need to be done. Mr. St. Clair stated that he believes a survey would be unnecessary because a deed could be executed from the landowner. Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Brock Bischoff stated that he definitely would need to research this before deciding if a survey would need to be done. Mr. St. Clair asked how long the current road is. Mr. Cluff responded that it is approximately 420 feet long and 40 feet wide. This would be close to a half an acre. Mr. St. Clair thanked the commissioners for their time and interest in this. He stated that he would need to visit with the rest of the owners of this property and make sure the majority of them would agree to whatever the final decision is. Mr. St. Clair doesn't believe that the County should charge them for doing an abandonment of the road because the County will be receiving taxes if the vacation happens. This land would be added to the tax rolls, so it would benefit the County.

Commissioner Miller made a suggestion of amending the plat and trading the property straight across. Mr. St. Clair would pay for the survey and the amended plat. Mr. Cluff stated that an amended plat is required for a vacation of the road. Mr. St. Clair asked if this could be postponed until January so he could contact the rest of the owners of this property.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to vacate the portion of Hailey Street between Riverside Drive and Big Springs Avenue. The St. Clair's will dedicate a walking path for the public to use. This decision is subject to the St. Clair's submitting a plat amendment showing the adjustments for the dedication. The St. Clair's will be responsible for the costs incurred for the plat amendment. If this requires another public hearing, the St. Clair's will be responsible for the cost of the hearing. This will need to be completed by June 1, 2016. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Val Hammond RE: Grizzly Bear Letter and Resolution

Mr. Hammond presented a copy of a letter that Park County, Wyoming drafted asking for the delisting of the grizzly bear from the endangered list. Mr. Hammond is asking the Fremont County Commissioners to do something similar to what Park County did, to support the delisting of the grizzly bears. If they were delisted, it would allow for local control of the grizzly bear. Mr. Hammond stated that grizzly bears are going to become more and more of a problem if something is not done now. Their numbers are growing. The commissioners all agreed that they are willing to send a letter to the director of Fish and Wildlife Services asking to have the grizzly bears delisted.

Hardship Exemption Case #2016-1

The commissioners reviewed the application for exemption case #2016-1. Commissioner Baxter made a motion to relieve the landfill fee of \$286.52 for exemption case #2016-01. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Executive Session IC 74-206(1)(c)

This executive session was cancelled.

Executive Session IC 74-206(1)(b)

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(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

12:59 p.m. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye" and Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye". Commissioner Stoddard declared the meeting open at 1:34 p.m.

Social Services – Debbie Adams Re: Indigent Claims

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(d) to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code at 1:37 p.m. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye", Commissioner Miller voting "Aye" and Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye". Commissioner Stoddard declared the meeting open at 1:40 p.m. Commissioners signed one new lien, one release of lien and one amended lien. Commissioner Miller made a motion to suspend case #2015-24. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to amend the agenda in order to ratify the signing of the LRHIP Grant. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to ratify the signing of the LRHIP Grant for the amount of \$100,000. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Senator Siddoway, Representative Romrell & Representative Burtenshaw

Representative Romrell stated that he will be attending a meeting regarding the expansion of Medicaid and what to do with the 80,000 people who do not qualify. They do not qualify because they make too much money to be on Medicaid but not enough to be on Obamacare. He realizes that it is a big problem. There are not enough votes to expand Medicaid. He says it is because of fear. They don't trust the federal government to follow through. Some would like to see Medicaid cleaned up first. Romrell stated that Senator Siddoway will continue to push for more money for education. There was also discussion on personal property tax. Mr. Romrell also stated that we are losing money on sales tax because there so many exemptions that people qualify for. He feels we should go back to only eight exemptions that there originally were.

There was discussion on public defenders. Clerk Mace stated that this is a state obligation to provide public defense.

Mr. Romrell stated that a lot of what happens in the legislature is going to depend on the Governor's recommendations. Mr. Romrell is not sure if anything will be done on transportation this year.

Clerk Mace discussed some of the things Idaho Association of Counties would like to see brought forward in the legislative session.

Public Works Director Brandon Harris RE: Department Report

Mr. Harris reported that a new guardrail has been placed on Sand Creek Road and looks good. There has been some work done on the Crooked Road and the crews are also working on the shoulders on North Parker Road. Mr. Harris stated that he is hoping to be able to start advertising for the bridge work this week. He also stated that some of the road crew worked on Thanksgiving due to icy roads.

Mr. Harris stated that he believes we will get funding for the Solid Waste Project for the landfill. He also stated that he hopes more people will start to recycle because of the tipping fees that will be implemented when the scales are in place.

Mr. Harris has been meeting with DEQ regarding the sewer. He stated that they will be working on a new Facility Planning Study and there may be a possibility of receiving money to help pay for the study. He also stated that the Public Works Christmas Party will be on December 18th at 6:00 p.m. in the Annex Building.

Planning and Building Administrator Tom Cluff RE: Department Report, Executive Session IC 74-206(1)(c)

Commissioner Stoddard made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to IC 74-206(1)(c) To conduct deliberations concerning labor negotiations or to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency; at 3:02 p.m. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Commissioner Stoddard voting "Aye" and Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", and Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye". Commissioner Stoddard declared the meeting open at 3:12 p.m.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to approve the Stone Bridge II Agreement with the Henry's Fork Foundation for the amount of \$60,000 plus closing costs. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Hardship Exemption Case# 2016-2 (via phone call)

The commissioners reviewed the application for case #2016-2. The applicant signed up for the Circuit Breaker Program in 2013 and has never applied for it again. She stated that she thought she only needed to file for the Circuit Breaker once. She is having financial difficulties and would like to have the Circuit Breaker applied again. The commissioners agreed to cancel \$564.64 off of her taxes. She will need to pay the full amount of taxes on her other two parcels of land. The commissioners encouraged her to sign up for the Circuit Breaker next year.

J'lene Cherry & Brandon Harris RE: Landfill Fees

Ms. Cherry and Mr. Harris would like to have those who are disputing their landfill fees fill out a form as to why they are disputing them. Ms. Cherry and Mr. Harris have also been researching some of these and finding some discrepancies. Sand Hills Resort has been paying a D rate on landfill fees. They are being charged for each lot which amounts to approximately \$18,000 per year. Idaho Dunes Resort has 72 lots and they are being charged a B rate which means they are only charged for half a year. Ms. Cherry believes that Sand Hills Resort should have been charged a B rate as well. They should have only been charged for one laundry mat and a small business. There was also discussion on the challenges that they are facing with the increase to the landfill fees. People need to pay attention to their assessments and tax notices and if they do not look right it is their responsibility to take care of it and let us know. They discussed some of the businesses that will need to have some adjustments made because they have been charged too much for landfill fees.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to adjust the landfill fees for 109 lots at the Sand Hills Resort to \$86.06 per lot. (See attached sheet) Also, to reduce the Sand Hills Resort Homeowners Association Fees to \$632.26 for parcel #RP003050080000. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Miscellaneous

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to approve the claims for November 30, 2015 as presented. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from November 16, 2015 with noted corrections. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to support the CASA Program with a donation of \$1,000 for the 2015-2016 year. Commissioner Stoddard seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to donate \$5,000 to the High Country RC&D cloud seeding program. This will be approved on a yearly basis. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the autopsy contract between Ada County and Fremont County. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to surplus the previous Juvenile Probation car. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Baxter made a motion to surplus the previous Emergency Management vehicle. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the nomination of Corey Foster to the Eastern Idaho State Fair Board of Directors. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with all commissioners voting in favor.

The commissioners discussed the donations that they have contributed for Artwork in the Courthouse projects. Commissioner Baxter stated that he really likes the projects that have been done. Commissioner Baxter made a motion to take \$5,000 from Sale of County Property to be used as a donation for the bronze statue that will be placed in the courthouse. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. A full voice vote was heard with Commissioner Miller voting "Aye", Commissioner Baxter voting "Aye" and Commissioner Stoddard voting "Nay". Motion passed by majority vote.

The commissioner discussed how they would like to do the Short Term Disability Survey.

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

Jordon Stoddard, Chairman
Fremont County Commissioner

Attest: _____
Abbie Mace, Clerk