The joint city/county meeting of January 21, 2015 convened at 6:00 p.m. at Moyie City Hall Council Chamber. Present for the meeting were Mayor David Anderson, Council President Rick Alonzo, Council Members Ron Smith, Connie Wells, and Tom Mayo, Clerk Kris Larson, City Administrator Stephen Boorman. Also present were County Commissioners Walt Kirby, Lee Pinkerton, and Dan Dinning, County Clerk Glenda Poston, Moyie City Clerk Donna Funkhouser, Moyie Mayor Doug Evans, Moyie City Council Members Terry Johnson, Steve Economu, Chad Farrens, and Tim Narvaez, and Moyie Maintenance Person John Nelson. Also present were Caleb Watts, Gary Payton, Jeannie McGary, Carol Bowen, April Isaac, Jeff Gutshall, Stacy Brown, Tad Brown, Ken Baker, and Aaron Bohachec.

Mayor Anderson spoke regarding the increase in the Bakken crude oil and coal trains coming through our cities and gave an update on the meetings he has been attending concerning these trains. Mayor Anderson introduced Gary Payton who gave a power point presentation regarding the trains.

Mayor Doug Evans welcomed the group and introductions were made. He said there is a large drug problem in the Moyie area. Mayor Anderson said the Drug Task Force has not disappeared but has been in some flux. He said the City of Bonners Ferry contributes to the Drug Task Force. Rick Alonzo said the Task Force originally started with grant money but has now been funded primarily through seizure money. He said the City has had manpower shortages the past few years so they have not had full participation. Rick said there is a county officer and city officer on the Task Force. He said the seizures have helped the Task Force to be successful as one of them was over $500,000. Rick said Caleb has been on the Task Force for five years. Dan Dinning asked what the issue was with Moyie. Doug said he has been told that this is up to the City of Moyie. Dan asked if Doug has spoken to the Sheriff. He had not. Doug said the deputies know where the problems are. Dan again suggested that he speak to the Sheriff. Lee Pinkerton explained that the Sheriff is in charge in the county, not the city. Lee said the Sheriff determines what the officers do.

Doug said the City of Moyie has sewer problems. He said they are now looking for property to put an irrigation system on that holds the sewage in tanks and then it gets put on the ground in the summer. He said the City of Bonners Ferry has property and Moyie would like Bonners Ferry to look at possibly allowing this on their property. Stephen Boorman said there is about ten acres on the west side of the railroad tracks on the Moyie River Road that may work. He said Moyie would need to make a formal request to Bonners Ferry City Council. Doug said the sewage would be treated before it would be discharged. Tim Narvaez said the sewer system would include the leach fields. Doug said property is needed for this. Tim asked about Bonners Ferry discharging sewer into the river and asked if the City may be interested in a pipeline. Mayor Anderson said it is an inevitability that the City of Bonners Ferry be a mechanical chemical sewer plant. He said if this occurs that we may look at forming a sewer district. He said the regulations for discharge into the river have been tightening. Mayor Anderson briefly spoke of the phosphate issue in Spokane. Stephen said having a discharge permit is painful so if Moyie has a choice they may want to look at it. He said getting under the permit requirements is difficult.
Satellite garbage stations were discussed. Dan Dinning said the county has not moved forward due to State changes where land has to go up for auction or outright sale. He said if property is leased it has to be at full market value. The county does not see this law being changed in the near future.

The issue of a power pole location on South Division Street was discussed. Stephen said since he spoke with Moyie in December, he has not had time to get together with the land owners. He said spring is the construction period. Terry Johnson said he wants to see the poles on the west side of the road.

Tim Narvaez spoke about an assessment notice and said Les from the Assessor’s Office said nothing can be done until the notices are sent out. Dan Dinning said there is a Board of Equalization and the instructions are on the back of the assessment notices for this process.

Mayor Anderson asked about the reverse 911 funding. He said if someone calls 911 that the dispatchers can trace the call back to the address. He said if someone calls on a cell phone then the call cannot be traced unless it is triangulated. He asked if the funds are still being collected. Dan Dinning said the funding is still being collected and he thought there was a way for cell phone numbers to be traced. Tom Mayo thought there was a way for people with cell phones to let someone know at the Sheriff’s Office and then their address can be traced. Tom asked how much money was in the fund. Glenda thought there was $80,000 or $90,000. Mayor Anderson asked if the funds should be used for other services or if it should be given back to the payer. He has no problem with the funds being spent on enhancing or upgrading the 911 system. Rick said he thought the only way a cell phone could be tracked would be if a person gives their name, phone number, and address. Caleb said the cell phone towers are a problem in our area. Lee Pinkerton asked if we were asking for the system to be upgraded to accept and be used by cell phones or if we are asking to give the funding back. Lee again asked what the appropriate question is. Mayor Anderson said we need to see if we want to continue spending money on a service for land lines or if we are moving in the direction to accommodate cell phones or if we are updating the 911 system with the funding. The 911 system was discussed. Mayor Anderson said when the issue was presented to the voters the problems of the system were brought out. Rick said if there was a disaster somewhere in the county a button could be hit that would call the residents in the county to alert them but this did not happen. Lee said there are notification systems available for the school district. Terry Johnson said the school does have a notification system for emergencies. Tom Mayo said we need to find out if cell phones can be registered for the 911 system. Dan Dinning said if the questions had been asked of the 911 system before the meeting the Commissioners would have had the answers ready for this meeting. Walt Kirby said the person that runs the Statewide 911 system will be contacted and this information will be given. Lee Pinkerton said the expenses of the needed upgrades to the 911 system will need to be paid for by someone and he questioned who would pay this. Dan Dinning said more towers are needed to triangulate the location of the user. The group continued to discuss cell phones and the fees being assessed.

Mayor Anderson said the Department of Transportation has a fund for public transportation. He said Boundary County does not have public transportation but the County acquired a bus that
originally was operated by the Senior Center. He said the bus has been used by the Restorium intermittently and the State granted $60,000 for the creation of public transportation and along with that came the bus. He said the Agency on Aging came up with $10,000, the County has come up with $10,000, and the City has come up with $10,000 for matching funds. He said the start-up of the bus system will only be in the city of Bonners Ferry and it will be operated by SPOT as they will handle the administration of the service. He said in April the demand bus service will start and it will be a three day per week service. One of the days the bus will travel to the Sandpoint area hopefully for medical purposes. Mayor Anderson would like to see the bus service expand to Moyie and Naples. He said it is unknown how long the funding will last as we only have $90,000 for the first year. Walt Kirby said ridership is important. He said the service is free of charge for the user. Mayor Anderson said we need to keep track of ridership and the number of trips made. He said the bus will be available for the Restorium on days the demand service is not running. Steve Economu asked who owns the bus. Lee Pinkerton said the bus is titled by the County. Dan said even when the Senior Center had the bus the County titled and insured the bus. Walt Kirby gave a brief history of the bus.

Dan Dinning said the county has had a few visits from emergency personnel in the last few months. He said there are quite a few pieces of extrication equipment in our community. Dan would like to think outside of the box - if there is a major event that all entity’s equipment respond. He does not feel comfortable waiting for a process where someone has to ask for it to respond. Dan said the Ambulance has done a wonderful job and thinks they should be on the scenes to take care of the injured and that others should respond with the extrication equipment. He would like all the entities with extrication equipment to sign off on a memorandum of understanding with the county for use of the equipment. Ron Smith does not want to wait. Ken Baker said the Ambulance will provide this service countywide free of charge. He said BVA can direct the fire services in the county to operate their extrication equipment when needed. Ken said this is part of patient care. Ken Baker said the Ambulance’s extrication equipment goes to all accident scenes. Mayor Anderson asked if the problem was not that the Ambulance extrication equipment was at the scene of a motorcycle accident when there was another accident that needed extrication equipment. Dan wants to make sure there is not a problem like the one that occurred that day getting extrication equipment on the second accident scene. Lee Pinkerton said having the Ambulance with the extrication equipment is great if their people can operate it and take care of the injured. He said a fire crew can take care of the extrication if the equipment is available and they are trained. He thinks there should be redundancy built into the system. Ken Baker said BVA has six full time employees and about 40 volunteers. He said the Ambulance has agreements with six fire districts in the area so they respond to the ambulance calls and BVA responds to their fire calls. Lee said the roles and responsibilities need to be established also. There was a lag of time when the City Fire Department was notified that they were needed on the accident scene this summer where the Driver’s Ed car was involved. Lee said this is part of the redundancy glitch. Steve Economu said Moyie Fire Department has an agreement with the City of Bonners Ferry to be the first responder if there is a fire at the power plant rather than have the City of Bonners Ferry Fire Department respond. Dan said this is not in place for a major event. Steve Economu said medical expertise is needed on accident scenes so the person is not hurt by the person extricating. Ken Baker read a NFPA standard that is
required for people doing extrication. He said with the new hybrid vehicle technology we need the equipment that can work. He said we need to pool our resources and work together as a team. Ken would like to see one countywide EMS/fire system. Dan Dinning said he is not going there or speaking about that.

Dan Dinning said the Forest Service has put out a timber sale and it is the first time in 17 years that there has not been an appeal or litigation. There is a sale being worked on in Deer Creek. He said the KVRI (Kootenai Valley Resource Initiative) meetings are open to the public.

Dan Dinning spoke about the Secure Rural Schools Funding that was put in place about 15 years ago. Thirty percent of this federal funding went to the schools and 70 percent went to the Road and Bridge Department. He said it has not been reauthorized this year. Last year over $28 million dollars was received in the State of Idaho for roads and schools and now it will be only $2 million statewide under the old funding mechanism. He said Boundary County has asked Jeff Gutshall to prepare for this, and we should be able to operate for a couple years without levying taxes for Road and Bridge. That is if we do minimal maintenance. If a levy is sought for Road and Bridge the funding would come out of the existing tax funds at the county. He said if there is a levy the cities get a share of this tax.

Dan also said there is a push at the State level for a local option sales tax. He said the Association of Idaho Cities, Idaho Association of Counties, and Idaho Chambers of Commerce are involved. He said this money would be like a savings account for specific projects.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

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David K. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:

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Kris Larson, City Clerk