

Bonner County

Board of Commissioners

Luke Omodt

Steve Bradshaw

Asia Williams

MINUTES FOR THE BONNER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

December 5, 2023 – 9:00 A.M. Bonner County Administration Building 1500 Hwy 2, Suite 338, Sandpoint, ID

On Tuesday, December 5, 2023, the Bonner County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting with Commissioners Omodt, Bradshaw, and Williams present. Commissioner Omodt called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The Invocation was presented by Pastor Hollis Stewart and the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ADOPT ORDER OF THE AGENDA AS AMENDED

Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to amend the order of the agenda to move the public comment to the end of the meeting to allow our employees and department heads to get back to work as sometimes it becomes lengthy. Commissioner Omodt stepped down from the chair and seconded the motion. Commissioner Omodt remained stepped down from the chair and made a motion to amend your motion to also have the district 1, 2, and 3 commissioner reports to follow the public comment. Commissioner Bradshaw seconded the motion to amend. Discussion among the board.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – No, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to adopt the order of the agenda as amended. Commissioner Omodt stepped down from the chair and seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – **, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

CONSENT AGENDA – Action Item

- 1) Bonner County Commissioners' Minutes for November 28, 2023
- 2) Liquor Licenses: Eichardt's Pub Grill & Coffee, Sandpoint; The Bar, Coolin; The St. Bernard, Sandpoint (2); Di Luna's, Sandpoint; Timber Town Beer Company, Priest River (2); Matchwood Brewing Company, Sandpoint (4); The Falls Inn, Priest River
- 3) Plats for Approval: MLD0039-23, Sawbuck Forest

Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Omodt stepped down from the chair and seconded the motion.

At 9:11 a.m. Commissioner Omodt called a brief recess to get copies of the Agenda for the public. Reconvened at 9:13 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Arndt – People don't like change in the middle, change it for the following week.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – No, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/BONFire - Nicholas Zahler

1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Contract for Hazardous Fuels Treatment

Commissioner Williams made a motion to approve and sign the Contract for Hazardous Fuels Treatment between Bonner County and Morrison Grit LLC for project work on the BONFire program funded by an Idaho Department of Lands Grant with no County match. Commissioner Bradshaw seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Moore - Is there an amount being awarded

Susan Bowman - We are experiencing tyranny

Rick Cramer – Asked about Zoom screens

Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – Yes, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

RISK - Christian Jostlein

1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Travelers Insurance Third Party Administrator Contract Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to approve signing the TPA contract with Travelers Insurance. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Moore - Wanted clarification for amounts of insurance for Travelers in prior meetings

Jim Leighty – When claims are made, does the public get to find out what and how much a claim was for Jennifer Cramer – Risk and liability claims, refusing to follow the order of the agenda aren't you setting up the County for liability

Dian Welle - Is corruption a liability

Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – Yes, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

BOCC – Commissioner Asia Williams

1) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Workplace Environment

Commissioner Williams made a motion to that the Board of County Commissioners place Human Resources back underneath the Prosecutors office due to the risks identified in the independent investigation that was conducted. No second, the motion dies.

2) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Credit Card Limits

Discussion regarding credit card use by County employees. No motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Cramer – Asked Commissioner Williams to agendize this item, wanted to clarify the \$5k limit on credit cards and why employees can just use them? Do all employees need to provide a receipt? If there is no receipt does the employee have to pay that charge out of pocket? Do employees require prior authorization to make purchases? Mike Rosedale – The \$5k statement made was a policy drafted 4-5 years ago. Credit card payments are due in a short time frame and all employees are required to provide receipts. Clarification on the Holland and Hart contract.

3) Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Technology Expansion

Commissioner Williams made a motion to the Board of County Commissioners to authorize whenever and wherever possible the use of Zoom for meetings to include 24-hour meetings and Executive Sessions because Executive Sessions have been worse than what you just saw. Commissioner Omodt moved to table this in perpetuity. Commissioner Bradshaw seconded tabling this in perpetuity.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – No, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

BOCC – Commissioner Luke Omodt

- 1) Discussion Regarding EMS Station One Project & Recreation Picnic Table Expenses
- 2) Discussion: Public Apology

Commissioner Omodt requested the documents shared be attached as part of the official record, see after page 6.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Cramer – Last week in the discussion regarding budget review and the Fairboard. Unclear if Mike Rosedale filed a lawsuit as a private citizen or elected official. Who is liable for the expense of this lawsuit? Amy Lunsford – A lot of covered items today brought her back to the ICCO. Are problems with staff and hostile workplace due to fealty to other elected officials. Are employees in HR torn between working for all of the board and employees or the sheriff? Is the ICCO still active? Noted that Commissioner Williams was brought into the ICCO prior to being an elected commissioner regarding ARPA funds. Sought clarification. Commissioner Omodt will agendize for next week.

Dan Welle – A lot of people in the county have seen what is going on and are disheartened. The Fairboard hasn't had an audit since 2014, this is not the fault of the current board, but they are now responsible to ensure an audit goes back to 2014. Many people want and need answers.

Ben Wood – Member of the Fairboard. Announced that their finances are in the Daily Bee this morning. It has been a rough road but they are going. There are some items that may cause questions, they are open to questions. Three main parts of the Fair budget are: the main fair, non-fair items (facility rentals etc.), rodeo and rodeo royalty. Pointed out donations/sponsorships from the community and for the community and they are very important to the fair. They are working on a facilities plan which will take time, they are wanting to do 1 year, 2 year, etc. and what needs to be addressed right away. Working on several projects including the 2024 Fair. The Fair facilities are being used for sports and public events this time of year. There are staffing issues, being understaffed. Dealing with bad publicity. There are some growing pains with the growth of the community. Trying to balance maintenance of facilities and expansion of what may be needed in the future. Not trying to withhold information, it is just very sensitive.

Dimitri Borisov – Would like to thank Planning Director Jake Gabell after meeting with him regarding the comp plan. Would like the board to consider Zooming special meetings, perhaps create an email list to distribute the Zoom link. EMS Station 1 should have been built years ago, maybe point out that it is multi-use building not just EMS.

Dave Bowman – The board has a proclivity to notice special meetings with the minimum legal requirement. Would ask for an email list for all special meetings with a Zoom link.

Susan Bowman – Would like to see less special meetings and put those items on the agenda for the business meeting. This is our meeting, not your meeting. We are experiencing tyranny, and it is shadowy what is being done. Rules for thee but not for me. Communicating with body language between Commissioner Omodt and Clerk Rosedale. Brought up the public apology for one word but there was no public apology for a scheduled meeting being rescheduled.

Rick Cramer – Would like Commissioner Omodt to apologize for all of the comments that have been made by Commissioner Bradshaw. It is a very one-way street. Would like legal to be present in every meeting as there is always something that happens that needs to go to legal.

Monica Gunter – The Fairboard are wonderful people and they do not deserve what is being done to them. Employees have contacted her about being afraid of saying or doing anything for fear of retaliation. Commissioner Williams works hard and the other two put her down. When Commissioner Bradshaw worked for her family, they had to garnish his wages for taxes.

Christine Low – There may be a bonus to having public comment at the end as it allows for more comment. Agrees with the Zoom meetings for all meetings. Wondering what the man hours were for the picnic table construction. The RV park in Blanchard, she has concerns that seem to be overlooked, the huge increase of traffic this will create. The EMS meetings held, would like the information on the meetings that were held. Where is the money coming from for the Fairboard lawsuit.

Jonna Plante – Thankful for Zoom. Appreciate Luke for taking breaks when there are technical issues. Wants Zooms for 24-hour meetings. Mentioned comment Commissioner Bradshaw made about a person perjuring themselves

Roger Sparlan – The HR department, discussed with Commissioner Omodt. Why did they bring HR back under the board and not leave it under the Prosecutors office. This is a conflict of interest.

Kevin Moore – Benefits of having public comment at the end. Tries to be apolitical but there is right and left. Hopefully trying to do good for the community in the decision making. How many people on the Fairboard are new and how many established on the board for a while, they should have an idea of the finances. Credit card purchases should have receipts. Don't want EMS harmed by mold in their living area.

Commissioner Omodt called for a 5-minute recess at 11:04 a.m. Reconvened at 11:10 a.m.

Public comment continued

Shari Dovale – Would like to reiterate that many people cannot attend meetings in person and all meetings are important so would request all meetings be on Zoom. On public apology, if referencing freedom of speech and legality, if a commissioner can call an employee a liar?

Dian Welle – Agree with Mr. Cramer on legal being present and hearing from them in real time and HR being under the prosecutor's office due to conflicts of interest. Appearance of corruption in clerk's office being controlled by an unknown entity regarding credit card purchases.

Brandon Cramer – During last week's meeting an item was tabled, archiving the PRR online, has this been reviewed. Commissioner Omodt, regarding the total cost of the picnic table. The EMS station and criticism of lack of plans caused by lack of proper people involved. Putting HR under the board is a big problem especially in regards to staff. Brought up the CPO hearing.

Spencer Hutchings – Doesn't know how he will get through Tuesday mornings without this excitement. When will the state AG shut this clown show down. Glad that the Fairboard has gotten their act together, but concerned about the past as it seems that it is being kept quiet. Has there been progress in getting banking information for the Fair. People should get over the use of one silly word.

Mike Rosedale clarified some information that was brought up in public comment.

Public comment closed at 11:25 a.m.

DISTRICT 2 REPORT —Commissioner Williams gave an extensive report of issues and activities. Invited public questions and comments.

Public comment

Spencer Hutchings – Brought up a letter regarding PRR for budget information from Commissioner Omodt in November 2023.

Kevin Moore – Appreciates an audit of the Fairboard. Discussed Vrbeta as it relates to water and EPA and a comment made by Idaho AG during a debate.

Fred Arndt – Campaign request question. Wants to know disposition.

DISTRICT 3 REPORT - Commissioner Omodt gave an extensive report of issues and activities.

DISTRICT 1 REPORT - Commissioner Bradshaw provided clarification to some public comments made.

Commissioner Omodt called a 5-minute recess at 11:58 a.m. Reconvened at 12:06 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Human Resources

1) Executive Session under Idaho Code § 74-206 (1) (B) Personnel
Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding Public Defender Recruitment Request
Action Item: Discussion/Decision Regarding EMS Employee Retention

At 12:06 p.m. Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to go into Executive Session under Idaho Code § 74-206 (1)

(B) Personnel. Commissioner Omodt stepped down from the chair and seconded the motion. Roll call vote:

Commissioner Williams – Absent, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

Reconvened at 12:34 p.m.

Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to proceed as discussed. Commissioner Omodt stepped down from the chair and seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – Absent, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries and to proceed as discussed regarding the EMS employee retention.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

The following is a summary of the Board of County Commissioners

Special Meetings, (including Tax Cancellations, Assistance Meetings/Admin and other) Executive Sessions,

Emergency Meetings and Hearings held during the week of November 28, 2023 – December 4, 2023

Copies of the complete meeting minutes are available upon request.

On Wednesday, November 29, 2023, Tax Cancellations were held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-204 (2). Approved: RP56N02E237401, Multiple Parcels- Homeowner's Exemption

On Wednesday, November 29, 2023, a Planning Hearing was held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-204 (2). Commissioner Omodt stepped down from the chair and made a motion to affirm the Board's prior decision of approval with amendments to the Conditions of Approval as noted in this staff report, on project FILE S0002-23: Providence Subdivision, requesting the creation of 116 residential lots on an approximately 39.57-acre property zoned Suburban and located in Section 1, Township 57 North, Range 2 West, Boise Meridian, Bonner County, Bonner County, Idaho. This decision is based on the Findings of Facts as amended in this hearing and the resulting Conclusions of Law that remain unchanged from the prior decision of approval. I move to adopt the Findings of Facts as amended in this hearing. The decision is based on the evidence submitted up to the time the Staff Report was prepared and testimony received at this hearing. I move to direct the Planning staff to draft written Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law to reflect this decision and transmit to all interested parties. This action does not result in a taking of private property. The action that could be taken to obtain the approval of preliminary plat is to complete the Conditions of Approval as amended with this decision. Commissioner Bradshaw seconded the motion Roll call vote: Commissioner Williams – No, Commissioner Omodt – Yes, Commissioner Bradshaw – Yes. The motion carries.

On Thursday, November 30, 2023, an Executive Session was held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (1)(B)Personnel.

On Thursday, November 30, 2023, an Executive Session was held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (1)(B) Personnel and 74-206 (1) (D) Records Exempt.

On Monday, December 4, 2023, A Department Head Meeting was held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-204 (2).

On Monday, December 4, 2023, an Insurance Update was held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-204 (2) and Idaho Code § 74-206 (1) (D) Records Exempt.

On Monday, December 4, 2023, an Executive Session was held pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206(1)(F) Litigation & 74-206(1)(D) Records Exempt.

ATTEST: Michael W Rosedale

Chairman Luke Omodt

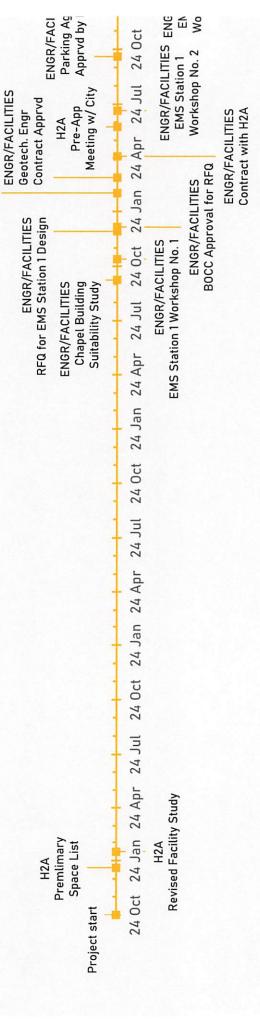
Deputy Clerk

Date

BOCC Meeting

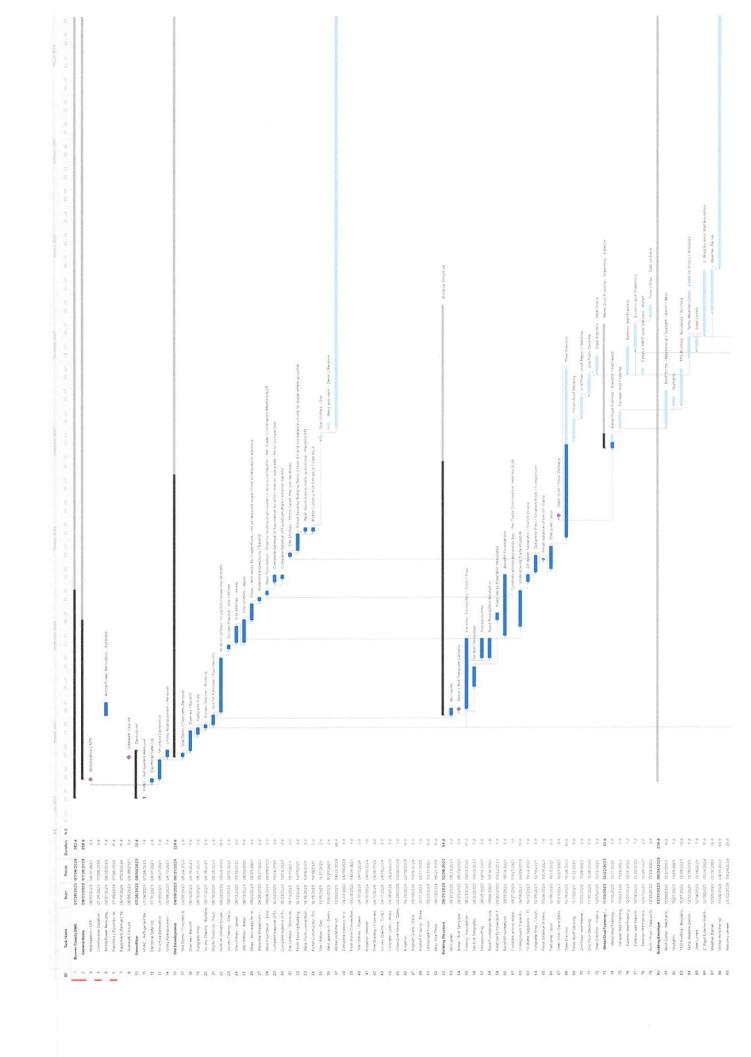
EMS STATION NO. 1 PROJECT TIMEL

ENGR/FACILITIES RFQ Deadline



Project Milestones

DATE	MILESTONE	ASSIGNED TO	POSITION
10/24/2017	Project start		10
1/12/2018	Premlimary Space List	25	
2/8/2018	Revised Facility Study	H2A	-25
10/1/2020	Chapel Building Suitability Study	ENGR/FACILITIES	10
11/5/2020	EMS Station 1 Workshop No. 1	ENGR/FACILITIES	-25
12/22/2020	RFQ for EMS Station 1 Design	ENGR/FACILITIES	55
12/29/2020	BOCC Approval for RFQ	ENGR/FACILITIES	-55
2/24/2021	RFQ Deadline	ENGR/FACILITIES	100
3/22/2021	Geotech. Engr Contract Apprvd	ENGR/FACILITIES	55
4/27/2021	Contract with H2A	ENGR/FACILITIES	-85
6/16/2021	Pre-App Meeting w/ City H2A		10
7/13/2021	EMS Station 1 Workshop No. 2	EMS Station 1 Workshop No. 2 ENGR/FACILITIES	
10/12/2021	Parking Agrmnt Apprvd by BOCC	ENGR/FACILITIES	20
1/4/2022	EMS/Facilities Workshop No. 3	ENGR/FACILITIES	-30
4/27/2022	EMS/Facilities Workshop No. 4	ENGR/FACILITIES	65
6/1/2022	EMS/Facilities Workshop No. 5	ENGR/FACILITIES	-55
8/16/2022	Rvsd Contract w/ H2A Apprvd	ENGR/FACILITIES	10
1/18/2023	Project Update Workshop No. 6	ENGR/FACILITIES	-25
5/16/2023	BOCC Approval to Advert Project	ENGR/FACILITIES	25
6/15/2023	Bid Opening	ENGR/FACILITIES	-85
7/11/2023	BOCC - Project Award	ENGR/FACILITIES	100
8/1/2023	BOCC - Contract Signed/NTP	ENGR/FACILITIES	-65
8/21/2023	BOCC - Budget Enhancement Apprvd	ENGR/FACILITIES	75
10/16/2023	BOCC - DMV Workshop No. 7	ENGR/FACILITIES	15
11/16/2023	BOCC - DMV Workshop No. 8	ENGR/FACILITIES	-20
12/1/2023	Project On-Going		8





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TERMS: 100% due in 30 days from invoice date; and an additional .0484% per day late charge. (18% ANNUAL RATE) due for each day late after 30 days. Pacific retains a Purchase Money Security Interest in the merchandise on this invoice, and expressly disclaims any warranties AS NOTED ON REVERSE SIDE.



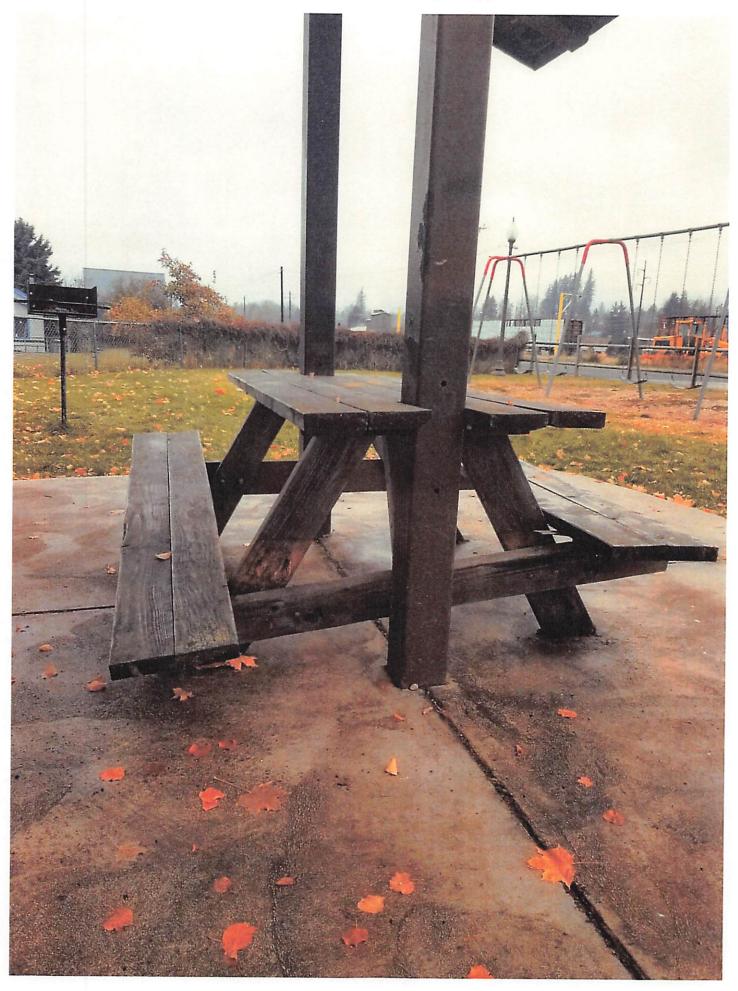


EXHIBIT A



BONNER COUNTY FAIR BOARD FY2022 FRAUD PUBLIC RELEASE

Note: This Release is issued by the Chairman of the County Fair Board on behalf of the County Fair Board and the contents herein have been reviewed and approved by legal. Please direct all questions to the Chairman of the Bonner County Fair Board.

Summary

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), through use of the Bonner County Internal Auditor's staff owe statutory duties to the County Fair Board (CFB) to supervise the CFB's official conduct. See below. These duties include the duty to internally and externally audit, inspect, and oversee CFB books and accounts.

These statutory duties were breached, in some cases willfully, in FY2022 and earlier and there is no sign that these duties won't continue to be breached in the future thereby harming the CFB by disabling it from obtaining proper financial control over its financial operations.

For example, the completely unjustifiable failure of the BOCC to cause external audits of the CFB in and prior to FY2022 deprived the CFB of auditor communications which would have helped enable the CFB to prevent the FY2022 fraud. This neglect of financial oversight directly enabled the FY2022 Fairgrounds fraud.

Details

The BOCC is and was required to cause an external audit of the CFB for FY2022. The BOCC did not cause such an audit on the unlawful instructions of County Clerk/Auditor Mike Rosedale (Rosedale). See e.g., I.C. 31-1701, the Eide Bailly 9/8/2023 and attorney Brian Werst 10/9/2023 reports as well as the Bonner County Sheriff's Office Memo referenced below. See Exhibit A.

Rosedale has made recent statements to the media denying that the internal and external auditors have oversight and audit responsibilities to the CFB. These statements are legally inaccurate as indicated in the Bonner County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) internal control memo dated October 10, 2013 (referred to as the "BCSO Memo"). This BCSO Memo was distributed to the County's individual constitutional officers (ICCO) and to the CFB on October 10, 2023. See Exhibit A.

The claims in the BCSO Memo are likely accurate. This memo suggests that Rosedale is attempting to shift the blame for his and the BOCC's shortcomings regarding the FY2022 Fairgrounds fraud onto the CFB. One method Rosedale is employing is the aggressive use of Public Records Act litigation. In this litigation, brought by Rosedale and funded by the BOCC, Rosedale is requesting financial records that he is aware probably don't exist, aiming to discredit the CFB. However, as highlighted in the BCSO Memo, it was Rosedale who should be held ultimately accountable for enabling FY2022 Fairgrounds fraud. Rosedale's neglect in supervising CFB finances directly enabled the FY2022 fraud.

The evident purpose of the Clerk's records request and attendant lawsuit is to make it appear that the CFB members, instead of the county elected officials, are ultimately accountable for the deficient state of CFB financial controls in FY2022. Rosedale's position contradicts GASB Statement 14 as outlined in the enclosed Eide Bailly and Brian Werst reports. These reports help show that it is the elected officials (BOCC and Clerk) who are ultimately fiscally accountable for the deficient CFB financial internal controls in FY2022.

Furthermore, Rosedale's recent public records lawsuit is another attempt by him to obscure his failure in aiding the BOCC to oversee the CFB office's finances in FY2022, as mandated by I.C. 31-802 and I.C. 31-809. Refer to the BCSO Memo addressed to the ICCO.

In summary, the BOCC and Clerk neglected their duties to the CFB as outlined in Idaho Code including failing to comply with the following Idaho Codes: I.C. 31-802 for supervision, I.C. 31-809 for financial examination and internal audit, and I.C. 31-1701 for external audit services. Refer to the *BCSO Memo* for further details.

The following Idaho Codes were neglected by the Clerk and BOCC as they relate to the CFB in FY2022:

I.C. § 31-802 Supervision of county officers

To supervise the official conduct of all county officers, and appointed boards or commissions of the county charged with assessing, collecting, safekeeping, management or disbursement of the public moneys and revenues; see that they faithfully perform their duties; direct prosecution for delinquencies; approve the official bonds of county officers, and when necessary, require them to make reports, and to present their books and accounts for inspection.

I.C. § 31-809 Audit of county funds.

To examine and audit the accounts of all officers having the care, management, collection or disbursement of moneys belonging to the county, or appropriated by law, or otherwise, for its use and benefit.

I.C. § 31-1701 Audit of county finances--Filing

The board of county commissioners of every county shall cause to be made, annually, a full and complete audit of the financial transactions of the county. Such audit shall be made by and under the direction of the board of county commissioners as required in section 67-450B, Idaho Code.