**Franklin County Commissioners**

**May 12, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.**

Attendance: Commissioner Chair Robert Swainston, Commissioner Zan Bowles, and Commissioner Zach Stewart, County Attorney Vic Pearson, and Clerk Camille Larsen.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Adopt Agenda.** Zan Bowles made the motion to approve the agenda as printed. Zach Stewart second. Vote was unanimous.

**3. Approval of Bills.** Commissioners reviewed. Zan Bowles made the motion to approve the bills. Zach Stewart second. Vote was unanimous.

**4. Approval of Minutes**. Zach Stewart made the motion to approve the April 28, 2025 Minutes. Zan Bowles second. Vote was unanimous.

**5. Review Courthouse Addition/Remodel and Other County Buildings**. Randy Henrie, Building Maintenance, reported that the Fair Building foundation has been poured and gravel has been moved in. The plumbing has been roughed in and is to be inspected on Tuesday and if it passes the floor will be poured. The steel for the building will be delivered in June. The power is being installed and will need to find a day when it can be buried. Randy Henrie will coordinate with the Fair Board and Rodeo Committee. Water and sewer will be dug in the next week. The remodel in the Courthouse is waiting for the fire suppression to be completed. After it is completed, the drywall can be installed. The tree on the east side of the Courthouse has been removed.

**Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Requests - Randy Henrie, Building Maintenance**. Randy Henrie is requesting to increase cleaning contracts, electricity, heat, landscaping, lawn mowing contract, and decrease the Capital Outlay budgets. He is also asking for a new line specific for Cleaning Supplies. Randy Henrie, discussed the Planning and Zoning budget. Need to hire a part-time Planning and Zoning Coordinator and increase the Auto Repair and Professional Services budgets.

**6. Subdivision Variance - Tracee Pulsipher**. Tracee Pulsipher and Jodi Rasmussen explained to the Commissioners that the Pulsiphers purchased property from Joel Jarvis back in 2023 and he told them it was a first split and would not have to go through as a subdivision. When the Pulsiphers applied for a building permit for their home, Randy Henrie, Building Inspector, explained it needed to go through the Planning and Zoning as a subdivision. The moratorium is in place and Tracee Pulsipher requested a variance be granted since the process was started prior to the moratorium. The Commissioners understood the problem and sorry for their predicament, however, did not grant the variance. Commissioners are hopeful to get the new ordinance in place in the next 60 days and the moratorium will be removed.

**7. Idaho GEM Grant**. Molly Beseris, Executive Director Four County Alliance of Southeast Idaho, reported to the Commissioners that the County has been awarded the GEM Grant in the amount of $38,139.00 with a match of $9,535.00. It is specific for the water and sewer at the new fair building. County is to pay the initial bill and the GEM Grant will reimburse the County. Zach Stewart made the motion to approve the Idaho GEM Grant and sign it. Zan Bowles second. Vote was unanimous. Molly Beseris said she is applying for grants from the Idaho Community Foundation and Rocky Mountain Power Grant.

**Letter of Support for Economic Development**. Molly Beseris, Executive Director Four County Alliance of Southeast Idaho, is requesting the Annual Letter of Support from the Commissioners to fund the position for Molly Beseris. Zach Stewart made the motion to sign the Letter of Support for Economic Development for Molly Beseris. Zan Bowles second. Vote was unanimous.

**8. Idaho Association of Commissioners and Clerks Meeting June 3-5, 2025**. No Commissioners will be attending this year.

**9. In-depth Planning and Zoning Training - Seth Grigg - Oneida County Event Center Wednesday, April 30, 2025.**  Commissioners discussed and Robert Swainston will be attending.

**10. Nominate for Southeastern Idaho Public Health Board**. Robert Swainston has served for eight years and his term is up. Zach Stewart made the motion to nominate Robert Swainston to serve on the Southeastern Idaho Public Health Board again. Zan Bowles second. Vote was unanimous. Camille Larsen will provide a letter to Southeastern Idaho Public Health Board for Robert Swainston to be nominated for Franklin County.

**11. Live Stream Discussion**. Commissioners discussed the live-streaming their meetings. The current website does not have the capability. Robert Swainston explained that the County has purchased a new website program, and it will take five months to get it up and running. The new website will be able to record and upload the Commissioners meetings.

**12. Conditional Use Permit - Kelsey Manning.** Kelsey Manning requested a Conditional Use Permit to have a pit bike race event June 7 at his property near Foster Reservoir. Randy Henrie, Planning and Zoning Administrator, explained Kelsey Manning will need to provide a plan to be able to control traffic, parking, garbage and have adequate facilities on site prior to having the Conditional Use Permit approved. He will need to notify bordering neighbors in advance. The decibels cannot exceed the specified levels in the Development Code at the fence line.

**13. Fiscal Year 2026 Assessor and Revaluation - Chris Barton**. Chris Barton, Assessor, stated he is planning successors for people who are in a position to retire, if they choose. Updated the Commissioners that the program is in place for neighborhood assessments. Chris Barton is requesting a new computer for the public use and one for a Deputy Clerk in the DMV.

**Agreement to Grant Property Tax Exemptions - Day Mountain Ranch and Production Technologies**. Commissioners asked if the tax exemptions have been removed since the five years are up. Chris Barton, Assessor, stated the Day Mountain Ranch increased this year by $900,000 and Projection Technologies will go up from $1,400,000 to $1,700,000. Both owners are aware of the exemptions being removed.

**14. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request Civil Defense**. Lamont Doney, Civil Defense Coordinator, is requesting the travel fund be increased. Zach Stewart, Commissioner, asked about funding for the mobile units for Starlink. Lamont Doney is working on funding through a grant for the mobile units.

**15. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Requests Extension, Extension Programs, and 4-H Programs**. Laura Sant, Extension Educator, and Bracken Henderson, Extension Educator, presented their budget request. Would like a small increase in Supplies, Temporary Help, and increase in Capital Outlay to purchase new computers since current computers are so old and cannot update to Windows 11. The Extension Programs and 4-H Programs are funded by the participants and will stay the same. Laura Sant and Bracken Henderson appreciate the support from the Commissioners.

**16. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request Juvenile Services**. Boone Smith, Supervisor, presented the Juvenile Budget with not many changes. The Sheriff Department is moving to a new service for handheld radios and there will be a subscription a monthly fee per radio.

**17. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request Treasurer and Board of Guardians**. Janet Kimpton, Treasurer, presented the budgets. Will need to increase the Postage and Software Maintenance. Postage is increasing in July to $.78 and the Software Maintenance increases every year.

**Appoint for the Southeastern Idaho Quad Board of Community Guardians**. Janet Kimpton, Treasurer, presented the name of Laurie Harrison. She has agreed to be a Board Member. Zach Stewart made the motion to appoint Laurie Harrison to the Southeastern Idaho Quad Board of Community Guardians. Zan Bowles second. Vote was unanimous.

**18. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request Cannery**. Kevin Olsen, Cannery Manager, said the budget should stay the same. Still in the process of ordering cans from Wells Cans located in Canada. Commissioners thank Kevin Olsen for his service.

**19. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Request Fair and Fair Building**. Gaylene Stone, Secretary, and Wes Harris, Chairman, presented the budget. The Fair Board is asking for additional $3,000 for Entertainment. Commissioners encouraged the Fair Board to get moving on the wash rack installed, the funds are available in the Fair Building fund.

**20. Soil Conservation Update and Budget Request.** Tabled to next Commissioner meeting for more information.

**21. U & I CWMA Agreement.** Tabled to next Commissioner meeting. CWMA did not send the agreement.

Zach Stewart made the motion to adjourn at 11:45 a.m. Zan Bowles second. Vote was unanimous. Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 27, 2025.

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Attest, Camille Larsen Robert Swainston, Chair