COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Balanced Rock near Castleford

Photo Courtesy: Steve Lee
COUNTIES

The primary unit of local government in Idaho is the county. Counties are political subdivisions of the state and serve as an administrative arm of state government in providing services required by state law, such as law enforcement, welfare, and road maintenance. In addition, counties have, in recent years, tended to take on functions of a quasi-municipal character providing urban services such as planning and zoning, water supply and sewage disposal -- functions that have traditionally been provided by incorporated cities.

The organization of county government is uniform throughout the state's forty-four counties; however, this uniformity may change due to a 1994 constitutional amendment that allows for optional forms of county government. The legislature has developed enabling legislation that provides for the optional forms that are available to Idaho's counties. Citizens in the counties have the opportunity to decide whether they want to continue with the current form of government or change to another form.

For further information on Idaho counties, contact the Idaho Association of Counties, 700 W. Washington, Box 1623 Boise, ID 83701; Phone: (208)345-9126; FAX: (208)345-0379; Website: www.idcounties.org

CITIES

Cities are voluntarily organized and may be incorporated under the general laws of the state by the people living within their boundaries. Cities are not primarily an administrative arm of state government but are local units which, for the most part, perform functions that are exclusively local.

Since 1967, all incorporated places in the state are designated simply as “cities” with no further classification. The constitution authorizes the legislature to enact general laws that apply to all cities in the state. There are 200 incorporated cities in Idaho ranging in population from 185,787 in Boise to 10 at Warm River in Fremont County.

Three Idaho cities, Boise, Lewiston, and Bellevue were granted charters from the territorial legislature rather than incorporate under the general laws of the state which govern all other cities. Boise, in 1961, and Lewiston, in 1969, abandoned their charters and joined Idaho’s other cities under the general law governing municipal corporations. Bellevue, located in Blaine County, remains the only city in the state with a territorial charter. The town does not operate under the State Municipal Code, and the state legislature must approve any changes to the charter including annexations.

Most Idaho cities operate under a mayor-council form of government, but all cities have the option to adopt a council-manager plan (where a professionally trained city manager administers the day-to-day needs) if they so desire. Only three cities, Lewiston, Twin Falls and McCall, utilize the council-manager form. On June 26, 1985, residents of the city of Pocatello voted to change to a mayor-council form after nearly thirty-five years under a council-manager system.

An extensive list of city officials may be obtained from the Association of Idaho Cities, 3100 S. Vista Ave, Ste 310, Boise ID 83705; Phone: (208) 344-8594; Fax: (208) 344-8677; Website: http://www.idahocities.org/

TAXING DISTRICTS

Other local units of government in Idaho include school districts, numerous road districts, cemetery districts, fire protection districts, irrigation districts, junior college districts and other single-purpose taxing units. All of these units have limited taxing powers but are required to certify their requirements to the county commissioners who must include these needs in the collections made by county tax collectors.
### COUNTY OFFICIALS

- The County Clerk, Assessor, Prosecuting Attorney, Treasurer, Coroner and Sheriff are elected for four year terms.
- County Commissioners are elected for terms of two and four years with their terms being staggered.
- **Denotes chairman of the county commission.

### ADA COUNTY

Established December 22, 1864 with its county seat at Boise. Named for Ada Riggs, the first white child born in the area and the daughter of H.C. Riggs, one of the founders of Boise and a member of the Idaho Territorial Legislature. Boise became the capital of Idaho in 1865.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County Seat: Boise</th>
<th>Population: 332,523</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address: 200 West Front 83702</td>
<td>Area: 675,200 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Commissioners meet Monday through Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.adaweb.net">www.adaweb.net</a></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessor</td>
<td>Robert McQuade (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-7201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk</td>
<td>J. David Navarro (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-6887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 1</td>
<td>Judy Peavey-Derr (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 2</td>
<td>*Rick Yzaguirre (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 3</td>
<td>Fred Tilman (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coroner</td>
<td>Erwin Sonnenberg (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-5556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecuting Attorney</td>
<td>Greg Bower (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-7700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>Gary Raney (R)</td>
<td>(208) 377-6505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lynda Fisher (R)</td>
<td>(208) 287-6801</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### ADAMS COUNTY

Established March 3, 1911 with its county seat at Council. Named for John Adams, the second President of the United States. The Council valley was a meeting place for the Nez Perce and Shoshoni Indian tribes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County Seat: Council</th>
<th>Population: 3,451</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address: 201 Industrial Ave 83612</td>
<td>Area: 873,408</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm</td>
<td>Commissioners meet on 2nd, 3rd &amp; 4th Mondays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://www.co.adams.id.us">www.co.adams.id.us</a></td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessor</td>
<td>Karen Hatfield (D)</td>
<td>(208) 253-4271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerk-Recorder</td>
<td>Michael Fisk (R)</td>
<td>(208) 253-4561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 1</td>
<td>Judy Ellis (R)</td>
<td>(208) 253-4883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 2</td>
<td>Michael Paradis (R)</td>
<td>(208) 253-4458</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 3</td>
<td>*William Brown (R)</td>
<td>(208) 347-2290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coroner</td>
<td>Susan Warner (R)</td>
<td>(208) 258-4461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecuting Attorney</td>
<td>Myron Gabbert (R)</td>
<td>(208) 253-6896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>Richard Green (R)</td>
<td>(208) 253-4228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Connie Kesler (R)</td>
<td>(208) 253-4263</td>
</tr>
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BANNOCK COUNTY
Established March 6, 1893 from part of Bingham County, with its county seat at Pocatello. Named for the Bannack Indians, the first inhabitants of the area, whose name was spelled Bannock by early settlers.
County Seat: Pocatello Population: 75,672
Address: 624 E. Center 83205 Area: 712,448 acres
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet Monday through Friday
Website: www.co.bannock.id.us
Assessor Diane Bilyeu (D) (208) 236-7260
Clerk-Recorder Dale Hatch (D) (208) 236-7342
Commissioner District 1 *Jim Guthrie (R) (208) 236-7211
Commissioner District 2 Steve Hadley (R) (208) 236-7211
Commissioner District 3 Larry Ghan (D) (208) 236-7211
Coroner James Allen (D) (208) 243-1326
Prosecuting Attorney Mark Hiedeman (D) (208) 236-7280
Sheriff Lorin Nielsen (D) (208) 236-7116
Treasurer Genie Alexander (D) (208) 236-7220

BEAR LAKE COUNTY
Established January 5, 1875 with its county seat at Paris. Named for Bear Lake, which lies half in Idaho and half in Utah. In 1863 the first permanent settlement was at Paris, established by forty Mormon families who came in wagons, in ox carts and on foot over very difficult terrain from Cache Valley, Utah.
County Seat: Paris 83261 Population: 6,323
Address: 7 East Center Street 83261 Area: 621,696 acres
Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet on 2nd Monday
Website: www.bearlakecounty.info
Assessor Lynn Lewis (R) (208) 945-2155
Clerk-Recorder Kerry Haddock (R) (208) 945-2212
Commissioner District 1 Conrad Michaelson (R) (208) 945-2737
Commissioner District 2 *Dwight Cochran (R) (208) 847-0606
Commissioner District 3 Vaughn Rasmussen (R) (208) 847-3053
Coroner Leonard Matthews (R) (208) 847-0451
Prosecuting Attorney Ardee Helm (R) (208) 847-0805
Sheriff Brent Bunn (R) (208) 945-2121
Treasurer Rodney Wallentine (D) (208) 945-2130

BENEFWAH COUNTY
Established January 23, 1915, with its county seat at St. Maries, by an act of the state legislature from the southern part of Kootenai County. Named for a Coeur d’Alene Indian chief. Some settlement began after the completion of the Mullan Road in 1860, but most settlers came to the area after the discovery of gold near St. Maries in 1880.
County Seat: St. Maries Population: 8,961
Address: 701 College Ave., 83861 Area: 496,640 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet 2nd & 4th Monday
Assessor Teresa Jeffrey (D) (208) 245-2821
Clerk-Recorder Kay Sather (D) (208) 245-3212
Commissioner District 1 *Jack Buell (D) (208) 245-3274
### BINGHAM COUNTY

Established January 13, 1885, with its county seat at Blackfoot, from the east and north parts of Oneida County. Named by Territorial Governor William M. Bunn for his friend Henry Harrison Bingham, Pennsylvania Congressman. Fremont County was carved out of Bingham in 1893, Bonneville in 1911, Power in 1913, and Butte in 1917.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioner District 2</th>
<th>Terry Doupe (D)</th>
<th>(208) 245-3212</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 3</td>
<td>N.L. &quot;Bud&quot; McCall (D)</td>
<td>(208) 245-2234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coroner</td>
<td>Ronald Hodge (D)</td>
<td>(208) 245-2611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecuting Attorney</td>
<td>Douglas Payne (D)</td>
<td>(208) 245-2564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>Robert Kirts (D)</td>
<td>(208) 245-2555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Janice Weinmann (D)</td>
<td>(208) 245-2421</td>
</tr>
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Population: 43,205

Address: 501 N. Maple 83221
Area: 1,340,672 acres

Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet Monday through Friday
Website: www.co.bingham.id.us

### BLAINE COUNTY

Established March 5, 1895 with Hailey as the county seat. Named for James G. Blaine, U.S. Secretary of State (1889-1892) under President Benjamin Harrison. The area was first explored in 1818 by Donald MacKenzie.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioner District 1</th>
<th>Cleone Jolley (R)</th>
<th>(208) 782-3010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 2</td>
<td>Wayne Brower (R)</td>
<td>(208) 785-3011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioner District 3</td>
<td>Errol Covington (R)</td>
<td>(208) 782-3012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coroner</td>
<td>Kyle Lindsay (R)</td>
<td>(208) 782-3153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecuting Attorney</td>
<td>J. Scott Andrew (R)</td>
<td>(208) 782-3101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>David Johnson</td>
<td>(208) 782-3047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Janice Lawes (R)</td>
<td>(208) 782-3092</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Population: 21,103

Address: 206 1st Avenue South 83333
Area: 1,692,736 acres

Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet each Monday
Website: www.co.blaine.id.us
BOISE COUNTY
Established February 4, 1864 with its county seat at Idaho City. Named for the Boise River, which was named by French-Canadian explorers and trappers for the great variety of trees growing along its banks. The Boise Basin, in which Idaho City lies, was one of the richest gold mining districts in the nation after the discovery of gold in 1862. At its peak in the 1860s and 1870s Idaho City was for a time the largest city in the Northwest, it was this great influx of people that led to the establishment of the Idaho Territory.
County Seat: Idaho City
Address: 420 Main Street 83631
Commissioners meet 1st Tuesday, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Mondays
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Website: www.co.boise.id.us
Assessor Linda Blough (D) (208) 392-4415
Clerk-Recorder Rora Canody (R) (208) 392-4431
Commissioner District 1 *Roger Jackson (R) (208) 392-4431
Commissioner District 2 Fred Lawson (R) (208) 259-3344
Commissioner District 3 Paul Stutzman (R) (208) 392-6010
Coroner Pamela Garlock (R) (208) 392-4411
Prosecuting Attorney Theresa Gardunia (R) (208) 392-4485
Sheriff Drew Bodie (R) (208) 392-4411
Treasurer Barbara Balding (R) (208) 392-4441

BOONDER COUNTY
Established February 21, 1907 with its county seat at Sandpoint. It was named for Edwin L. Bonner, who in 1864 established a ferry on the Kootenai River where the town of Bonners Ferry is located. The ferry became an important site in emigrant travel between Walla Walla to the placer and quartz mines in British Columbia.
County Seat: Sandpoint
Address: 215 South First Avenue, 83864
Website: www.co.bonner.id.us
Assessor Judie Conlan (D) (208) 265-1440
Clerk-Recorder Marie Scott (D) (208) 265-1432
Commissioner District 1 *Marcia Phillips (R) (208) 265-1438
Commissioner District 2 Joseph Young (R) (208) 265-1438
Commissioner District 3 Karl Dye (R) (208) 265-1438
Coroner Kathryn Rose (R) (208) 265-5274
Prosecuting Attorney Philip Robinson (R) (208) 263-6714
Sheriff Elaine Savage (R) (208) 263-8417
Treasurer Cheryl Piehl (R) (208) 265-1433

BONNEVILLE COUNTY
Established February 7, 1911 by the state legislature from the north and east parts of Bingham County. Named for Capt. B.L.E. Bonneville, of the U.S. Army, who explored throughout the Snake River area in the 1830s. A settlement developed at the site of the Eagle Rock ferry on the Snake River in 1864, this settlement was to be known as Idaho Falls after 1891.
County Seat: Idaho Falls
Address: 605 N. Capital Avenue 83402
Website: www.co.bonneville.id.us
Assessor Janice Applegate (D) (208) 255-4545
Clerk-Recorder D.W. Price (D) (208) 255-7238
Commissioner District 1 *D.W. Price (D) (208) 255-7238
Commissioner District 2 Karl Yost (R) (208) 255-7238
Commissioner District 3 Brian Parks (R) (208) 255-7238
Coroner Mark Knutson (R) (208) 255-7270
Prosecuting Attorney Rod Green (R) (208) 255-7276
Sheriff Elfish S. Parrie (R) (208) 255-7276
Treasurer Richard Miller (R) (208) 255-7276
BOUNDARY COUNTY
Established January 23, 1915 with its county seat at Bonners Ferry. It was so named because it borders Canada on the north, Washington on the west, and Montana on the east as well as Bonner County on the south.
County Seat: Bonners Ferry Population: 10,396
Address: 6452 Kootenai Street 83805 Area: 812,032 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on Monday and Tuesday
Website: www.boundary-idaho.com

BUTTE COUNTY
Established February 6, 1917 with its county seat at Arco. It was named for the buttes that rise from the Snake River plain and served as landmarks to trappers and pioneers who traveled through the area. The first white men in the region were thought to be Donald MacKenzie and his Northwest Fur Company trappers in 1818.
County Seat: Arco Population: 2,838
Address: 248 W. Grand 83213 Area: 1,429,056 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on 2nd and 4th Mondays
Website: www.boundary-idaho.com
CAMAS COUNTY
Established February 6, 1917 with its county seat at Fairfield. Named for the lily-like plant found in this area with an edible bulb used as a staple food by Indians and as hog fodder by settlers.
County Seat: Fairfield Population: 1,013
Address: 501 Soldier Rd 83327 Area: 688,000 acres
Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on 2nd Monday and 4th Tuesday
Assessor Lynn McGuire (R) (208) 764-2370
Clerk-Recorder Ford "Rollie" Bennett (R) (208) 764-2242
Commissioner District 1 William Davis (R) (208) 764-2386
Commissioner District 2 Ronald Chapman (R) (208) 764-2223
Commissioner District 3 Kenneth Backstrom (R) (208) 764-2613
Coroner Darla Boggs (R) (208) 764-2653
Prosecuting Attorney Calvin Campbell (R) (208) 764-2251
Sheriff David Sanders (R) (208) 764-2261
Treasurer Gayle Bachtell (R) (208) 764-2126

CANYON COUNTY
Established on March 7, 1891 with its county seat at Caldwell. Current sources attribute the name to the canyon of the Boise River near Caldwell. However, both John Rees and Vardis Fisher believed it named for the Snake River Canyon, which forms a natural boundary for the county. The Hudson’s Bay Company established Fort Boise in 1834 near what is now Parma, but abandoned it in 1855. Emigrants traveled through Canyon County on the Oregon Trail.
County Seat: Caldwell Population: 158,038
Address: 1115 Albany 83605 Area: 377,472 acres
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioner meet Monday through Friday Website: www.canyoncounty.org
Assessor Gene Kuehn (R) (208) 454-7431
Clerk-Recorder Noel Hales (R) (208) 454-7337
Commissioner District 1 Robert Vasquez (R) (208) 454-7507
Commissioner District 2 Matt Beebe (R) (208) 454-7507
Commissioner District 3 David Ferdinand (R) (208) 454-7507
Coroner Vicki DeGeus-Morris (R) (208) 454-0448
Prosecuting Attorney David Young (R) (208) 454-7391
Sheriff Chris Smith (R) (208) 454-7561
Treasurer Tracie Lloyd (R) (208) 454-7354

CARIBOU COUNTY
Established February 11, 1919 with its county seat at Soda Springs, the last county in Idaho to be created. Named for the Caribou Mountains, which in turn are named for Cariboo Fairchild, who had taken part in the gold rush in the Cariboo region of British Columbia in 1860. He discovered gold in this region two years later. This area was on the routes of the earliest explorers, fur trappers and Oregon Trail emigrants. Thousands of emigrants passed through the present site of Soda Springs, so named for the many effervescent natural springs in the area.
County Seat: Soda Springs Population: 7,213
Address: 159 S. Main 83276 Area: 1,130,304 acres
COUNTY GOVERNMENT 229

Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays
Assessor           Preston Phelps (R)  (208) 547-4749
Clerk-Recorder     Edie Bush (D)          (208) 547-4324
Commissioner District 1 Wm. Bart Conlin (R) (208) 547-4258
Commissioner District 2 *Bruce Dredge (R)  (208) 547-4119
Commissioner District 3 Lloyd Rasmussen (R) (208) 547-4324
Coroner             F. Duayne Sims (R)     (208) 547-3742
Prosecuting Attorney S. Criss James (R)     (208) 547-1930
Sheriff             Raymond VanVleet (D)   (208) 547-2561
Treasurer           Diane Crawford (D)     (208) 547-3726

CASSIA COUNTY
Established February 20, 1879 with its county seat at Albion. The county boundaries were later reduced in 1913 by the creation of Twin Falls and Power counties. The county seat was changed to Burley on November 5, 1918. Named for Cassia Creek, which was named for one of two words: cajoux, peasant French for raft; or James John Cazier, member of the LDS Church and of the Mormon Battalion, later a colorful captain of an emigrant train, whose name was corrupted to Cassia. Locally it is also believed that the name is derived from the name of a plant.
County Seat: Burley          Population: 21,393
Address: 1459 Overland Avenue 83318  Area: 1,642,624 acres
Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet every Monday
Website: www.cassiacounty.org
Assessor           Martell Holland (R)  (208) 878-3540
Clerk-Recorder     Larry Mickelsen (R)  (208) 878-4367
Commissioner District 1 Paul Christensen (R) (208) 678-2399
Commissioner District 2 Clay Handy (R)     (208) 878-7302
Commissioner District 3 *Dennis Crane (R)  (208) 878-7302
Coroner             Paul Young (R)        (208) 678-1455
Prosecuting Attorney Alfred Barrus (R)     (208) 878-0419
Sheriff             James Higens (R)      (208) 878-1107
Treasurer           Gayle Erekson (R)     (208) 878-7202

CLARK COUNTY
Established February 1, 1919 with its county seat at Dubois. Named for Sam K. Clark, early settler on Medicine Lodge Creek who became the first state senator from Clark County. The city of Dubois was named for U.S. Senator Fred Dubois, a prominent Idaho political figure in early history.
County Seat: Dubois          Population: 906
Address: 320 W. Main 83423    Area: 1,129,408 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet on 2nd Monday
Assessor           Carrie May (R)        (208) 374-5404
Clerk-Recorder     Conni Owen (R)      (208) 374-5304
Commissioner District 1 Michael Leonardson (R) (208) 662-5425
Commissioner District 2 *Greg Shenton (R) (208) 374-5274
Commissioner District 3 Ted Edwards (R)    (208) 374-5304
Coroner             Orvin Jorgensen (R)  (208) 374-5469
Prosecuting Attorney Craig Simpson (R)     (208) 523-2000
Sheriff             Craig King (R)       (208) 374-5403
Treasurer           Bonnie Burns (R)     (208) 374-5455

COUNTY GOVERNMENT 229
CLEARWATER COUNTY
Established in February 27, 1911 with its county seat at Orofino. Named for the Clearwater River whose name was translated from the Nez Perce term Koos-Koos-Kai-Kai, describing clear water. In 1805, Lewis and Clark followed an old Indian trail between the north and middle forks of the Clearwater River and met the Nez Perce near the present site of Weippe. Gold was first discovered by E.D. Pierce in 1860 and Pierce City, the oldest mining town in Idaho came into existence.

County Seat: Orofino
Population: 8,393
Address: 150 Michigan Avenue 83544
Area: 1,575,424 acres
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Website: www.clearwatercounty.org
Assessor Mellisa Stewart (D) (208) 476-7042
Clerk-Recorder Robin Christensen (D) (208) 476-5615
Commissioner District 1 *Don Ebert (D) (208) 476-3615
Commissioner District 2 Stan Leach (R) (208) 476-3615
Commissioner District 3 J.P. "Pete" Curfman (R) (208) 476-3615
Coroner Maurice Masar (R) (208) 476-4528
Prosecuting Attorney John Swayne (D) (208) 476-5611
Sheriff Alan Hengen (R) (208) 476-4521
Treasurer Jeannie Johnson (D) (208) 476-5213

CUSTER COUNTY
Established January 8, 1881 with its county seat at Challis. Named for the General Custer Mine, which was named in honor of General George Custer who died at the Battle of Little Bighorn. Its history begins with fur traders and pathfinders as early as 1824; later in the 1860s and 1870s prospectors and miners came. It contains portions of the Sawtooth, Salmon River, White Cloud, Pioneer, Lost River, and White Knob mountains and contains the highest peaks in the state.

County Seat: Challis
Population: 4,114
Address: 801 Main Street 83226
Area: 3,152,384 acres
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Website: www.co.custer.id.us
Assessor Chris James (R) (208) 879-2325
Clerk-Recorder Ethel Peck (R) (208) 879-2360
Commissioner District 1 Wayne Butts (R) (208) 879-4215
Commissioner District 2 Cliff Hansen (R) (208) 879-2360
Commissioner District 3 *Lin Hintze (D) (208) 588-2849
Coroner Charles D. Griffith (R) (208) 879-4559
Prosecuting Attorney James Smirch (R) (208) 879-4383
Sheriff Timothy Eikens (R) (208) 879-2232
Treasurer Judy Leuzinger (R) (208) 879-2330

ELMORE COUNTY
Established February 7, 1889 with its county seat at Rocky Bar. Named for the Ida Elmore Mines, the area’s greatest silver and gold producer of the 1860s. The Oregon Trail crossed the Snake River at Three Island Crossing near Glens Ferry. A station on the Overland Stage route, orginally named Rattlesnake, was moved to the railroad line and became Mountain Home. On February 4, 1891 the county seat was moved to Mountain Home.
COUNTY GOVERNMENT

FRANKLIN COUNTY
Established January 30, 1913 with its county seat at Preston. Named for the first settlement in Idaho, Franklin, which in turn was named for Franklin Richards, an apostle of the Mormon church. The settlement began in Franklin county in 1860 with thirteen families.

County Seat: Preston  Population: 12,199
Address: 39 W. Oneida 83263  Area: 425,920 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays
Website: www.co.franklin.id.us

Assessor  Richard Umbel (D)  (208) 852-1091
Clerk-Recorder  Elliott Larsen (R)  (208) 852-1090
Commissioner District 1  *Alan Carter (R)  (208) 646-2517
Commissioner District 2  Dal Von Atkinson (R)  (208) 852-0654
Commissioner District 3  William Palmer (R)  (208) 747-3403
Coroner  Douglas Webb (R)  (208) 852-0533
Prosecuting Attorney  R. Todd Garbett (R)  (208) 852-2680
Sheriff  Don Beckstead (R)  (208) 852-1234
Treasurer  Jeanette McKay (R)  (208) 852-1095

FREMONT COUNTY
Established March 4, 1893 with its county seat at St. Anthony. Named for John C. Fremont, an explorer known as the “Pathfinder” who passed through the area in 1843. The first settlement in the county was Egin Bench in 1879.

County Seat: St. Anthony  Population: 12,263
Address: 151 West 1st North 83445  Area: 1,194,752 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays
Website: www.co.fremont.id.us

Assessor  Ivel Burrell (R)  (208) 624-7984
Clerk-Recorder  Abbie Mace (R)  (208) 624-7332
Commissioner District 1  John Hess (R)  (208) 624-4271
Commissioner District 2  *Donald Trupp (R)  (208) 458-4219
Commissioner District 3  Paul Romrell (R)  (208) 624-4304
Coroner  Dennis Birch  (208) 624-3739
Prosecuting Attorney  Karl Lewies (R)  (208) 624-4418
Sheriff  Ralph Davis  (208) 624-4482
Treasurer  Patricia McCoy (D)  (208) 624-3361
GEM COUNTY
Established March 19, 1915 with its county seat at Emmett. Named for the state nickname, “Gem State.” Fur trappers were in the area as early as 1818 and Alexander Ross explored Squaw Creek in 1824. Prospectors and miners moved through the county in 1862 in route to the gold rush in the Boise Basin, and by the next year irrigation began along the Payette River. County Seat: Emmett Population: 15,963 Address: 415 E. Main Street 83617 Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet on Mondays and Tuesdays Website: www.co.gem.id.us

IDAHO COUNTY
Established February 4, 1864 by the First Idaho Territorial Legislature with its county seat at Florence. In 1861 it had been established as the third county of the Washington Territory. Named for the steamer *Idaho* that was launched June 9, 1860 on the Columbia River and served miners during the gold rush in north Idaho. In 1875 Mount Idaho was named the county seat, in 1902 the county seat was moved to Grangeville following a 10-year struggle between Grangeville and Mount Idaho. County Seat: Grangeville Population: 15,616 Address: 320 W. Main 83530 Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet on Mondays Website: www.idahocounty.org

GOODING COUNTY
Established January 28, 1913 with its county seat at Gooding. Named for Frank R. Gooding, pioneer sheep rancher, early mayor of the city of Gooding, later Idaho governor and U.S. Senator. Mountain men and fur traders trapped the Malad River extensively in the early 1800s. Settlers came to the rich agricultural lands of the Hagerman Valley in the 1860s. County Seat: Gooding Population: 14,346 Address: 624 Main Street 83330 Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet 1st, 2nd and 4th Mondays Website: www.idahocounty.org

IDAHO BLUE BOOK
JEFFERSON COUNTY
Established February 18, 1913 with its county seat at Rigby. Named for Thomas Jefferson, third president of the United States. The first settlers were Mormons who constructed irrigation systems.
County Seat: Rigby  Address: 134 N. Clark 83442
Population: 20,782  Area: 700,865 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet 2nd & 4th Mondays
Assessor Joyce Briggs (R) (208) 745-9215
Clerk-Recorder Christine Boulter (R) (208) 745-7756
Commissioner District 1 Brett Olaveson (R) (208) 745-8544
Commissioner District 2 R. Tad Hegsted (R) (208) 754-9373
Commissioner District 3 Ron Baxter (R) (208) 663-4635
Coroner Bruce Karren (R) (208) 745-7988
Prosecuting Attorney Robin Dunn (R) (208) 745-9202
Sheriff Blair Olsen (R) (208) 745-9210
Treasurer DeAnn Madsen (R) (208) 745-9219

JEROME COUNTY
Established February 8, 1919 with its county seat at Jerome. Three sources for the name are commonly given: Jerome Hill, one of the developers of North Side Irrigation Project; his grandson, Jerome Kuhn, Jr.; or his son-in-law, Jerome Kuhn. All were important to the growth of the county.
County Seat: Jerome  Address: 300 N. Lincoln 83338
Population: 19,279  Area: 383,936 acres
Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on Mondays
Website: www.jeromecounty.org
Assessor Bonnie Tolman (R) (208) 324-7507
Clerk-Recorder Cheryl Watts-Bastida (R) (208) 324-8811
Commissioner District 1 Veronica Lierman (R) (208) 324-8811
Commissioner District 2 Charles Howell (R) (208) 324-5388
Commissioner District 3 Joseph Davidson (R) (208) 324-8811
Coroner Gerald Ostler (R) (208) 324-2566
Prosecuting Attorney J.O. Nicholson III (R) (208) 324-7547
Sheriff Jim Weaver (R) (208) 324-8845
Treasurer Mary Childers (R) (208) 324-7594
KOOTENAI COUNTY
Established December 22, 1864 by the Second Territorial Legislature with Seneaquuteen, a trading post below Lake Pend Oreille, as the county seat. Rathdrum replaced Seneaquuteen as county seat in 1881 and Coeur d’Alene replaced Rathdrum in 1908. Named for the Kutenai Indians who inhabited the area when the white man arrived. The word is derived from the Kutenai word meaning “water people.”
County Seat: Coeur d’Alene
Address: 451 Government Way 83814
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet Monday through Friday
Website: www.co.kootenai.id.us
Assessor Michael McDowell (208) 446-1500
Clerk-Recorder Daniel English (D) (208) 446-1650
Commissioner District 1 *S.J. "Gus" Johnson (R) (208) 446-1600
Commissioner District 2 Elmer Currie (R) (208) 446-1600
Commissioner District 3 Katie Brodie (R) (208) 446-1600
Coroner Robert West (R) (208) 446-2199
Prosecuting Attorney Bill Douglas (R) (208) 446-1800
Sheriff Rocky Watson (R) (208) 446-1300
Treasurer Tom Malzahn (R) (208) 446-1011

LATAH COUNTY
Established May 14, 1888 with its county seat at Moscow. This area was first formed as Lah-Toh County in 1864 with Coeur d’Alene as the county seat, in 1867 the name Lah-Toh was dropped when the area was placed in Nez Perce County. In 1888 the U.S. Congress created the county as we know it, the 16th Idaho county and the only Idaho county to be created by Congress. Named for Latah Creek, which drains the northwest corner. The name is NezPerce and means “the place of pine trees and pestle,” because the Indians found stones here suitable for pulverizing camas roots and shade under the pine trees in which to work.
County Seat: Moscow
Address: 522 South Adams 83843
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on Mondays & Wednesdays
Website: www.latah.id.us
Assessor Steve Fiscus (D) (208) 882-8580
Clerk-Recorder Susan Peterson (R) (208) 882-8580
Commissioner District 1 Paul Kimmell (R) (208) 882-8580
Commissioner District 2 Tom Stroschein (D) (208) 882-2275
Commissioner District 3 *John "Jack" Nelson (R) (208) 882-8580
Coroner Dan Schmidt (I) (208) 882-2011
Prosecuting Attorney Bill Thompson (D) (208) 883-2246
Sheriff Wayne Rausch (R) (208) 882-2216
Treasurer Leslie Proctor (R) (208) 883-2296

LEMHI COUNTY
Established January 9, 1869 with its county seat at Salmon. Named for Fort Lemhi, the L.D.S. Salmon River Mission, which was named for King Lemhi in the Book of Mormon. Lewis and Clark were the first white men in this area.
County Seat: Salmon
Address: 206 Courthouse Dr. 83467
Website: www.lemhi.id.us
Assessor
Clerk-Recorder
Commissioner District 1
Commissioner District 2
Commissioner District 3
Coroner
Prosecuting Attorney
Sheriff
Treasurer
Population: 122,350
Area: 796,928 acres
Population: 5,169
Area: 689,088 acres
Population: 7,820
Area: 2,921,152 acres
LEWIS COUNTY
Established March 3, 1911 with its county seat at Nezperce. Named for Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The Nez Perce Indians made this area their home and knew no whites until the Lewis and Clark expedition, the expedition spent a month in the Clearwater River Valley near the town of Kamiah on its return from the Pacific Coast in May 1806.

County Seat: Nezperce
Population: 3,753
Address: 510 Oak Street 83543
Area: 306,624 acres
Website: www.lewiscountyid.org

Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet each Monday

Assessor: Leslie Snyder-Watson (D) (208) 937-2261
Clerk-Recorder: Cathy Larson (D) (208) 937-2661
Commissioner District 1: Charles Doty (D) (208) 935-0049
Commissioner District 2: Carroll Keith (R) (208) 937-2661
Commissioner District 3: LeAnn Trautman (R) (208) 937-2661
Coroner: C. Robert Pratt (D) (208) 937-2447
Prosecuting Attorney: Kimron Torgerson (I) (208) 937-2271
Sheriff: Phil Steen (R) (208) 937-2250
Treasurer: Cathy Gilbert (R) (208) 937-2341

LINCOLN COUNTY
Established March 18, 1895 with its county seat at Shoshone. Lincoln was much larger originally, in 1913 Gooding and Minidoka took about half the original Lincoln County, after the creation of Jerome in 1919, Lincoln was left with only 1,206 square miles. Named for President Abraham Lincoln, the sixteenth president of the United States, under whose administration the Idaho Territory was established.

County Seat: Shoshone
Population: 4,326
Address: 111 West B Street 83352
Area: 771,584 acres
Website: www.lincolncounty.id.org

Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays

Assessor: Wendell Johnson (R) (208) 886-2161
Clerk-Recorder: Liz Kime (R) (208) 886-7641
Commissioner District 1: Rusty Parker (R) (208) 886-7641
Commissioner District 2: Lawrence Calkins (R) (208) 886-7641
Commissioner District 3: Jerry Nance (R) (208) 886-7641
Coroner: Keith Davis (R) (208) 886-2224
Prosecuting Attorney: E. Scott Paul (R) (208) 886-2454
Sheriff: Kent McBride (R) (208) 886-2250
Treasurer: Pauline Malone (D) (208) 886-2341
MADISON COUNTY
Established February 18, 1913 with its county seat at Rexburg. Named for President James Madison, the fourth president of the United States. First settlers in the county were Mormon families from Utah, who built the first irrigation system.

County Seat: Rexburg
Address: 134 E Main Street 83440
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Website: www.co.madison.id.us

MINIDOKA COUNTY
Established January 28, 1913 with its county seat at Rupert. Named directly for the first settlement, Minidoka, a railroad siding. The name is Indian, but the exact meaning is in dispute. Some believe that Minidoka means “well, spring” but there was not a source of water such as a well or spring until 1946. Others say the word is Shoshoni and means “broad expanse,” because the broadest portion of the Snake River Plain lies here.

County Seat: Rupert
Address: 715 G Street 83350
Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm
Website: www.minidoka.id.us

NEZ PERCE COUNTY
Established February 4, 1864 by the Idaho Territorial Legislature with its county seat at Lewiston. Named for the Nez Perce Indians who occupied the area before the white man. Previously established by the Territorial Legislature of Washington in 1861. This was one of the four original Idaho counties in 1863 from which all 44 have been carved. The present boundaries of Nez Perce County were set in 1911. Lewis and Clark were the first white men in the area in 1805. Lewiston served as the territorial capital for twenty-two months before the capital was moved to Boise.

County Seat: Lewiston
Address: 1230 Main Street 83501
Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
ONEIDA COUNTY
Established January 22, 1864 with its county seat at Soda Springs. In 1866 it was moved to Malad City, because of its growth and its location on the stagecoach line and freight road between Corinne, Utah, and the mines in Butte, Montana. Named for Lake Oneida, New York, the area from which most of the early settlers had emigrated.

County Seat: Malad
Address: 10 Court Street 83252
Website: www.co.oneida.id.us

Assessor Kathryn Hill (R) (208) 766-2954
Clerk-Recorder Shirlee Blaisdell (D) (208) 766-4116
Commissioner District 1 Gerald Goodenough (D) (208) 766-4116
Commissioner District 2 Dallan Nalder (R) (208) 698-3532
Commissioner District 3 Joe Daniels (D) (208) 766-4545
Coroner Spence Horsley (R) (208) 766-4330
Prosecuting Attorney Dustin Smith (R) (208) 766-2201
Sheriff Jeffery Semrad (R) (208) 766-2251
Treasurer Dianne Pett (R) (208) 766-2962

OWYHEE COUNTY
Established December 31, 1863 with its county seat at Ruby City. This was the first county to be established by the first Territorial Legislature. In 1867 the county seat was moved to Silver City and in 1934 to Murphy. Named for the river, mountains and mining area explored by Hawaiian fur trappers in 1819-1820. Hawaii and Owyhee are different spellings of the same word. Gold was discovered on Jordan Creek in 1863, and millions of dollars of gold and silver were taken from the Silver City region until the industry declined in the early 1900s.

County Seat: Murphy
Address: HC 79, Mile Marker 29.5 Hwy 78 83650
Website: www.owyheecounty.net

Assessor Brett Endicott (R) (208) 495-2817
Clerk-Recorder Charlotte Sherburn (R) (208) 495-2421
Commissioner District 1 Harold Tolmie (R) (208) 495-2421
Commissioner District 2 Chris Salove (R) (208) 896-4162
Commissioner District 3 Dick Reynolds (R) (208) 495-2421
Coroner Harvey Grimmie (R) (208) 896-4647
Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Faulks (R) (208) 495-1153
Sheriff Gary Aman (R) (208) 495-1154
Treasurer Barbara Wright (R) (208) 495-1158
PAYETTE COUNTY
Established February 28, 1917 with its county seat at Payette. Named for the Payette River which was named for Francois Payette, a Canadian fur trapper and explorer with the North West Company, who came to this county in 1818. He was the first white man in the area and brought the first cattle. Boomerang, which was named for the log boom on the Payette river, was constructed as a railroad camp in 1883 and later changed its name to Payette.

County Seat: Payette  Population: 21,587
Address: 1130 3rd Avenue North 83661  Area: 260,800 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  Commissioners meet on Mondays
Website: www.payettecounty.org

Assessor  Bob MacKenzie (R)  (208) 642-6012
Clerk-Recorder  Betty Dressen (R)  (208) 642-6000
Commissioner District 1  *Rudy Endrikat (R)  (208) 642-3910
Commissioner District 2  Marc Shigeta (R)  (208) 278-3770
Commissioner District 3  Larry Church (R)  (208) 642-6000
Coroner  Keith Schuller (R)  (208) 452-3377
Prosecuting Attorney  Brian Lee (R)  (208) 642-6096
Sheriff  Charles Huff (R)  (208) 642-6008
Treasurer  Donna Peterson (R)  (208) 642-6004

POWER COUNTY
Established on January 30, 1913 with its county seat at American Falls. Named for the American Falls Power Plant. American Falls was the first settlement in the county and was a frequent camping place on the Oregon Trail. It became a railroad station when the Oregon Short Line was built across southern Idaho.

County Seat: American Falls  Population: 7,483
Address: 534 Bannock Avenue 83211  Area: 899,648 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays
Website: www.co.power.id.us

Assessor  Douglas Glascock (D)  (208) 226-7616
Clerk-Recorder  Christine Steinlicht (D)  (208) 226-7611
Commissioner District 1  Raymond Zimmerman (R)  (208) 226-2959
Commissioner District 2  Vicki Meadows (D)  (208) 226-2041
Commissioner District 3  *Ken Estep (R)  (208) 226-7610
Coroner  Mark Rose (R)  (208) 226-2147
Prosecuting Attorney  Paul Laggis (D)  (208) 226-1230
Sheriff  Jim Jeffries (D)  (208) 226-2311
Treasurer  Bobbie Mauch (R)  (208) 226-7614

SHOSHONE COUNTY
Established February 4, 1864 with its county seat at Pierce. In 1885 the county seat was moved to Murray, in 1890 to Osburn, and finally to Wallace in 1893. The first organized unit of government within Idaho boundaries, created and named for the Shoshoni Indians in 1858 by the Washington Territorial Legislature as part of Washington, effective in 1861.

County Seat: Wallace  Population: 12,827
Address: 700 Bank Street 83873  Area: 1,685,760 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Commissioners meet Monday through Wednesday

**Assessor**  
Jerry White (D)  
(208) 752-1202

**Clerk-Recorder**  
Peggy DeLange-White (D)  
(208) 752-1264

**Commissioner District 1**  
Jim Vergobbi (D)  
(208) 752-3331

**Commissioner District 2**  
Sherry Krulitz (D)  
(208) 752-3331

**Commissioner District 3**  
*Jon Cantamessa (I)  
(208) 752-3331

**Coroner**  
Lonny Duce (D)  
(208) 786-5121

**Prosecuting Attorney**  
Michael Peacock (D)  
(208) 752-1106

**Sheriff**  
Chuck Reynolds (D)  
(208) 556-1114

**Treasurer**  
Ellen Sauer (D)  
(208) 752-1261

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**TETON COUNTY**

Established January 26, 1915, with its county seat at Driggs. It was named for the adjacent Teton mountains and valley. The valley was formerly known as Pierre’s Hole where Indians held their councils and trappers met for their rendezvous.

County Seat: Driggs  
Population: 7,253

Address: 89 North Main 83422  
Area: 288,256 acres

Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays

**Assessor**  
Denny Thomas (D)  
(208) 354-3507

**Clerk-Recorder**  
Nolan Boyle (R)  
(208) 354-2239

**Commissioner District 1**  
Jay Calderwood (D)  
(208) 787-2738

**Commissioner District 2**  
*Mark Trupp (R)  
(208) 354-8358

**Commissioner District 3**  
Roger Hoopes (D)  
(208) 456-2931

**Coroner**  
Tim Melcher (R)  
(208) 786-2193

**Prosecuting Attorney**  
Bart Birch (R)  
(208) 354-4384

**Sheriff**  
Ryan Kaufman (R)  
(208) 354-2323

**Treasurer**  
Bonnie Hatch (D)  
(208) 354-2254

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**TWIN FALLS COUNTY**

Established February 21, 1907 with its county seat at Twin Falls. Named for the nearby waterfalls on the Snake River. A station line was established at Rock Creek in 1864 for the Ben Holladay Stage Line. The Twin Falls South Side project brought water to thousands of acres of arid land in 1904 and became one of the most successful of the Carey Act irrigation projects.

County Seat: Twin Falls  
Population: 67,935

Address: 425 Shoshone St. N. 83303  
Area: 1,232,064 acres

Business Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Commissioners meet Monday through Friday

Website: www.twinfallscounty.org

**Assessor**  
Gerald Bowden (R)  
(208) 736-4010

**Clerk-Recorder**  
Kristina Glascock (R)  
(208) 736-4004

**Commissioner District 1**  
*Gary Grindstaff (R)  
(208) 736-4068

**Commissioner District 2**  
Tom Mikeshell (R)  
(208) 736-4070

**Commissioner District 3**  
William Brockman (R)  
(208) 736-4068

**Coroner**  
Dennis Chambers (R)  
(208) 733-7610

**Prosecuting Attorney**  
Grant Loeb (R)  
(208) 736-4020

**Sheriff**  
Wayne Tousley (I)  
(208) 736-4177

**Treasurer**  
Debbie Kauffman (R)  
(208) 736-4008
VALLEY COUNTY
Established February 26, 1917 with its county seat at Cascade. Named for the outstanding topographical feature of the area, Long Valley. Fur trappers were the first white men in the area but permanent settlement did not take place until the 1880s when livestock ranchers moved into Long Valley.
County Seat: Cascade Population: 7,970
Address: 219 N. Main Street 83611 Area: 2,354,048 acres
Business Hours: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet on 2nd & 4th Mondays
Assessor Karen Campbell (R) (208) 382-7126
Clerk-Recorder Lee Heinrich (R) (208) 382-7100
Commissioner District 1 *F. Phillip Davis (R) (208) 382-7100
Commissioner District 2 Thomas Kerr (R) (208) 634-2686
Commissioner District 3 Frank Eld (D) (208) 325-5000
Coroner Marvin Heikkila (R) (208) 634-2220
Prosecuting Attorney Matthew Williams (R) (208) 382-7120
Sheriff Patti Bolen (R) (208) 382-7150
Treasurer Glenna Young (R) (208) 382-7110

WASHINGTON COUNTY
Established February 20, 1879 with its county seat at Weiser. Named for George Washington, the first president of the United States. Donald MacKenzie was one of the first white men in the area in 1811. Settlers came in the 1860s after gold was discovered in the area.
County Seat: Weiser Population: 10,059
Address: 256 E. Court 83672 Area: 932,096 acres
Website: www.ruralnetwork.net/~wcassr/
Business Hours: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Commissioners meet on Mondays
Assessor George Plischke (R) (208) 549-2000
Clerk-Recorder Sharon Widner (R) (208) 549-2092
Commissioner District 1 *Diana Thomas (R) (208) 414-2789
Commissioner District 2 Rick Michael (R) (208) 414-2092
Commissioner District 3 Roy Mink (R) (208) 414-2789
Coroner Robert Thomason (R) (208) 414-1234
Prosecuting Attorney Charles Kroll (R) (208) 549-1652
Sheriff Marvin Williams (R) (208) 414-2121
Treasurer Ann Frei (R) (208) 414s-0324