

OWYHEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES  
April 28, 2017  
OWYHEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MURPHY  
OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

Present during the meeting were Commissioners Aberasturi, Merrick and Hoagland, Clerk Barkell, Natural Resources Director Jim Desmond and Ken Smith, PHD representing University of Nevada, Reno.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Aberasturi. Ken Smith addressed the Board regarding the possibility of using county owned towers to install cameras to monitor lands in Owyhee County for seismic activity and fires. The Bureau of Land Management is encouraging the installation as a way to monitor and detect wild fires. Idaho BLM towers are not available at this time pending FCC Standard updates. BLM towers in both Nevada and California are currently being used for this purpose.

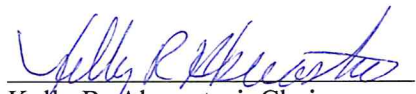
Mr. Smith provided a slide presentation showing current camera locations in Nevada and California with a schematic of how the cameras are linked. He stated that many fires had been detected and showed footage from some of the cameras.

Commissioner Aberasturi stated he would be concerned that the BLM and other groups may try to use information from the cameras against permittees to reduce grazing. Jim Desmond stated that the grazing has already been reduced 50 to 60 % over the last 30 years, with lawsuits and governmental overreach and this could be a tool for further reductions.


Commissioner Aberasturi stated that no decision could be made without consulting the local permittees and that the Board would follow up with the BLM at the next coordination meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2017.

  
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Kelly R. Aberasturi, Chairman

Attest: Angela Barkell, Clerk

By:   
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Brook Russell, Deputy Clerk