

**BOISE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER, 2008  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
AVIMOR SUBDIVISION ANNEXATION INTO EAGLE FIRE DISTRICT  
PUBLIC HEARING**

A joint Boise County/Gem County public hearing was held to consider a petition from Suncor for annexation of territory, located both in Boise and Gem Counties, into the Eagle Fire Protection District.

**PRESENT**

**BOISE COUNTY:** Chairman Fred H Lawson, Commissioners Terry C Day and Linda W Zimmer

**GEM COUNTY:** Chairman Michele Sherrer, Commissioners Sharon Pratt and Lan Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Boise County Clerk Constance Swearingen, Gem County Clerk Shelly Gannon and Deputy Prosecutor Tim McNeese

The public hearing was called to order at 2:00 PM by Gem County Chairperson Michele Sherrer. An email from Knute Sandahl, Captain-Training Officer, Gem County Fire District #1, was entered into the record as Exhibit A and a letter from Eduardo Balli, Gem County Fire Protection District #1 Fire Commissioner, was entered into the record as Exhibit B.

Dan Richter spoke on behalf of Suncor. He reviewed a map of the subject property, approximately 6,000 acres, and stated that future development would be centered around and served by SH-55. He also stated that there would eventually be a fire facility in the development.

Eagle Fire Chief Dan Friend stated that they currently respond to accidents and fires in the subject area and that they would be able to provide quick access with what was currently in place. He also stated that he had talked with Boise County Assessor, Brent Adamson, to determine the value of the acreage. He stated that Assessor Adamson had informed him it was worth \$25 per acre. He further stated that the Eagle Fire Protection District was putting together a development agreement with private developers and that the future fire facility would be located to the north of where homes were currently being built.

Mr. Richter said that the core development would have 5-6,000 homes, not many of which would be located in Gem County. He also described some of the property that would not be developed.

No one other than the petitioner, Suncor, spoke in favor of the petition.

John Lerma, attorney for the Eagle Fire Protection District, spoke neutrally for the petition. He reviewed Idaho Code 31-1412(4) and stated that future property owners within the boundaries of the development might object to the annexation. He also stated that there had been no petitions filed from other districts.

Rick Welch spoke opposing the petition. He stated that Gem County had the same situation with the Middleton Fire District. He further stated that the Sheriff's Dispatch had trouble

distinguishing between districts. He said that levy rates vary throughout the State which could cause trouble at the county level collecting taxes for the various districts. Mr. Welch stated that Gem County could protect the property located within Gem County and said he wanted to see the land remain a part of Gem County.

Mr. Richter stated that he didn't understand the difficulties in dispatching calls and said that there would be a state-of-the-art fire station located on the property. He further stated that continuity throughout the development was important for a sense of community and that Suncor wanted to see the land developed as one big community rather than several small developments.

Chief Friend said that 911 calls were routed through Boise State Communications and that he did not see a problem with dispatching. He also stated that he didn't believe it was fiscally responsible to have several stations located on the development.

Boise County Chairman Lawson asked if one station would be enough for the proposed number of homes. Chief Friend responded that besides the fire stations at Avimor and at Dry Creek, there were several in the area. He further stated that the Eagle Fire Protection District was staffed 24 hours per day, seven days per week with 37 employees and 45 volunteers. He also said they could provide EMT services.

Gem County Commissioner Pratt made a MOTION to close the joint public hearing of the annexation request by Suncor. Boise County Chairman Lawson SECONDED. All ayes; motion passed.

Gem County set October at 8:30 AM for discussion and decision on the annexation issue; Boise County set October for discussion and decision as well. The time will be determined later.

Gem County Chairperson Michele Sherrer adjourned the meeting.

Approved this day of November, 2008.

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**LINDA W. ZIMMER**, Chairperson  
Boise County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

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**Constance Swearingen**, Clerk to the Board