

Franklin County Commissioners

February 9, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

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

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Adopt Agenda.** Zach Stewart made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
3. **Approval of Bills.** Commissioners had no questions. Zach Stewart made the motion to approve both sets, the second batch from January and the February batch, of bills. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** Commissioners reviewed. Zach Stewart made the motion to approve the Public Hearing December 30, 2025 Minutes and the January 12, 2026 Minutes. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
5. **Review Courthouse Addition/Remodel and Other County Buildings.** Randy Henrie, Building Maintenance, reported that the Landfill Scale House building is almost completed. Zach Stewart reported that they need to finish bringing the gravel to the scales and put in a jersey barrier along the edge. The Prosecuting Attorney's Office has been gutted and will tear out the duct work and break out the walls, and hoping to start building it back next week.

New Sheep/Goat/Cattle Barns at Fairgrounds. Cody Travellor, Chairman, and Zach Stewart presented the last upgrade to be completed at the fairgrounds, which is to tear down the remaining barns and replace with new ones for the sheep, goat, and cattle. Randy Henrie, Building Maintenance, will get bids for two new barns, same spacing, and identical to the steer barn. Panels will also need to be purchased. Cody Travellor asked about a row of portable horse stalls in the farthest north barn. Quonsets will be removed this spring and Zach Stewart will meet with the Fair Board to design the power for the area to have the vendors there. Zach Stewart will invite Randy Henrie to the Fairboard meeting. It was decided to also build onto the north side of the Event Center for additional storage. Randy Henrie will get bids for the barns and addition to the Event Center.

6. **Event Center and Robinson Building. Purchase Additional Chairs.** Additional chairs need to be purchased along with two carts. The Pheasants Forever group has agreed to reimburse the County for the purchase of the chairs. Zach Stewart made the motion to purchase 108 chairs and two carts for the Event Center. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

Bids for Robinson Building Floor. Lana Jenkins, Fairgrounds Maintenance, presented bids to replace the flooring in the Robinson Building with carpet, from Hatch Flooring in the amount of \$29,929.96 and to replace the floor with hard floor and recarpet the stage in the amount of \$31,569.18. The carpet has been professionally cleaned so many times in the past 10 years it no longer is stain resistant. Commissioners agreed to move

forward with new carpet and asked for two additional bids.

Bids for Vacuums. Lana Jenkins, Fairgrounds Maintenance, reported the vacuum at the Robinson Building is worn out and no longer picks up the dirt. Lana Jenkins presented bids for the Event Center and Robinson Building vacuums. Commissioners will review the bids and asked to be on the next Agenda. Lana Jenkins presented the service plan for the scrubber at the Event Center, the contract will last year to year. Zach Stewart made the motion to approve the Karcher Maintenance Plan for the scrubber at the Event Center. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

Part-Time Employee. Lana Jenkins, Fairgrounds Maintenance, is putting in a lot of hours and there is not anyone to cover when she wants a day off. The position will be advertised as a part-time position.

Cleaning Issues and Damage to the Floor. Lana Jenkins, Fairgrounds Maintenance, reported to the Commissioners that the Recreation group is not cleaning efficiently after the Saturday games and the public is walking across the new floor and damage is happening to the floor. Lana Jenkins has asked the City of Preston to inform the parents and the Recreation group. Lana Jenkins asked if the County had a policy for bad behavior.

Truck. Lana Jenkins, Fairgrounds Maintenance, asked if the black Ford truck at the Road Department could be transferred to the Fairgrounds. The truck is being used by the Abatement and Weed Departments. The Commissioners agreed to find a truck for the Fair to use.

7. **Designate A Fair Housing Resource Plan.** Kate Selvage, Community Development Specialist, SICO, met with the Commissioners and explained that for the Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Funding, the County is required to have someone available with fair housing resources, in other counties she has worked with, it is usually the County Clerk that is designated. Kate Selvage will provide resources. Zach Stewart made the motion to designate the Clerk=s Office as the resource for fair housing. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

Designate an ADA Coordinator. Kate Selvage, Community Development Specialist, SICO, met with the Commissioners and explained for the Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Funding, the County is required to designate an ADA Coordinator. This program ensures any programs or meetings are to be compliant to ADA requirements. The Clerk=s Office is usually the designated office. Kate Selvage will provide resources. Zach Stewart made the motion to designate the Clerk=s Office as the ADA Coordinator. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

Adopt the Notice Under the Americans With Disabilities. Kate Selvage, Community Development Specialist, SICO, explained this is another requirement for the Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Funding. Zach Stewart made the motion to adopt the Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

8. **Landfill Hours Closing Time Proposal from 5:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Wes Fellows, Supervisor, and Troy Moser, Director, met with the Commissioners to present a plan to close the landfill 30 minutes earlier to be able to get the garbage covered at the end of the

day to meet the Department of Health and DEQ requirements. Other surrounding landfills close 30 minutes earlier. There have been issues in the past with public coming just before closing and taking their time to sort out their garbage and there was a dust instance last summer at the end of the day. Zach Stewart would like review. Robert Swainston would like to see the landfill open a half hour later to be able to close later. The Commissioners agree that the landfill is being run well and appreciate all Wes Fellows has done.

9. **Invasive Species Discussion and Donation Request.** Twin Lakes and Consolidated Water District attended. Hank Povey attended for Twin Lakes and Easton Fellows attended for Consolidated Water District. The Districts are requesting the \$5,000 donation to assist with inspecting floating devices and boats for invasive species. Hank Povey reported that Twin Lakes inspected over 1500 floatation devices, 424 were in-county and 1085 were out-of-county. Easton Fellows reported that Glendale had 304 inspections for in-county and 1480 for out-of-county. Ski boats and fishing boats are allowed on Glendale. Fishing boats are allowed on Lamont and Johnson Reservoirs. Boats with trolling motors are allowed on Foster Reservoirs. Condie Reservoir is closed to floating devices. Winder Reservoir allows floating devices. Zach Stewart made the motion to donate \$5,000 to Twin Lakes and \$5,000 to the Consolidated Water Districts. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous. Vic Pearson suggested the water districts follow House Bill 548 that deals with boat inspection stations, it refers to disallowing boat inspection stations.
10. **Hull Valley Winter Road Discussion.** Randy Moser, Franklin Stake High Councilman involved with the Hull Valley Camp. They have allowed a couple of groups to have a winter camp at Hull Valley. The camp has running water, a place to get warm and cook meals. In the past the groups have parked at Albert Moser, and have been able to snow shoe in and have snowmobiles to haul equipment in. Randy Moser is requesting to be able to go in with ATVs and side by sides knowing when the snow is too deep, they wouldn't go in. Robert Swainston asked if he has talked to the Tri-County Groomers. Randy Moser said they were not in favor. Zach Stewart is concerned if it is legal to drive on the groomed trails. Cuyler Stokes, Sheriff, said it affects grooming and destroys the road itself. A County Ordinance prohibits vehicles on Birch Creek and Cub River during winter months. Randy Moser asked about the four wheeler trail above the road, if they could get a groomer to groom on the 4-wheeler trail if that is a possibility. Robert Swainston said to go with that option and see what can be done.
11. **Historical Society Committee Proposal for America 250.** Neica Seamons, and Kirk Fuller, Historical Society Board Members, said the America 250 is a celebration that should be recognized. The Society is proposing a booth for the different cities celebration for people to find out if they are related to anyone in the Revolutionary War. Preston Family History volunteers will help people find any relatives that may have been in the Revolutionary War. The Society would like to apply for the \$2500 grant with assistance from the County. Zach Stewart is excited to have this summer activity for the city celebrations. Commissioners are in support.
12. **Bear River Zeolite Traffic Increase.** Nick O'Neill, Plant Manager, Matt Webster brought on a customer that is going to quadruple the traffic on Glendale Road. Nick O'Neill has talked to Troy Moser, Director, about the bridge to be upgraded to two lanes, widen the corners, have markers and signage for awareness and safety. Robert

Swainston said this is similar to subdivision owners requesting improvements on a County road, the developer is to pay for it. Troy Moser stated to replace the bridge it will be expensive and does not fall into the category for a grant. Nick O'Neill is proposing to widen the road on both sides of

the bridge to allow the trucks/cars to pull over and stop for the one lane bridge. Robert Swainston expressed concern with safety along the road. Commissioners asked Randy Henrie, Building, if the existing mine requirements if they want to expand. Randy Henrie, Planning and Zoning, stated he will check the Development Code. If there is, the County can require a traffic study to access the increased load. Bear River Zeolite is willing to participate in the cost to improve the road for the increased load and to have their dispatcher space out the trucks coming and going. Commissioners thanked Nick O'Neill for the heads up and their wanting to be participate. Commissioners asked they keep working with Troy Moser and Randy Henrie to get more answers. Troy Moser said the road is scheduled for a chip seal this season or next and the trees are another issue blocking visibility. Robert Swainston also suggested to drop the speed for trucks down to 25 mph.

5 minutes recess

13. **New and Improved Road Issues.** Troy Moser, Director and Lance Geddes, Supervisor attended to discuss the current rule allowing three homes to be built on a private road. Zach Stewart asked to revisit the private road provision in the Highway Standards Procedures. Troy Moser stated currently, the Road Budget does not have enough funding to take care of the current County roads. The State awarded the bridge over the West Cache Canal on Hot Springs Road to the Cannon Builders, the same contractor that did the Weston Fairview Bridge. The Road Department has been working with the Shoshone Tribe to pave their road, but they have not received their funding. The Road Department will need to do some road work at the historical site until funding is approved.
14. **Subdivision Approval - Schvaneveldt Children=s Trust/Dixon Beckstead Minor Land Division.** Dixon Hollingsworth, Owner, and Randy Henrie, Planning and Zoning, presented the Schvaneveldt Children=s Trust/Dixon Beckstead Minor Land Division to the Commissioners. The division is creating three building lots in the Weston Canyon area on Black Canyon Road. It is in the 10 acre zone. The septic has been approved and fees have been paid. Zach Stewart made the motion to approve the Schvaneveldt Children=s Trust/Dixon Beckstead Minor Land Division. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
15. **Public Hearing for Affidavit of Compliance.** Zach Stewart made the motion to open the hearing for Affidavit of Compliance at 11:20 a.m. Robert Swainston second. Vote was in the affirmative. Sharon Kropf, Deputy Treasurer, presented three parcels that are three years delinquent on their property taxes. RP04729.01 Richard Zoellner II; RP05057.00 William Wempe Price; and RP02252.47 Brett Thompson. The Affidavit of Compliance alerts the property owner that deed will be taken if property taxes are not paid. The Treasurer=s Office sent letters to the property owners a year ago and made phone calls in October through present. The Compliance has been advertised in the paper. There were no public comments. Zach Stewart made the motion to close the public hearing at 11:23 a.m. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

Zach Stewart made the motion to file the Affidavit of Compliance. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.

16. **Master=s Touch Contract to Mail Out Assessment Notices - Assessor.** Chris Barton, Assessor presented the Contract to the Commissioners to mail the valuation notices. It is the same company that the Treasurers used for tax notices. Zach Stewart made the motion to accept the Master=s Touch Contract to mail out the notices. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
17. **Adopt IRS Mileage Rate for 2026.** Camille Larsen, County Clerk, presented the 2026 mileage rate, the IRS increased from 70 cents to 72.5 cents. Zach Stewart made the motion to adopt the IRS mileage rate for 2026. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
18. **Public Surplus - Senior Citizen Chevrolet Equinox and Fair Dodge Truck.** It was presented to the Commissioners to the sale the 2013 Chevrolet Equinox and 1989 Dodge Truck. Zach Stewart made the motion to list the Senior Citizen Equinox and the Dodge Truck on Public Surplus. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
19. **Set Public Hearing for Herd District.** Commissioners agreed to move the agenda item to the next meeting.
20. **Herd District Ordinance Proposal.** Cuyler Stoker, Sheriff, presented the ordinance to the Commissioners and would like their input. The County Attorney and Sheriff will review the enforcement section. Robert Swainston will send the draft to the Herd District Committee for review.
21. **Donation for Flag at Event Center.** Robert Swainston reported Valley Implement and Swainston Farms donated money for the vertical American Flag at the Event Center. The cost for the 12 x 18 flag is \$5,995. The cost for the 15 x 25 flag is \$9,995. Freight for either flags is \$800. Robert Swainston will drive to Burley, Idaho to pick up the flag. Zach Stewart made the motion to buy the 15 x 25 flag for the Event Center and County picks up the flag. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
22. **Idaho Office of Emergency Management 2022 Final Grant Adjustment Notice.** Lamont Doney submitted the IOEM 2022 Final Grant Adjustment Notice for the Commissioners to sign, it is from 9/1/2022 for a \$33,000 grant. Zach Stewart made the motion to sign the Idaho Office of Emergency Management 2022 Final Grant Notice. Robert Swainston second. Vote was unanimous.
23. **Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (f) pending/imminently - likely litigation.** At 11:45 a.m. Zach Stewart made the motion to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code _74-206 (1) (f) pending/imminently-likely litigation. Robert Swainston second. Vote was in the affirmative. Attending: Robert Swainston, Zach Stewart, Vic Pearson, Randy Henrie, Troy Moser, Lance Geddes, and Camille Larsen

Executive Session ended at 12:27 p.m. Zach Stewart made the motion to end the Executive Session. Robert Swainston second. Vote was in affirmative.

Zach Stewart made the motion to adjourn. Robert Swainston second. Vote was

unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m. Next meeting February 23, 2026.

Attest, Camille Larsen

Robert Swainston, Chair