

*****Monday, January 26, 2015**, Commissioners met in regular session with Chairman Dan Dinning, Commissioner LeAlan Pinkerton, Commissioner Walt Kirby, Clerk Glenda Poston, and Deputy Clerk Michelle Rohrwasser.

Commissioners gave the opening invocation and said the Pledge of Allegiance.

9:00 a.m., Road and Bridge Office Manager Renee Nelson joined the meeting to give the department report. Ms. Nelson presented a written report.

Blue Sky Broadcasting Reporter Mike Brown also joined the meeting.

Chairman Dinning asked Ms. Nelson to relay a message to Road and Bridge Superintendent Jeff Gutshall asking him to look at the condition of the parking lot and road into the parking lot of the fairgrounds.

Ms. Nelson said last week regular road maintenance was done. This week the biggest point to make is that gravel road beds are starting to soften. An article will be published in the newspaper about the possibility of road closures starting next Monday and winter maintenance as far as sanding and plowing may change due to how soft road beds become. Road and Bridge will try to alleviate damage to roads as best as possible. The crusher crew will start this week and run the crusher for a few more weeks in order to crush one and one half inch rock. Road and Bridge will also remove a couple sandboxes from trucks this week.

Ms. Nelson said Mr. Gutshall will participate in a webinar for the Federal Land Access Program. The webinar pertains to the paperwork. This is the program for projects such as paving the middle section of Meadow Creek Road. Any federal lands that a project site accesses will be partnered with on the application such as with the Forest Service. It would be good to have Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provide input that projects are good as they provide an alternate route.

Commissioner Pinkerton asked about chipsealing the Snow Creek Road. Ms. Nelson said that is still in the plan and was discussed just this morning. Road and Bridge will finish work on Deep Creek Loop and will apply for Myrtle and Meadow Creek projects in addition to one of the Trout Creek bridges with a possibility of including the second bridge in the project. Ms. Nelson said Pat Hart with the Forest Service is already working to provide Road and Bridge with various projects they are working on that would tie into this project.

Ms. Nelson left the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

Commissioner Kirby moved to approve the minutes of January 5 & 6, 2015 and January 12 & 13, 2015. Commissioner Pinkerton second. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Pinkerton moved to sign the North Idaho College Certificate of Residency Form for C. Dinning. Commissioner Kirby second. Commissions voted as follows: Chairman Dinning "abstained", Commissioner Pinkerton "aye", and Commissioner Kirby "aye". Motion passed.

Commissioner Pinkerton moved to approve and sign the North Idaho College Certificate of Residency forms for the following students: C. Coon, S. Ellson, A. Davis, S. Schneider, J. Hill, and J. Perkins. Commissioner Kirby second. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners tended to administrative duties.

9:22 a.m., Courthouse Maintenance John Buckley briefly joined the meeting to discuss the matter of plowing snow at the Waterways building. Mr. Buckley said the little tractor he uses is not the best equipment to use for that type of plowing. Commissioners said the county needs to have a survey done of the Waterways property to determine the boundaries.

Mr. Buckley left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

9:30 a.m., Commissioners spoke to County Civil Counsel Tevis Hull via telephone to discuss various topics. Attorney Hull said he has drafted a letter for the county's outside auditor so he will get that letter to Clerk Poston to forward to Mr. Schulte today.

Chairman Dinning asked about the status of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Idaho Department of Lands. Attorney Hull said he has reviewed the MOU and it looks fine. Attorney Hull said he would email his approval.

Attorney Hull said he will contact Sharlene Delaney at Boundary Abstract regarding the state easement.

Mr. Brown left the meeting.

Commissioner Pinkerton moved to go into executive session under Idaho Code 67-2345(1)f, to communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated, but imminently likely to be litigated, and 67-2345(1)a, to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual agent.

Commissioner Kirby second. Commissioners voted as follows: Chairman Dinning "aye", Commissioner Pinkerton "aye", and Commissioner Kirby "aye". Motion passed unanimously. 9:53 a.m., Commissioner Pinkerton moved to go out of executive session. Commissioner Kirby second. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

9:56 a.m., Boundary Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) Chief Ken Baker joined the meeting.

Commissioner Kirby moved to recess as the Board of Boundary County Commissioners and convene as the Boundary County Ambulance Service District Governing Board. Commissioner Pinkerton second. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Pinkerton moved to approve Boundary County Ambulance Service District meeting minutes for December 15, 2014. Commissioner Kirby second. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Dinning said as much as BVA tried not to be Boundary County, the signage on the vehicles stating Boundary County is very large and the community is getting confused by this. Chairman Dinning said BVA's new chase vehicle says serving Boundary County and he asked if that could be fixed. Mr. Baker said he will have it fixed. Chairman Dinning said there are also issues with parking involving BVA members. It was mentioned that these parking issues have been brought before Commissioners and while Commissioners recognize the urgencies, there still needs to be a clean path around the building. Commissioner Pinkerton asked Mr. Baker to keep in mind the parking area in the back is not exclusive to BVA and it can be extremely difficult to get back there. The parking lot area that has been marked in

yellow stripes has vehicles parked over it. Commissioners said they would talk to Courthouse Maintenance John Buckley about widening that area some time. Mr. Baker said he spoke to both Mr. Buckley and City of Bonners Ferry Road Foreman John Youngwirth about making an alley for a turn-around area. Commissioner Pinkerton asked Mr. Baker to park the spare ambulance units in the back and to talk to BVA members about sharing the parking lot as they're making it difficult for others. Chairman Dinning said the Assessor's parking spots are also being used by BVA members. Mr. Baker said he will mention that issue to his members. Mr. Baker added that he will correct the decals on the chase vehicle.

Commissioner Pinkerton said he heard Mr. Baker state at the joint city/county meeting last week that there are now six full time staff members. Mr. Baker said some of these employees have been with BVA multiple years. There are three medics included in that total. Commissioner Pinkerton said he thought BVA had possibly taken on three more medics and he said he felt that statement was a bit ingenuous when it came up as that statement led people to believe BVA had six medics. Commissioner Pinkerton said Mr. Baker is getting new vehicles and it looks like the structure is in good shape. The need is to focus on manpower. Commissioner Pinkerton said during negotiations for ambulance service BVA stated they had trouble with getting volunteers because they couldn't pay them. Mr. Baker said the pay is now \$11 to \$15 per hour depending on medical licensing. The night time and weekend crew gets paid. Commissioner Pinkerton questioned for clarity if volunteers are standing at the ready within five minutes of the downtown area so they're not on the clock sitting down at the ambulance building. Chairman Dinning asked if BVA has advanced life support service (ALS). Mr. Baker said yes, all vehicles are ALS transport licensed. BVA is now approved as an ALS service and is working on their 911 licensing. BVA can now transport for ALS service.

Clerk Poston asked if the paramedics can respond as ALS if an E911 call came in. Mr. Baker said the paramedics can respond as ALS, which cuts down what can be done with medications. Mr. Baker said the State of Idaho thinks BVA needs more full time staff. Chairman Dinning said if there is an accident on the highway that would benefit from having a paramedic level, are those personnel there. Mr. Baker said yes. Chairman Dinning asked what Mr. Baker meant when he stated they are not available, such as on an E911 call. Clerk Poston said we had an accident some time ago and she had heard then if we had had a responder with paramedic qualifications, it's possible that people could've been saved. But from what she heard Mr. Baker just say, that cannot happen at the paramedic level. Commissioner Pinkerton said that was correct. When it is a transfer from one hospital to another there can be someone working at the paramedic level, but not when they're treating someone at a scene on the highway. Mr. Baker gave an analogy that for an interfacility transport, the paramedic is able to use more equipment and medication "a much bigger tool box" because they have a license for that for interfacility transports now. Chairman Dinning said so BVA doesn't have a license for that full toolbox for anything else. Mr. Baker said hopefully in the next 30 days BVA will have that licensing. Chairman Dinning said someone had quoted to him that there hadn't been a paramedic at a heart attack scene. Mr. Baker said, oh yes there was, but BVA doesn't have the license for the medications to use just yet. Mr. Baker said BVA doesn't have income to employ six paramedics.

Commissioner Kirby said if something happens, is there a paramedic in the ambulance unit. Mr. Baker said during the day time, yes. Mr. Baker added that they respond on all calls. Chairman Dinning said looking forward to spring time we need to start negotiations for a new contract. The current contract expires September 30, 2016.

Mr. Baker informed Commissioners that he will proceed and work the furnace over to extend the flume and make it legal. Mr. Baker made a comment that someone had had a medical issue in the ambulance building, but then stated it didn't have anything to do with the furnace issue. Chairman Dinning instructed Mr. Baker to let Courthouse Maintenance John Buckley know exactly what is going on as Commissioners want Mr. Buckley heavily involved in this. Chairman Dinning asked Mr. Baker to coordinate and preapprove any modifications with Mr. Buckley. Mr. Baker said the clothes dryer is not operational as it isn't legal and the contractor won't work on it.

Blue Sky Broadcasting Reporter Mike Brown joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Mr. Baker said he would love to provide input on the proposed Communications Joint Powers Agreement. Chairman Dinning said his concern is that for everything done in this community pertaining to this, if various emergency responding entities go away, matters need to revert back to Boundary County. All equipment needs to revert to the county as the communications benefit is too crucial within the county. Chairman Dinning said you never know what will happen with a private entity, but there is at least continuity with a legal taxing district. Mr. Baker said Boundary Community Hospital doesn't have the finances to take care of this system. Mr. Baker made the statement that obtaining grants for the communications system is highly likely and he mentioned linking to the Cooper Creek communications site and having a good system.

Mr. Baker said we're doing better with resources and are now trying to find people who would like take a look at what direction to go such as a board that represents the county and he added that it would be good to have a commissioner in this group to see where we want to go. Commissioner Pinkerton said responding agencies need to hash out their roles. It gets back to the responsibility of roles of each entity not for a commissioner to sit on a group. Mr. Baker said a group needs a sounding board and commissioners would have good ideas.

Commissioner Pinkerton said there is a building of redundancies and a trigger needs to be set for which agency does what. People in emergency fields need to determine who does what. If someone is on an ambulance call and another responder needs to deal with a high angle rescue, how do you do that if there are multiple people at the bottom who need care? You need to rely on someone else to do those things and have volunteer groups. There is no better search and rescue than volunteers, according to Commissioner Pinkerton. Volunteers take pride in what they are doing, especially rope rescue. That is intense training. Paramedics shouldn't be hanging from a rope, according to Commissioner Pinkerton.

10:34 a.m., Commissioner Kirby moved to adjourn as the Boundary County Ambulance Service District Governing Board and reconvene as the Board of Boundary County Commissioners. Commissioner Pinkerton second. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Baker left the meeting.

10:35 a.m., Commissioners resumed their discussion on land use matters as it pertains to the Department of Agriculture. Chairman Dinning said he had two comments on the committal such as he wants to understand and approve the basis for the lawsuit. Commissioner Pinkerton said when he wrote this draft support letter he inserted the term "appropriate". Chairman Dinning said that means the basis would be something Commissioners approve. Commissioner Pinkerton said we need to facilitate a person to do this. Then down the road in the event this is not something Commissioners are in favor of, we won't provide funding. The letter is not a legal binding document, but it's imperative we give our

support, according to Commissioner Pinkerton. The group may totally back out, but if they go forward, we want them to have county support. Chairman Dinning said we all know this will be subject to budget.

Commissioner Kirby moved to sign the letter of support for a possible lawsuit pertaining to land use matters and the US Department of Agriculture/US Forest Service, as written. Commissioner Pinkerton second. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Pinkerton moved to accept monthly payments of \$450 starting February 13, 2015 toward year 2011 taxes for parcel #RP60N01W135414A. Commissioner Kirby second. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown left the meeting.

10:47 a.m., Commissioner Pinkerton moved to go into executive session under Idaho Code 64-2345(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. Commissioner Kirby second. Commissioners voted as follows: Chairman Dinning "aye", Commissioner Pinkerton "aye", and Commissioner Kirby "aye". Motion passed unanimously. 11:10 a.m., Commissioner Kirby moved to go out of executive session. Commissioner Pinkerton second. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

Commissioners attended to administrative duties.

11:30 a.m., Boundary Community Hospital CEO/CFO Craig Johnson and Boundary Community Hospital Board of Trustees Chairman Elden Koon joined the meeting to provide Commissioners with an update of hospital matters.

Mr. Johnson said for year-end 2014, the hospital's budget was slightly in the black so that is two years in a row of being slightly in the black. Bad debt is \$126,000 more than the year before, according to Mr. Johnson. Inpatient services has been very busy as is outpatient services and the emergency department. The extended care facility (ECF) flu outbreak restrictions have been lifted. The ECF had two very elderly residents survive flu and they are now doing fine. Mr. Johnson said the Fry Foundation is now shopping for a 15 passenger van with funds raised from the Festival of Trees.

The meeting with Mr. Johnson and Mr. Koon ended at 11:34 a.m.

Commissioners recessed for lunch at 11:40 a.m.

1:30 p.m., Commissioners reconvened for the afternoon session with Chairman Dinning, Commissioner Pinkerton, Commissioner Kirby, Clerk Poston, and Deputy Clerk Rohrwasser.

Commissioner Pinkerton moved to go into executive session under Idaho Code 67-2345(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. Commissioner Kirby second. Commissioners voted as follows: Chairman Dinning "aye", Commissioner Pinkerton "aye", and Commissioner Kirby "aye". Motion passed unanimously. 1:32 p.m., Commissioner Kirby moved to go out of executive session. Commissioner Pinkerton second. Motion passed unanimously. No action was taken.

Commissioners tended to administrative duties.

Mike Brown, Blue Sky Broadcasting, returned to the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

1:45 p.m., Commissioner Pinkerton presented Commissioners with an article out of The Spokesman Review with the title, "Wolves, predators of caribou, will be killed by B.C. wildlife officials." Commissioner Pinkerton said caribou had been eaten by wolves, but it's the action taken by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG). Wayne Wakkinen, Idaho Fish and Game Department regional wildlife manager states in the article that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resources in Canada announced their removal plan. British Columbia had been authorized to remove wolves last year and to operate into Idaho up to 12 miles for any wolf control action, but that action didn't take place, according to Commissioner Pinkerton. Mr. Wakkinen nor Commissioners should ever make those kinds of decisions. The boundaries of the United States are sovereign and that sovereignty should not be yielded, especially 12 miles, air miles. Mr. Wakkinen was in error and in addition it is illegal importation of firearms, according to Commissioner Pinkerton. The article states there had been ongoing negotiations about this. The article doesn't say anything about any other authorities of a foreign entity entering our air space with weapons. Commissioner Pinkerton said these decisions need to be made at congressional levels. It appears the Canadians understand the ramifications of such an action. Commissioners questioned who is making these calls for the IDFG or endangered species, as well as the forest. The newspaper article may be flawed, but these organizations were consulted. Commissioner Pinkerton said since one of those entities has the ability to make decisions on authority why not have the local citizens harvest those animals in a county that belongs to them? The IDFG was way off and should not have condoned this activity, period. Had County Commissioners been consulted, they might have already known that.

It would be nice to open up wolf hunting to motorized vehicles for our citizens. This article leads our citizens to believe our sovereignty has been preyed upon. Commissioner Pinkerton said he is not against lowering the wolf population, but not at the hands of a foreign government. This should not take place.

It was said that Washington State has not given Canadians authorization for wolf population control. Mr. Wakkinen's statement was that "we" authorized this. There are private lands in which the Canadians have been given permission to shoot. Commissioner Pinkerton said there may be some mistakes the way the article was written or received, but as it's written this is not acceptable. Chairman Dinning said you would think that federal agencies such as Department of Homeland Security (DHS) would be aware of this matter by now so he would be interested to see what they say about this. The article only lists a few agencies who were consulted, but it does not say DHS. Commissioner Pinkerton said he knows that the Spokane Sector of DHS would not be able to authorize this action. As far as the aircraft, there is a bit of a gray area. The minute aircraft touch ground they are in violation as they have not been inspected by U.S. Customs. Chairman Dinning said if the article is accurate, we have some concerns so we need to check on that.

Mr. Brown asked Commissioners about the caribou matter and questioned if IDFG has flown into Canada to do their caribou survey? Commissioner Pinkerton said he also wondered about that and when they do, Canadians would have control over what takes place. In the United States the IDFG is act first and ask permission later. There is a clear difference. Commissioner Kirby said if we really wanted to know how this works, we can ask Airport Manager Dave Parker. Commissioner Kirby said he agrees wholeheartedly with Commissioner Pinkerton. Snooping is one thing, but shooting is another.

Commissioner Pinkerton said in this day and age we need to be more careful and he added that he doesn't know what IDFG has allowed, but they cannot circumvent authority.

The discussion ended at 2:15 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

DAN R. DINNING, Chairman

ATTEST:

GLEND A POSTON, Clerk
By: Michelle Rohrwasser, Deputy Clerk