

### **REGULAR SESSION, FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

Commissioner Bolton opened the meeting at 10:00. Commissioner Buhler and the Clerk, Denise Gill were present. Commissioner Buhler moved to have Commissioner Bolton act as Chairman in the absent of Commissioner Bolduc. Commissioner Bolton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ADULT PROBATION**

Tracey Martin, Chief Probation Officer, reported that Daniel Corsini would be going to part time. Idaho POST requires they work at least 60 hours per year to keep their certifications. Ms. Martin would reduce the full-time position hours to 37.50 to allow enough budget for a part time position for Daniel to work. He will cover when needed. Commissioner Buhler moved to allow Probation to reduce the hours and keep Daniel Corsini part time. Commissioner Bolton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Acting Chairman Bolton recessed the regular session and opened the Ambulance District at 10:05 p.m.

### **AMBULANCE DISTRICT**

Director Porter, reported that January billing is still not closed out, that they need to check that all run reports have been turned in. She has emailed Decembers billing report directly to the Commissioners.

### **EMS BUILDING**

Assistant Director Kepler, said the heating needs adjusted. In addition, they need markers indicating where the entrance to the building is. Commissioner Buhler offered to help them put up reflective tape on a post. They bought nightstands, lamps, trashcans, toolbox and vacuum.

Commissioner Bolduc joined the meeting.

They adjourned the Ambulance District and returned to regular session 10:20.

### **ASSESSOR**

Assessor Baldwin explained that they would like to keep the DMV monitor until the end of the fiscal year. Chief Deputy Sheriff Smith said they would like to have a waiting area for the people going into the DMV and Driver's License. Commissioner Buhler moved to keep the DMV Monitor until the end of the fiscal year. Commissioner Bolton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **COMPUTER INTERNET SPEED**

Shelly Bates reported Sparklight reached out to her to increase our internet speed from 200mbps download 20mbps upload to 500mbps download 50mbps upload for additional \$180.00 per month. Commissioner Bolduc moved to allow the additional internet speed for \$180.00 per month. Commissioner Buhler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **INDIGENT**

Commissioner Buhler moved to go into an executive session pursuant to IC§31-874 to consider indigent matters. Commissioner Bolton seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Bolton-Yes, Buhler- Yes. Director, Kathy Ball and Case Worker, Kaitlin Leguineche joined the meeting. The board recessed executive session and returned to regular session at 11:03 a.m.

### **ELECTIONS**

Commissioner Bolduc moved to approve the purchase of the Tenex elections equipment. Commissioner Buhler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **BROADBAND**

Commissioner Bolduc explained that there is another grant opportunity for a Broadband tower. Clerk Gill explained that we could not use the prior application again due to some changes on the application and the Board may want to consider other changes.

### **GOODING COUNTY LEGAL DESIGNATED NAME**

Commissioner Bolduc questioned whether all the County's property needs to be recorded the same name. Clerk, Denise Gill, explained that in the legislative records from 1913 it was named Gooding County. When EIN's were issued by the Internal Revenue Service the name was designated as the County of Gooding.

### **BUILDING PURCHASE**

The Commissioners negotiated the closing fees with First American Title and are preparing to close on the purchase of the Accountants office today.

### **MINUTES**

Commissioner Bolduc moved to approve the minutes from February 8, 2021. Commissioner Buhler seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Acting Chair Bolton recessed the meeting at 11:55 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

### **HEMPITECTURE**

#### **PUBLIC MEETING PURSUANT TO IC63-602NN**

Public meeting for Hempitecture, Inc request for Tax Exemption pursuant IC63-602NN. One person from the public was in attendance, JT Reed. Connie Stohler, Southern Idaho Economic Development joined the meeting via Zoom. Assessor Baldwin explained the email he had sent to the Board of Commissioners regarding his position on Hempitecture's, Inc. request. He has used the employment multipliers from the Economic Policy Institute to calculate an overall benefit to this manufacturing plant; the total number of 18 indirect jobs and 5-7 direct jobs. Assessor Baldwin explained that they would need to evaluate after time. Assessor Baldwin estimated on a \$4,000,000 valuation with a 2% levy rate would be \$80,000 per year, for a total tax of \$385,000 with depreciation over the five years at 100% tax exemption. Assessor Baldwin felt the County should check with Hempitecture each year as to how many fulltime jobs they are able to maintain. Commissioner Bolduc said that he thought that it would be more like the Glanbia or Chobani projects with many new jobs. JT Reed expressed he is in for a tax

exemption for a company that is bringing in many jobs. Matthew Mead, Hempitecture, Inc. joined the meeting. He is working with the City of Gooding for a change in zoning. Connie Stopher, Executive Director, Southern Idaho Economic Development explained that there are other Idaho counties and other states looking at this project. She also reminded the Board that the Idaho Statute 63-602NN previously was at the investment must be at least \$3,000,000 of capital investment. It was then reduced to \$500,000 threshold to help small business. Commissioner Bolton said she put the question out on Face Book and the majority of the comments were positive for the company to be allowed to come in and that Mr. Reed had opposed the Tax Exemption. Prosecutor Misseldine suggested to the Board not to make the decision until after the zoning is decided by the City of Gooding, March 4, 2021. Mr. Mead explained that their application was a low bar of their employment. They already have bids from local contractor for additional space. They have also talked with local electrician. Gooding was their first choice. They have had Jerome, ID, Prineville, OR, and Great Falls, MT is courting them. They are offering a lot more than Gooding County. He has asked the Board for consideration to their timeline. Ms. Stopher expressed they should be offering this as incentive to companies that want to move into this area. Canyon County is actively doing this for companies that have not purchased properties and just looking in their area. Mr. Mead explained that the previous zoning was an error from many years ago. The Mayor of Gooding believed the Zoning change would occur. Commissioner Bolduc moved to have deliberations and decision to the March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting. Commissioner Buhler seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Matthews and Ms. Stopher vacated the meeting. After the public meeting, JT Reed said after listening from Mr. Mead he was inclined to offer more but not 100%.

**AMBULANCE GRANT**

Acting Chair Bolton opened the public hearing at 2:15 p.m. The Board discussed the Department of Commerce proposed grant for an Ambulance. No public attended the public hearing except Polly Huggins, the grant writer. Barb Porter, EMS Director joined the meeting at 2:25 p.m. Clerk, Denise Gill, obtained documents that the grant writer needed.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

No Correspondence.

Commissioner Bolton adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

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Mark Bolduc, Chairman

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Susan Bolton, Commissioner

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Ron Buhler, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Denise M. Gill, Clerk