

STATE OF IDAHO)
 : ss. **May 1, 2017**
County of Bingham)

THE BOARD OF BINGHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MET IN REGULAR SESSION. PRESENT WERE CHAIRMAN A. LADD CARTER, COMMISSIONER WHITNEY MANWARING AND COMMISSIONER MARK R. BAIR. The following matters were considered:

STAFF MEETING

The Commissioners met with Elected Officials, Department Heads and Supervisors for the regular monthly staff meeting. The Meeting was conducted by Commissioner Bair.

Attending: Chairman Carter, Commissioner Manwaring, Commissioner Bair, Pam Eckhardt, Patty Walters, Ron Simmons, Cheryl Robertson, Randy Ghezzi, Mike Gardner, Scott Reese, Sheri Landon, David Lane, Eric Jackson, Shawn Hill, Cody Lewis, Chase Hendricks for Cleve Colson, Sheriff Craig Rowland, Tanna Beal, Marnie Spencer, Tracy Reifschneider, Dan Eldredge, Danette Miller, Chief Kurt Asmus, Paul Loomis, Kurt Hibbert and Jessica Lewis, Recorder.

Pledge of Allegiance: Commission Bair

Minutes: There were no changes or corrections to the minutes for April; they were approved as written.

Special Presentation: Dan Eldredge provided a Bingham County Weed Control handout and explained that there are more of these available if anyone has a place they would like to put them.

Commissioners: Chairman Carter explained that he attended a graduation last week and was very impressed with the speaker. First generation graduates were recognized which constituted about 1/3 of the graduating class, and military members were recognized. The military members received a standing ovation and the speaker explained that questions asked would be irrelevant if there were not those who served.

Commissioner Manwaring stated that the Commissioners have received more positive feedback than negative over the last year. Road and Bridge has received a lot of positive comments this year. These comments reflect on the whole county and he thanks everyone for their hard work.

Commissioner Bair explained that the Emergency Funding Disaster Declaration was accepted for Idaho, close to a million dollars are coming to Bingham County. The county has spent a lot of money and time just to keep roads passible.

Mayor Loomis asked if the county will be providing any monies to the City of Blackfoot for disaster relief.

Scott Reese explained that there is both State of Idaho and FEMA money coming to the county but he is unsure how this will be distributed to the city. Commissioner Bair will look into this.

Clerk's Office: Pam Eckhardt stated that May 15th is the deadline to turn in department budgets. Shawn Hill was the first to turn in his budget, Dave Lane was the second.

She explained that the Commissioners have created a county Mission Statement:

The Mission of Bingham County is to provide essential government services based on statutory requirements with the highest priority on public safety, future economic development and long-term fiscal stability at the very least cost to the citizens.

Payroll: Patty Walters stated that the payroll cut-off is May 24th. She added that the PTO cap has instituted and the April checks will reflect this. Forty hour-a-week employees will accrue no more than 480 PTO hours and 35 hour-a-week employees will accrue no more than 420 hours.

Road & Bridge: Randy Ghezzi explained that there is still a lot of snow in the mountains, these roads are not ready to be opened yet.

Last week Road and Bridge started the CAT motor grader operator program. The top grader operators will be sent to be certified as trainers which will save the county money by having better operators. Those who will become certified as grader operator trainers are Todd Bennett, Brian Williams, Kevin Hanks and Dusty Whited.

Solid Waste: Randy Ghezzi explained that Ken Taylor is retiring and Brandon Morrell will be taking his place as a Road and Bridge Lead. The Solid Waste Supervisor position is open for recruitment, until this position is filled he will be overseeing Solid Waste operations.

County clean-up day is May 6th and only yard debris will be accepted free of charge. To alleviate long lines they will be double staffed and will have employees directing traffic. Last year's clean-up day served 600 people.

He added that May 1, 2017 the new rate for tire disposal goes into effect.

Coroner: Mike Gardner explained that there is a lot of construction on the interstate and reminds everyone to be very careful.

Parks and Recreation/Emergency Management: Scott Reese has been busy, Bingham County is not out of the woods yet. The reservoirs have high levels and high discharge rates and the snow pack is above normal.

Courts: Sheri Landon stated that last year the 6th and 7th judicial training was held at Bingham County and Bingham County will host it again this year. This training will be May 8th and 9th while the Magistrate Judges are gone for training.

Human Resources: David Lane explained that the county will not be using the Bullseye Employee Evaluation System anymore due to the issues with it. Instead of replacing this system, the Commissioners have decided to no longer require yearly written evaluations to be filed with Human Resources. He stated that ICRMP (the county's insurance provider) recommends not to do evaluations due to liability issues and the Prosecutor's Office agrees with doing away with the annual evaluations. In place of these evaluations department heads and supervisors should be doing regular, informal evaluations. The only time that the results of these evaluations would need to be given to HR is for disciplinary reasons. Employees will still be receiving their pay increases as scheduled.

Mr. Lane explained that Bingham County will no longer doing Employee of the Month recognition, instead there will be an employee recognition program. Employees will be recognized for years of service in increments of 5 years.

Chairman Carter thanked employees, the county couldn't operate without them.

Building Maintenance: Eric Jackson explained that they are getting the chiller up and running.

Probation: Shawn Hill reminded everyone of the conference room at the Probation Services Complex that is available for use. It will accommodate approximately 18 people.