#### **Valley County Board of County Commissioners**

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#### **SHERRY MAUPIN**

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# IN THE OFFICE OF THE VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CASCADE, IDAHO June 28, 2021

PRESENT: DAVE BINGAMAN (COMMISSIONER)

SHERRY MAUPIN (COMMISSIONER) ELTING HASBROUCK (CHAIRMAN)

**DOUGLAS MILLER (CLERK)** 

Commissioner, Dave Bingaman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Hasbrouck presented the commissioners' agenda for June 28, 2021. Commissioner Bingaman made a motion to approve the commissioners' agenda for June 28, 2021. Commissioner Maupin seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the commissioners' agenda for June 28, 2021.

Senior Deputy Auditor, Kalyn Mauk presented the commissioners with Fiscal Year 2021 claims, board order claims and junior college applications.

#### Fiscal Year 2021 Claims

\$85,655.53
\$37,785.50
\$2,428.22
\$500.00
\$61.27
\$5,578.73

Board of County Commissioners Meeting June 28, 2021 Page 1

Weeds	\$4,246.12
Pest Control	\$285.08
Waterways	\$7,130.72

#### **Board Order**

Total:	\$156,738.14
OHV Trust	\$135.00
Auditor's Trust	\$214.97
Extension Agent Trust	\$2,585.00
Title III Trust	\$132.00

Commissioner Maupin made a motion to approve the claims and board order claims. Commissioner Bingaman seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the claims and board order claims as presented.

Assessor, June Fullmer provided an overview of staffing within the Assessor's Office. She informed the commissioners that the Department of Motor Vehicles still had a position opening for the office in Cascade. She explained the office hours for the DMV Office in McCall and the office hours in Cascade. She advised that there were 25 appeals scheduled for Board of Equalization Hearings and provided a brief explanation of the deadlines that the board must adhere to. She advised that the commissioners would be convening as the Board of Equalization beginning tomorrow.

Clerk, Douglas Miller provided the commissioners with an update regarding matters involving the Clerk's Office.

Prosecuting Attorney, Brian Naugle informed the commissioners that the Prosecuting Attorney's Office does have an intern to assist with the office through the summer. He introduced Ms. Brianne McCoy. He advised that the Prosecuting Attorney's Office was in negotiations with the City of Cascade for the policing and cost of prosecution for the misdemeanor cases that occur within the city limits of Cascade. He informed the commissioners about criminal charges that had been charged last week. He advised that Adele Grefsrud had officially retired from Valley County and the office would be hiring for a legal assistant position and he hoped to have the position filled by the end of July.

Sheriff, Patti Bolen reported that the Valley County Sheriff's Office had been extremely busy and provided a brief overview of calls that law enforcement had been responding to. She discussed the concerns regarding the existing heat wave and concerns with people setting off fireworks.

Chief Deputy Treasurer, Jody Green informed the commissioners that there were 19 properties currently in tax deed process. She advised that the second half tax drive had concluded, and the treasurer's office collected approximately eight million dollars. She reported that Valley County currently has twenty-five thousand parcels.

Board of County Commissioners Meeting June 28, 2021 Page 2 Community Service/Diversion Coordinator, Steve Ryan provided the commissioners with an overview of matters involving court services. He explained the existing caseload that he had been monitoring and provided the statistics to the commissioners.

University of Idaho Extension Educator, Melissa Hamilton informed the commissioners about the existing programs that she had been facilitating including the master gardener program, peer learning network. She reported that she had been accepted into a national committee for land use and she provided a brief description of the program. She reported on the 4-H program and explained the events that have occurred. She informed the commissioners on upcoming trainings that the University of Idaho Extension Office would be attending. She reported that she would be out of the office from July 1, 2021, through July 12, 2021. Chairman Hasbrouck asked where individuals could obtain grasshopper bait. Melissa informed that individuals could contact Idaho Department of Agriculture and she explained the formal process to request bait.

Human Resource Director, Pat Duncan reported that the onboarding system for Valley County was operational. She presented on the existing openings with Valley County and the struggle that had been occurring filling positions. She advised that she had been working on a policy for Valley County to provide housing for new employees. The commissioners discussed the lack of housing and childcare in Valley County and reported on the steps that are taking place to rectify the situation.

IT Director, Jeremy Wilcox informed the commissioners about the roll out of the Valley County Website and employee portal. He reported on the server upgrades that were occurring. He also informed the commissioners about the improvements to the sound system that would be done in the commissioner's room. The commissioners asked about the Valley County domain name, and he reported that he would be working on it.

Planning & Zoning Director, Cynda Herrick reported on matters that the Planning & Zoning Office had been working on and she informed the commissioners about the Valley County Planning & Zoning Commission meeting agendas. The commissioners requested a workshop with Road Director, Jeff McFadden, and her to discuss conditions of approvals of plats. Cynda advised that she sends a notice to the road director prior to approval of any new subdivision applications, and she requested that he responds to the notices with any concerns. The commissioners again requested that a workshop be conducted regarding new road developments and who was responsible for reviewing the developments.

Recreation Director, Larry Laxson informed the commissioners that he was still working on the warming hut maintenance. He reported that a new groomer would be arriving. He reported on a field visit that occurred to explore grooming trials. He reported on his attendance to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Grant Seminar. He advised that the Cougar Mountain Snowmobile Club had conducted a workday for maintenance. He asked that the commissioners consider implementing a fee structure for the use of the Cabarton Boat Ramp and the Wellington Park and explained that individuals were not making any contributions for the program. The commissioners discussed the creation of RAC and the need to continue to stress the importance of reviewing the grants that have been submitted. Chairman Hasbrouck informed Larry that there were concerns from citizens about the creation of the Clear Creek Campground about the lack of water. Larry advised that he needed to include water access in the development of the

campground. The commissioners asked about the lease with Idaho Department of Lands and Larry responded that he believed that the lease agreement was being reviewed by the Idaho Attorney General's Office.

Facilities Director, Scott Clingan presented to the commissioners about repairs that were made to the Valley County Fairgrounds. He reported on the inspections that would be occurring for the elevators and fire suppression system. He informed that he would be getting a bid to repair landscaping around the courthouse. He also reported on the lighting that would be erected for the employee parking area. He discussed the bid that he was obtaining for removing of the trees that were on the employee parking area. The commissioners asked that before he moves forward with a bid to bring the matter back to the commissioners. Scott advised that he had not heard back from the Cascade School District regarding the water line that needs repaired. The commissioners requested that Scott discuss with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office for a possible formal letter to be sent. He reported that he was obtaining bids for the remodel of the dispatch center at the Emergency Operation Center. He advised that the remodel would start next week for the 209 North Idaho property. He discussed the site visit he conducted at the McCall Annex for the opportunity to move Department of Motor Vehicles to the annex. Commissioner Maupin advised that she had heard that the State of Idaho might be taking over the function of DMV and cautioned that Valley County might not want to do anything currently. The commissioners requested to continue to research all options. He presented to the commissioners regarding the ianitorial contract and voiced concerns regarding the existing contractors. The commissioners believed that the request for proposals for janitorial services still needed to be reviewed. Commissioner Bingaman asked about litter that he observed at the Solid Waste Transfer Site and asked if Scott had contacted Lake Shore Disposal. Scott reported that he had discussed with Lake Shore Disposal Manager, Scott Carnes and he would mention the concerns again.

Road Director, Jeff McFadden presented the Midas Gold Road maintenance agreement from Yellow Pine to Stibnite. Commissioner Maupin made a motion to approve the road maintenance agreement with the change to Perpetua. Commissioner Bingaman seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the road maintenance agreement with the change of the name to Perpetua.

Jeff presented the bid opening for 2021 for Old State Highway. He informed the commissioners that he had only received one bid from Granite Excavation. Chairman Hasbrouck opened the bid for a total bid of \$498,864.00. Commissioner Maupin made a motion to approve the Granite Excavation bid for \$498,864 for the rebuild of Old State Highway. Commissioner Bingaman seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Granite Excavation bid for \$498,864 for the rebuild of Old State Highway.

Jeff presented on Silver Fox Spur and advised that the homeowners wanted to erect a gate on a private road. He wanted to inform the commissioners that it would not impact any county roads. The commissioners felt that winter maintenance in that area needed to be addressed and a road maintenance agreement needed to be signed.

The commissioners informed Jeff about the workshop that they will be placing on the agenda to discuss new road developments/subdivisions and who was responsible for reviewing the plans.

Boise National Forest District Ranger, Jake Strohmeyer informed the commissioners that he would be taking a temporary assignment and did not know who would be covering for him while he was gone. He presented on timber sales that were occurring on the Boise National Forest and advised that there were at least seven years of sales left. He advised that the Boise National Forest had not accepted the Tamarack Resort expansion and explained that it was still under review. He reported on the Great American Outdoors Act and reported that there would be several bridges that would be replaced utilizing the funding and other maintenance. He reiterated that the fire conditions in Valley County were at a high and he anticipated that if the weather continues there would be fire restrictions. He discussed a fuels reduction plan and he touched on an improvement trail system near Thunder Mountain. Jake presented on the existing fire staff if there was a wildland fire in Boise Forest.

Chairman Hasbrouck presented the commissioner meeting minutes from June 21, 2021. Commissioner Bingaman made a motion to approve the commissioner meeting minutes from June 21, 2021. Commissioner Maupin seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the commissioner meeting minutes from June 21, 2021.

Commissioner Maupin presented the IMEG Proposal for engineering services at Lake Fork to determine if it would be buildable for local housing. Commissioner Bingaman made a motion to approve the IMEG Proposal. Chairman Hasbrouck seconded the motion. No further discussion, Chairman Hasbrouck and Commissioner Bingaman voted "yes" with Commissioner Maupin abstaining from the vote. Motion passed.

Commissioner Hasbrouck presented the Sqaw Creek SCD Fund verification letter. Chairman Hasbrouck made motion to approve the Squaw Creek SCD Fund verification letter. Commissioner Bingaman seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Squaw Creek SDC fund verification letter.

The commissioners recessed for lunch at 12:01 p.m.

The commissioners returned from lunch at 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Hasbrouck opened the Public Hearing for Valley County Code-Amendments to Title 9, Title 10, and Title 11 and asked the commissioners if there was any ex-parte communication or conflict of interest. All commissioners advised that there was no ex-parte communication or conflict of interest.

Planning & Zoning Director, Cynda Herrick provided a staff report to the commissioners regarding the proposed changes to Valley County Code-Amendments to Title 9, Title 10, and Title 11.

Chairman Hasbrouck asked to hear testimony from proponents. The record will reflect that there was no testimony submitted to the commissioners.

Chairman Hasbrouck asked to hear testimony from uncommitted. The record will reflect that there was no testimony submitted to the commissioners.

Chairman Hasbrouck asked to hear testimony from opponents. The record will reflect that there was no testimony submitted to the commissioners.

Chairman Hasbrouck closed the Public Hearing for Valley County Code-Amendments to Title 9, Title 10, and Title 11 at 2:12 p.m.

Commissioner Maupin made amotion to approve the Valley County Code-Amendments to Title 9, Title 10, and Title 11 as amended. Commissioner Bingaman seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed to approve the Valley County Code-Amendments to Title 9, Title 10, and Title 11 as amended.

The commissioners began the budget workshop for Fiscal Year 2022 and the first budget to be reviewed was for 27-00 Weeds. A copy of the budget worksheet is available upon request through the Clerk's Office.

The next budget workshop was for Pest Control. A copy of the budget worksheet is available upon request through the Clerk's Office.

The next budget workshop was for the Valley County Road Department Fund 02. A copy of the budget worksheet is available upon request through the Clerk's Office.

Coroner, Scott Carver provided his annual Coroner Report for 2019. A copy of the report will be appended to the commissioner meeting minutes. He advised that 2020 report had been delayed and he would present once it was available.

The commissioners began the budget workshop for Fiscal Year 2022 and the budget presented was 01-06 Coroner. A copy of the budget worksheet presented is available upon request through the Valley County Clerk's Office.

The commissioners opened the meeting for the opportunity for the public to present to the commissioners. Ms. Rachel Ikola from Donnelly, Idaho, presented on the requirement for base flood evaluation ordinance on 160-acre parcel on coroner of Paddy Flat Road and Farm to Market. She presented on her concerns regarding the existing ordinance. She advised that a base flood evaluation would cost \$30,000 to \$40,000 and would take six or nine months to complete. She explained that her father-in-law wants to donate a piece of the 160 acres and has been informed that if it was split it would require a base flood evaluation. She informed the commissioners about her conversations with Planning & Zoning Director, Cynda Herrick. She wanted to ask the commissioners what other options would be. She advised that FEMA has informed her that there were other options available rather than having a formal base flood evaluation being completed. The commissioners had the opportunity to ask questions to Planning & Zoning Director, Cynda Herrick, regarding the parcel in question and the options available to the landowner. Ms. Ikola informed the commissioners what other counties had allowed including an elevation certificate. The commissioners advised that they would need to discuss with Civil Attorney, Brian Oakey and provide a legal opinion in the future. Mr. Jerry Ikola owner of the property explained to the commissioners the difficulties of the situation.

Mr. Mike Chapin who resides in Cascade, Idaho, presented to the commissioners his concerns regarding the traffic on the road he lives on near Clear Creek Road. He advised that he feels that

the speed limit should be reduced in the area. He also had concerns regarding the development of the Clear Creek Park owned by Valley County. He is asking that Valley County consider providing dust abatement.

Ron Peterson presented on a proposed dust mitigation effort due to the increased traffic on Clear Creek RD. Traffic is all week long, not just weekends. The traffic is coming through the subdivision, not sticking to the main road. He submitted a mitigation plan. They would like to have an off-road vehicle fee to be used for dust abatement in Valley County where there is a lot of traffic. It could be similar to the snowmobile permit. Commissioner Maupin will find out if we can require tags or fees for off road vehicles. We have limited authority to set those fees. As Valley County we can only tax ourselves with a road levy to take care of these matters. Individual subdivisions can require dues from each homeowner for upkeep within subdivisions, for dust, snow removal, etc.. The Road Advisory Committee is looking into funding opportunities. Chairman Hasbrouck suggested they use "earth bind", it is not a mag chloride product. North American Dust Abatement is the company from Emmett that applies the product – mag chloride only lasts about 6 weeks. Engineering studies for changing speed limits can result in increased speed limits. Chairman Hasbrouck would try to get "no through traffic" on this internal road system in the subdivision.

Assessor Fullmer said there are 41 appeals and a number coming in the mail. We can cancel Wednesday, meet on Tuesday, and do personal appearances on Thursday. Commissioner Maupin would like to do electronic meeting.

Human Resource Director, Pat Duncan proposed a new starting wage for dispatchers. She proposed moving the starting wage until October to \$18.00. Other counties vary in wages. Commissioner Maupin suggested a hiring bonus. The commissioners discussed the difficulties of hiring new staff especially for dispatch. Chairman Hasbrouck made a motion to increase the starting hourly rate for dispatchers to \$18.00 per hour. Commissioner Maupin second the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed.

Human Resource Director, Pat Duncan requested an increase of PTO hours for dispatchers or proposed that their additional hours be paid out. The commissioners discussed other options to consider. Commissioner Bingaman moved to pay out 50 hours for dispatchers to reduce PTO Commissioner Maupin seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor. Motion passed.

Commissioner Bingaman made a motion to go into Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206 1 (d). Commissioner Maupin seconded the motion. No further discussion, by roll call vote all commissioners voted "aye". The commissioners went into Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206 1(d) 4:33 p.m.

Chairman Hasbrouck brought the commissioners out of Executive Session at 4:40 p.m. No decision was made as the Executive Session was for evaluation/coaching purposes.

The commissioners adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Elling D. Zusbrouch Chairman, Elting Hasbrouck

Douglas Miller, Clerk

#### **Valley County Board of County Commissioners**

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VALLEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING AGENDA Monday June 28, 2021

Valley County adheres to ADA requirements. If anyone requires an accommodation, please contact the clerk prior to the meeting.

<u>PROPOSED AGENDA</u> Note: Any item(s) in need of a motion <u>will be</u> described in the agenda under the appropriate section.

- 9:00 Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance Approve Agenda
- 9:05 Action Item: Claims, Board Order Claims & Junior College Tuition- Senior Deputy Auditor, K.C. Mauk
- 9:10 Elected Official Reports/Discussion

Assessor – June Fullmer Clerk – Doug Miller Prosecutor – Brian Naugle Sheriff – Patti Bolen Treasurer – Gabe Stayton

#### Department Head Reports - 5 Minutes each

Building Department – Annette Derrick Court Services – Steve Ryan Extension Office- Melissa Hamilton Human Resources/Risk Management – Pat Duncan Information Technology – Jeremy Wilcox Planning and Zoning-Cynda Herrick Parks and Recreation- Larry Laxson

- 10:30 Buildings and Grounds / Solid Waste- Scott Clingan
- 11:00 Road & Bridge Presentation- Jeff McFadden

Action Item: Bid Opening for 2021 Old State Highway Paving
Road maintenance Agreement with Midas Gold for Maintenance from
Yellow Pine to Stibnite

11:30 Boise National Forest Presentation-District Ranger, Jake Strohmeyer

#### 11:30 Commissioner Discussion

Action Items: Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2021
Sign IMEG Proposal for Engineering Services
Fill out Squaw Creek SCD Fund Verification Letter

- 12:00 Recess for Lunch
- 1:00 **Public Hearing/Action Item:** Valley County Code Amendments to Title 9, Title 10, and Title 11 Planning and Zoning Director, Cynda Herrick
- 2:00 Action Item: Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206 1(d)-"to consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in Chapter 1, Title 74, Idaho Code"-Indigent & Charity
- 2:00 Budget Workshop for Fiscal Year 2022-Clerk, Douglas Miller 02-00 Road and Bridge Superintendent, Jeff McFadden 01-31 Motor Pool Superintendent, Jeff McFadden 27-00 Weeds Superintendent, Jeff McFadden 28-00 Pest Control-Superintendent, Jeff McFadden
- 3:00 Annual Coroner Report-Coroner, Scott Carver Budget Workshop for Fiscal Year 2021-Clerk, Douglas Miller 01-06 Coroner - Coroner, Scott Carver
- 3:30 Opportunity from General Public to Present to Commissioners
  Presentation from Ms. Rachel Ikola Regarding Requirement for Base Flood Evaluation on
  160 Acre Parcel on Corner of Paddy Flat Road and Farm to Market Road
  Presentation from Mr. Mike Chapin Regarding Traffic and Dust Issues
- 4:00 Action Items: Raising Dispatch Starting Rate
  Paying Dispatchers out PTO to Reduce Balance
- 4:15 Action Item: Executive Session per Idaho Code 74-206 1(b)-"to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student."-Personnel

Adjourn

COMMISSIONERS FUTURE MEETING DATE Tuesday July 6, 2021

# 2019 Annual Report Valley County Coroner's Office



# Scott G. Carver, D-ABMDI Valley County Coroner

P.O. Box 2369 McCall, Idaho 83638-2369

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## **DEDICATION**

I recognize that each case in this report represents the death of a person whose absence is grieved by beloved family, friends and our community. To those individuals, their loved ones, and to all citizens of Valley County who share in the loss, this report is dedicated.

Scott G. Carver, D-ABMDI

Coroner

#### A Personal Message from Coroner Carver

On January 1, 2015, the National Commission on Forensic Science Accreditation of Medicolegal Death Investigation Office voted unanimously to adopt the following recommendation:

"The National Commission on Forensic Science requests that the Attorney General of the United States approve a policy that recommends that all offices, facilities or institutions performing government funded official medicolegal death investigation activities, for medical examiner/coroner system, be accredited by the end of the year 2020."

As your Valley County Coroner, I am proud to report, that your Coroner's Office is working diligently at accreditation with goals of meeting this requirement by the end of year 2022.

The first step to accreditation is the certification of medicolegal death investigators. I am excited to announce that I have earned the certification as a medicolegal death investigator, and now am officially Board-Certified Diplomate by the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI). ABMDI is accredited by the Forensic Specialties Accreditation Board (FSAB), which also provides professional oversight to other forensic specialties.

I am extremely conscious of the sacred responsibility and duty I have as your Coroner to provide the utmost professional, ethical and compassionate care of you, your family and our community when I am called upon to care for your loved one.

Therefore, this annual report is proudly dedicated to those we are privileged to serve.

With a grateful heart,

Sincerely, Coroner Scott G. Carver, D-ABMDI

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#### Introduction

The Valley County Coroner's Office serves the living by investigating sudden and unexpected deaths and, in particular, those that occur under violent or suspicious circumstances. The Coroner's Office is tasked by state statute with investigating all reportable deaths occurring within Valley County and its main duty is to determine the cause and manner of death in such cases, and to provide formal death certification. The cause of death is the disease process or injury that resulted in death. There are thousands of diseases and injuries that may result in death. The manner of death is a classification in which a determination is made regarding whether the death resulted from natural causes, homicide, suicide, or an accident. On occasion, the manner of death may be classified as undetermined.

The Coroner's Office staff recognizes the tragedy surrounding an untimely death and performs its investigations, in part, to assist the grieving family. A comprehensive and thorough investigation helps clarify the circumstances, such as the sequence of events prior to death. Evidence collected during an investigation and/or postmortem examination may also provide invaluable information for implementing criminal and/or civil litigation and may be used for the expeditious settling of insurance claims and estates. Questions which seem irrelevant in the initial hours after death can become significant in the following weeks and months. The surviving family, friends, and general public should have the assurance that a complete investigation was conducted. Due to the fact that deaths occur around the clock, a member of the Coroner's Office staff must be available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

When a death occurs on the job, or is work-related, the results of our investigation are immediately forwarded to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) so that the job site can be thoroughly examined. Private insurance companies may also routinely use these findings to settle claims. Whenever a consumer product is implicated in a death, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) will be notified to ensure that the product is studied and the necessary steps are taken to protect the public. The public health dimension of the Coroner's function is designed to isolate and identify infectious agents or poisons that cause sudden, unexpected death, and when an agent is implicated, the family and persons recently in physical contact with the deceased are notified in order that they might receive any needed medical treatment.

The medical investigation of violent death is frequently required in criminal adjudication. Thus, a prompt medical investigation is conducted to provide the criminal justice system with information and pertinent evidence. Although criminal death investigations constitute a very small portion of deaths investigated by the Valley County Coroner, these deaths are studied in great detail because of potential legal consequences involved.

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

As an impartial, independent agency, our mission is to serve the public by providing the citizens of Valley County, medical professionals, and members of the justice system, with accurate, scientific, and unbiased medical-based determination of cause and manner of death, as well as completion of associated responsibilities. To this end, we strive for nothing less than excellence in practice, integrity, compassion, and continued advancement in the field.

#### **CORE VALUES**

SERVICE • COMPASSION • PROFESSIONALISM • DIGNITY • INTEGRITY

#### Description and Purpose of the Coroner's Office

The Valley County Coroner's Office is a separate and independent division of the Valley County Government and is funded through the Board of County Commissioners of Valley County, by the citizens of Valley County.

The Coroner is an elected position, voted into office by the citizens of Valley County. Under the Coroner's direction there is one Deputy Coroner; both are Medicolegal Death Investigators. The Coroner is responsible for field investigation of scenes and circumstances of death, positive identification of the deceased, certification of death, notification of next-of-kin, scheduling of postmortem examinations where indicated, control and disposition of personal property of the deceased, and archiving of related documentation.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Board of County Commissioners as well as the citizens of Valley County for their support of the Valley County Coroner's Office and the services we provide to all of the residents and visitors of Valley County.

#### Staff

Scott G. Carver, D-ABMDI Coroner

#### Reportable Deaths

Those deaths that occur within the county borders that are to be reported to the Coroner's Office are defined by statute (Idaho Code § 19-4301) and include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Any death that occurs suddenly and unexpectedly, when the person has not been under medical care by a physician for significant natural disease.
- Any death suspected to be due to alcohol, illicit drug, or prescription drug intoxication or exposure.
- Any death related to exposure to toxic agents, environmental extremes (heat or cold), or thermal, chemical or radiation injury.
- Any death of a person in the custody of law enforcement officers or housed in a county or state institution.
- Any death that occurs within 24 hours of admission to a hospital, or at any time if the patient has not regained consciousness since admission, even after 24 hours of admission.
- Any death of an infant or child that is unexpected or unexplained.
- Any death related to a person's occupation or occurring at the workplace.
- Any death suspected to be due to infectious or contagious disease that may constitute a threat to the health of the general public.
- Any death where the body is unidentifiable, decomposed, charred or skeletonized.
- Any death occurring under suspicious circumstances.

Any death *in which there is doubt* as to whether or not it is a Coroner's case *should be reported.* 

Deaths meeting the above criteria will be investigated by the Valley County Coroner's Office; jurisdiction may or may not be assumed in individual cases and autopsies will be performed only as determined absolutely necessary by the Coroner and/or Valley County Prosecuting Attorney.

## Explanation of Data

The information presented in this report was compiled on deaths which were reported to the Valley County Coroner's Office and occurred during the 2019 calendar year. The report will present routinely collected data in a manner that attempts to answer questions regarding mortality and public health; the role of alcohol, drugs of abuse, and firearm use in violent deaths is emphasized. If the quality of life in Valley County is to be improved, perhaps this report can serve as an instigator for change. The data included represents only a subset of total mortality figures, representing findings on cases that come to the attention of, and jurisdiction of, the Coroner's Office. Complete mortality figures for the county to include deaths not under the jurisdiction of the Coroner's Office can be obtained through the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics.

The geographic area served by the Coroner's Office includes the entire 3,733 square miles of Valley County, which is surrounded by Idaho County to the north, Lemhi County to the northeast, Custer County to the southeast, Boise County to the south, Gem County to the southwest and Adams County to the west and northwest. Information from the 2010 census from the U.S. Census Bureau lists Valley County as having a 2010 population of 9,862; the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that the 2019 population of the county is 11,392. The county contains all or parts of the following unincorporated communities: Big Creek, Lake Fork and Roseberry; and incorporated cities: Cascade, Donnelly and McCall; as well as census-designated places: Smiths Ferry, Yellow Pine and Warm Lake.

Demographics in this report are summarized from individual cases under the jurisdiction of the Coroner, and presented here in aggregate form. Each manner of death is addressed individually with appropriate data displayed relating to each category; the variables displayed such as setting, gender, age, etc., have been selected as those most likely to assist and interest individuals utilizing this report.

Blood alcohol data included here represents the blood alcohol concentrations (BAC) at the time of death or injury/hospitalization, when available. Alcohol is metabolized at a rate of 0.015 to 0.018 grams per deciliter per hour. Thus, if there is a significant interval between injury and death, there will be discrepancies between blood alcohol concentrations at the time of injury and the time of death. Tables will reflect blood alcohol concentration at the time of injury whenever appropriate samples were available for testing. When representative samples from the time of injury are not available (due to prolonged hospitalization or other circumstance), blood alcohol concentration testing may not be performed on autopsy samples or, if performed, may show a significantly decreased blood alcohol concentration level not reflective of that present at the time of the actual incident.

#### Total Cases/Reportable Deaths

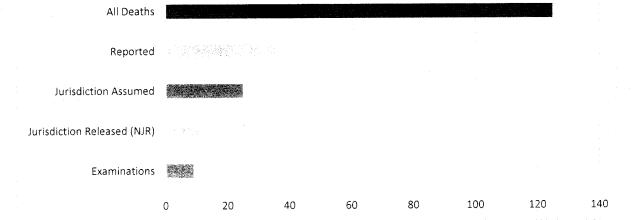
In 2019, there were a total of 125 deaths in Valley County. Of these deaths, 36 (29%) were reported to the Valley County Coroner's Office by medical and/or law enforcement personnel and the office provided various degrees of investigative services for each of these deaths. Based on an analysis of the scene, circumstances surrounding the death, and the deceased's medical history as gathered by the investigator(s), the Coroner assumed jurisdiction in 25 (69%) and relinquished jurisdiction (Non-Jurisdictional Release, or NJR) of 11 (44%) of reported deaths. Forensic examinations were carried out in 9 (36%) of the assumed jurisdiction cases. Autopsies are not performed in deaths where the scene, circumstances, medical history, and external examination of the body provide sufficient information for death certification. In cases where jurisdiction was relinquished (NJR) by the Valley County Coroner, a local physician certified the death based on knowledge of the deceased's state of health and medical conditions. Deaths certified by local physicians primarily encompass natural deaths in individuals with a known disease process, and include deaths within nursing homes and assisted care facilities.

The following tables and figures summarize the manner of death in all cases reported to the Coroner's Office. Of the cases that fell under the Coroner's jurisdiction, 17 (68%) were natural deaths, 7 (28%) were under the accidental category, followed by suicides, 2 (8%). There were 0 (0%) homicidal deaths and 0 (0%) deaths pending or still under investigation as of December 31, 2019.

## STATISTICS TOTALS

#### Figure 1

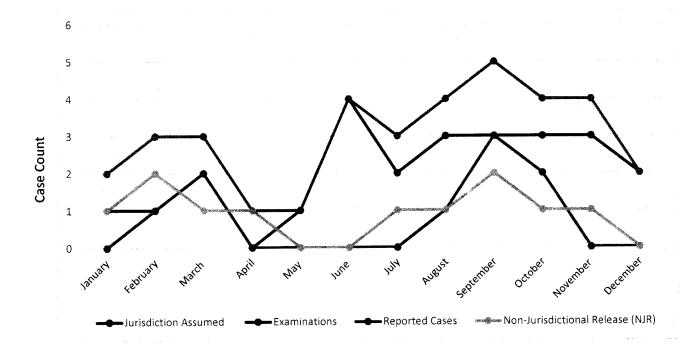
All Valley County Deaths	125
Reported to the Valley County Coroner	36
Jurisdiction Assumed by the Valley County Coroner	25
Jurisdiction Released by the Valley County Coroner (NJR)	11
Forensic Examinations by the Valley County Coroner	9



## STATISTICS BY MONTH

Figure 2

Month	Total Reported Cases	Jurisdiction Assumed	Non-Jurisdictional Release (NJR)	Forensic Examinations
January	2	1	1	0
February	3	1	2	1
March	3	2	1	2
April	1	0	1	0
May	1	1	0	0
June	4	4	0	0
July	3	2	1	0
August	4	3	1	1
September	5	3	2	3
October	4	3	1	2
November	4	3	1	0
December	2	2	0	0
Total	36	25	11	9



#### **AUTOPSY STATUS**

Figure 3

Type of Case	Manner of Death	Exa	minations		Percent Autopsied	Total
Coroner Jurisdiction		Yes – Autopsy	Yes – External	No		
	Accident	4	0	3	57%	7
	Natural	2	2	12	12%	16
	Suicide	1	0	1	50%	2
		7	2	16	28%	25
Jurisdiction Re	linquished					
Coroner R	eviewed	<u>,</u>		14		
Non-Jurise	dictional Release (NJ	R)		11		·
				25		25
Reported Deat	:hs	7	2	16		25

#### TOTAL CASES: CASE DISTRIBUTION

Figure 4

#### Cases by Manner of Death by Age

Gender	Age	Natural	Ac	cident	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Total
			MVC*	Non-MVC				
Female	<1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15-19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	20-24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	25-34	0	0	0	0	, .0	0	0
	35-44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	45-54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	55-64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	65-74	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	75-84	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	85-94	1	0	1	0	0	. 0	2
	95+	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Su	btotal	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
Male	<1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5-9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	10-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	15-19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	20-24	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
	25-34	0	2	1	1	0	0	4
	35-44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	45-54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	55-64	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
	65-74	6	1	0	0	0	0	7
	75-84	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
	85-94	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	95+	0	0	0	00	0	0	0
Su	ibtotal	14	3	3	2	0	0	22
		16	3	4	2	0	0	25

<sup>\*</sup>MVC = Motor Vehicle Crash

#### Accident

Seven deaths were certified as accidental during the 2019 calendar year, including traffic-related fatalities which are further subdivided in the following pages. Deaths due to opioid/drug intoxication accounted for the largest percentage of accidental fatalities – opioid/drug intoxication (71%, 5/7), blunt force trauma/motor vehicle crash (29%, 2/7) and drowning (14%, 1/7). Of the motor vehicle crash-related fatalities, both were due to blunt force trauma, both were drivers/operators.

#### **ACCIDENT FATALITIES – BY METHOD**

Figure 5

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Acute heroin toxicity	1	0	1
Blunt force trauma/injuries due to single motor vehicle crash	1	0	1
Blunt force trauma/injuries due to horse falling on victim	1	0	1
Drowning due to alcohol intoxication	2	0	2
Drowning due to fall in bathtub	0	1	1
Methamphetamine intoxication	1	0	1
Hip fracture due to ground level fall	0	1	1
Total	6	2	. 8

#### **ACCIDENT FATALITIES – BY LOCATION**

Figure 6

Setting	Male	Female	Total
State Highway	1	0	1
Lake	. 1	0	1
Rural Mountain Area	2	0	2
Nursing Home	0	1	1
Hotel Room	1	0	1
Work Office	1	0	1
Total	6	1	7

#### Accident (Motor Vehicle Crash)

During 2019, the Coroner's Office participated in the investigation of two traffic fatalities that were certified as accidental in nature. This excludes any deaths where a motor vehicle would have been used in a suicidal or homicidal manner.

The information in the following tables and graphs shows the age and sex distribution of traffic fatalities.

Driver/Operator of motorized vehicles made up 100% (2/2) of traffic-related fatalities.

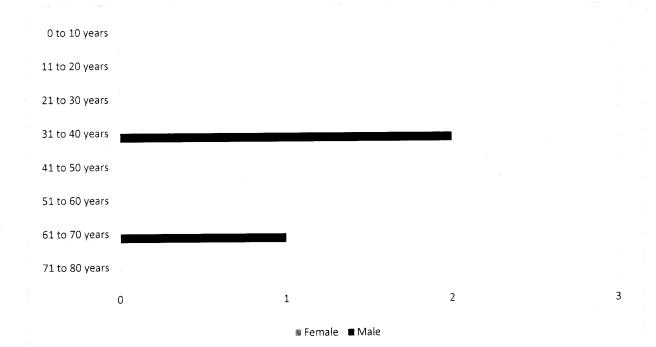
Seat belts were not used in 100% (2/2) of fatalities in which seat belt usage was known and available.

Blood alcohol concentrations of all traffic fatalities are depicted in Figure 10. Both drivers/operators had elevated blood alcohol when tested. Toxicology testing was performed in both drivers/operators motor vehicle crash.

## TRAFFIC FATALITIES – BY AGE

Figure 7

Age	Male	Female	Total
0 to 10 years	0	0	0
11 to 20 years	0	0	0
21 to 30 years	0	0	0
31 to 40 years	2	0	2
41 to 50 years	0	0	0
51 to 60 years	0	0	0
61 to 70 years	1	0	1
71 to 80 years	0	0	0
Total	3	0	3



## TRAFFIC/AIRPLANE FATALITIES — BY PARTY

Figure 8

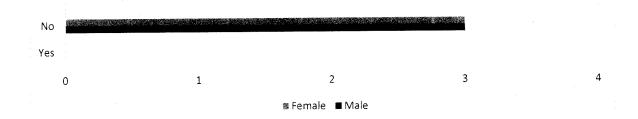
Location	Male	Female	Total
Driver/Operator of Motor Vehicle	3	0	3
Total	3	0	3

Driver/Operator of Motor Vehicle					
	0	1 s Female	• ■ Male	2	3

## TRAFFIC- BY SEATBELT/RESTRAINT USAGE

Figure 9

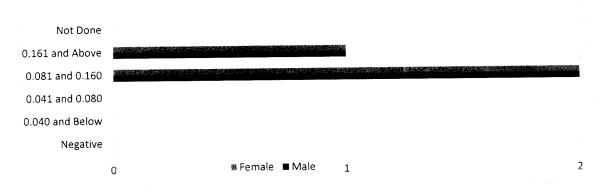
Seatbelt/Restraint Used	Male	Female	Total	
No	3	0	3	
Yes	0	0	0	
Total	3	0	3	



# TRAFFIC FATALITIES – BY BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION

Figure 10

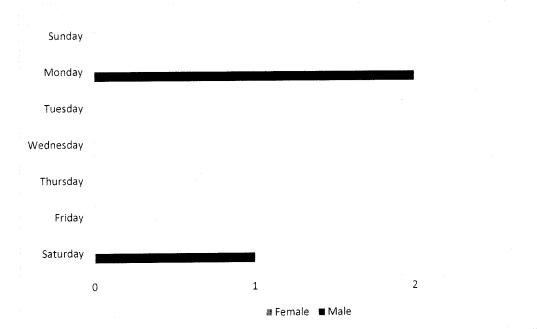
Blood Ethanol %	Male	Female	Total
Negative	0	0	0
0.040 and Below	0	0	0
0.041 and 0.080	0	0	0
0.081 and 0.160	2	0	2
0.161 and above	1	0	1
Not Tested	0	0	0
Total	3	0	3



## TRAFFIC FATALITIES – BY DAY OF WEEK

Figure 11

Day	Male	Female	Total
Sunday	0	0	0
Monday	2	0	2
Tuesday	0	0	0
Wednesday	0	0	0
Thursday	0	0	0
Friday	0	0	0
Saturday	1	0	1
Total	3	0	3



3

#### Homicide

A death is classified as homicide when it results from injuries inflicted by another person. The designation of homicide by the Coroner's Office does not in any way reflect specific criminal charges that may or may not subsequently be filed by Prosecuting Attorneys or the District Attorney's Office. In 2019, there were zero deaths classified as homicide by this office.

#### **HOMICIDE – BY METHOD**

Figure 12

Cause	Male	Female	Total	
Not Applicable	0	0	0	
Total	0	0	0	

Method

0

1

■ Female ■ Male

#### **HOMICIDE – BY METHOD AND MONTH**

Figure 13

Cause	Gender	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Total	_
Not Applicable														0	_
Total														0	

## **HOMICIDE – BY AGE**

Figure 14

Age	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	0	0	0
1 to 10 years	0	0	0
11 to 20 years	0	0	0
21 to 30 years	0	0	0
31 to 40 years	0	0	0
41 to 50 years	0	0	0
51 to 60 years	0	0	0
61 to 70 years	. 0	0	0
71 to 80 years	0	0	0
81 to 90 years	0	0	0
Over 90 years	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

#### Suicide

A death is classified as suicide when it results from injuries which are self-inflicted. In 2019, there were two suicidal deaths in Valley County, accounting for 8% (2/25) of deaths under the Coroner's jurisdiction. Notes indicating suicidal intent were discovered in 0% (0/2) of the cases. One suicide death occurred in a hotel room, and one in a rural wooded area.

In 2019, both of the suicides that occurred within Valley County involved firearms, ETOH intoxication (alcohol intoxication) and/or methamphetamine intoxication.

Consistent with nationwide figures, men commit suicide at a higher rate than women, comprising 100% of the cases within the county in 2019. The victims were aged 24 and 33. Both were never married.

Blood alcohol concentrations of suicides are depicted in Figure 20. Toxicology testing was performed in all four (100%) of the cases. For those cases that indicated drugs including alcohol, the drug(s) used are listed in Figure 17.

#### SUICIDES - BY METHOD

Figure 15

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Gunshot wound to head, ETOH,			
Methamphetamine intoxication	1	0	1
Gunshot wound to head	1	0	1
Total	2	0	, 2

Suicide by Method

Gunshot wound to head, ETOH and Methamphetamine intoxication		_		
Gunshot wound to head		<b>-</b>		
	0	1	2	3

## SUICIDES – BY METHOD AND MONTH

Figure 16

Cause	Gender	JAN	FEB N	MAR APF	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Tota
Gunshot wound to head	, ETOH,	Met	hamp	hetami	ine int	oxica	tion						
	Male									1			
Gunshot wound to head	Male							1					
Total							_	1		1			2

## SUICIDES – BY DRUG USE/INVOLVEMENT

Figure 17

Drug	Male	Female	Total
Ethanol (ETOH)	1	0	1
Methamphetamine	1	0	1
Total	2	0	2

#### SUICIDES – BY AGE

Figure 18

Age	Male	Female	Total
1 to 10 years	0	0	0
11 to 20 years	0	0	0
21 to 30 years	1	0	1
31 to 40 years	1	0	1
41 to 50 years	0	0	0
51 to 60 years	0	0	0
61 to 70 years	0	0	0
71 to 80 years	0	0	0
Total	2	0	2

#### SUICIDES - BY NOTE

Figure 19

Note	Male	Female	Total
Yes	0	0	0
No	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
Total	4	0	4

## SUICIDES - BY BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATION

Figure 20

Blood Ethanol %	Male	Female	Total
Negative	0	0	0
0.040 and Below	0	0	0
0.041 and 0.080	0	0	0
0.081 and 0.160	1	0	1
0.161 and Above	1	0	1
Not Done	0	0	0
Total	2	0	2

#### **SUICIDES – BY LOCATION**

Figure 21

Setting	Male	Female	Total
Motel Room	1	0	1
Rural/Outside Area	1	0	1
Total	2	0	2

## SUICIDES – BY MARITAL STATUS

Figure 22

Marital Status	Male	Female	Total
Divorced	0	0	0
Married	0	0	0
Never Married	2	0	2
Total	2	0	2

#### SUICIDES – BY DAY OF WEEK

Figure 23

Day	Male	Female	Total
Sunday	0	0	0
Monday	0	0	0
Tuesday	0	0	0
Wednesday	0	0	0
Thursday	0	. 0	0
Friday	1	0	1
Saturday	1	0	1
Total	2	0	2

#### Natural

Most natural deaths occurring in Valley County do not fall under the jurisdiction of the Coroner's Office; many natural deaths are reported to the Coroner's Office, however, jurisdiction is waived based on medical history and the presence of a local physician familiar with the decedent. These cases are therefore not represented in this report, creating a significant sampling bias when comparing statistics to the general population.

Natural deaths that are sudden and unexpected in nature are the primary concern of the Coroner's Office. In 2019 deaths of a natural manner represent one of the largest categories of deaths investigated by the Coroner's Office 64% (16/25). Cardiovascular disease continues to account for the greatest proportion of natural deaths 69% (11/16) and is grouped under "atherosclerotic and/or hypertensive cardiovascular disease" and "congestive heart failure" in the following figure, which would include causes of death such as coronary artery disease, hypertension, and myocardial infarction.

#### **NATURAL DEATHS – BY CAUSE**

Figure 24

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Atherosclerotic and/or hypertensive			
cardiovascular disease	10	1	11
Carcinoma of Lung	0	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus Type II	1	0	1
Failure to Thrive	1	0	1
Staph Aureus Bacteremia	1	0	1
Health Care Acquired Pneumonia	1	0	1
Sudden unexpected death in epilepsy	1	0	1
Acute Myeloid Leukemia	1	0	1
Total	16	2	18

## Undetermined

All possible efforts are made to determine both a manner and cause of death for all deaths investigated by the Coroner's Office. On occasion a very small percentage of the total cases, the manner of death is unable to be classified, even with a complete autopsy, scene investigation, and toxicology testing.

In 2019 there were zero deaths classified as undetermined.

#### **UNDETERMINED – BY CAUSE**

Figure 25

Cause	Male	Female	Total
Not Applicable	0	0	00
Total	0	0	0

## Law Enforcement Agencies

The geographic area served by the Coroner's Office includes the entire 3,733 square miles of Valley County. The U.S. Census Bureau lists Valley County as having a 2010 population of 9,862; the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that the 2019 population of the county is 11,392. The county contains all or parts of the following unincorporated communities: Big Creek, Lake Fork and Roseberry; and incorporated cities: Cascade, Donnelly and McCall; as well as census-designated places: Smiths Ferry, Yellow Pine and Warm Lake. Figure 26 depicts the distribution of coroner's jurisdiction cases for each law enforcement agency; Valley County Sheriff's Office is the largest agency represented 40% (10/25), followed by the Idaho State Police 12% (3/25), and the McCall Police Department 8% (2/25). The Sheriff's Office provides services for unincorporated Valley County as well as the cities and towns of Cascade and Donnelly. Occasionally injured victims as well as hospitalized patients are transferred from Valley County to an Ada County regional trauma center; at the time of death, jurisdiction is then assumed by the Ada County Coroner's Office.

#### CASES BY INVESTIGATING AGENCY

Figure 26

Agency	Natural	Accident	Traffic	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Total
Valley County Sheriff's Office	5	3	0	2	0	0	10
McCall Police Dept.	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
Idaho State Police	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
Subtotal	6	4	2	3	0	0	15

## Coroner Activities

The staff of the Coroner's Office is involved in a wide variety of activities commensurate with the mission of the office; this includes responding to and investigating the scene of death, scheduling postmortem examinations (autopsy or external examinations), certifying the cause and manner of death, and providing information and assistance to families. The Coroner's Office staff is well-versed in working with families suffering the emotional trauma of an unexpected death; we also alert families to Coroner procedure, review the investigative or examination findings with the families, and help to clarify the many questions that accompany the sudden loss of life.

Many cases either referred to or brought to the Coroner's Office are dealt with in a customary manner, because the identity of the deceased is known and next-of-kin can be readily contacted to decide on final arrangements and assist in disposition of the personal property of the deceased. However, there are, on occasion, cases which are more difficult to resolve. In certain deaths, the identification of the deceased may not be established or next-of-kin information is not available. These cases require positive identification to be made using dental, medical or DNA records, or for extensive searches to be performed in pursuit of next-of-kin; these efforts can be very time-consuming but are ultimately rewarding.

There were no unidentified bodies in 2019. Other unusual circumstances requiring Coroner's Office involvement may include examination of exhumed bodies (none in 2019), and autopsies performed by a hospital pathologist where the Coroner's Office retains jurisdiction (none in 2019).

In 2019, scene visits were performed by the Coroner in all cases where jurisdiction was assumed by the Valley County Coroner's Office; 25 bodies were transferred to the county morgue. The time between when the death is reported to this office until the time of arrival of our medicolegal death investigator (Coroner or Deputy Coroner) at the scene is tracked and recorded; the total time spent on the scene, as well as the time spent returning to the county morgue from the scene, and the mileage each way, is also tracked and recorded.

The autopsy examination on each decedent involves a thorough external and internal medical exam, and includes the preservation of various tissues and body fluids for microscopic and toxicologic analyses. Toxicology is performed in a vast majority of cases (80% of 2019 cases, 20/25); however, toxicology testing may not be performed when representative samples from the time of injury are not available or when the results of toxicology testing will not influence further investigation or determination of cause and manner of death. Photographs are taken during the examination and are retained for permanent documentation, which is also an essential item in those cases where the Forensic Pathologist and/or Coroner must provide court testimony.

The Coroner and Forensic Pathologist both may be compelled to provide testimony in court and at deposition. The Coroner participates in meetings with law enforcement and attorneys (both prosecuting and defending), in a variety of criminal and civil cases. Autopsy reports and related data from individual investigations are provided to appropriate agencies, including law enforcement, attorneys, Idaho Department of Health & Welfare (IDHW), Labor & Industries (OSHA), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Case information on all child deaths (under 18 years old) is provided to local and statewide Child Fatality Prevention Review Teams. The Coroner's Office also works in a cooperative effort with regional organ procurement agencies to facilitate organ and tissue donation for transplantation; in 2019, the Valley County Coroner's Office initiated the referral process to Community Tissue Services and the Lions Eye Bank,

with direct referrals on 10 decedents for eye and/or tissue donation, facilitating seven completed recoveries (numbers <u>exclusive</u> of coroner cases referred through hospital donation systems). Combining direct Coroner referrals and hospital referrals with Coroner approval, a total of nine Valley County Coroner's Office cases underwent recovery (organ, tissue, cornea, or a combination thereof).

The Coroner participates in a variety of teaching opportunities and conferences, and provides information and education on a regular basis to law enforcement, medical personnel, and others on various aspects of the role and function of the Coroner's Office. The Coroner and Deputy Coroner are required to obtain continuing education on an annual basis, which is obtained through attending, and satisfactory completion of, examinations held through conferences, trainings and seminars approved and accredited by the International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners, local and national agencies and organizations.

The data collected and presented in this and other Coroner reports also provides baseline information for further analysis. The Coroner analyzes data to study relevant death investigation topics which have application in such fields as law enforcement, medicine, law, social sciences, epidemiology, and injury prevention.

## Glossary of terms

**Autopsy** – A detailed postmortem external and internal examination of a body to determine cause of death.

Cause of Death – The agent of effect that results in a physiological derangement or biochemical disturbance that is incompatible with life. The results of postmortem examination, including autopsy and toxicological findings, combined with information about the medical history of the decedent serves to establish the cause of death. The cause of death can result from different circumstances and manner of death. For example, the same cause of death, drowning, can result from the accidental submersion of a child in a swimming pool or from the homicidal immersion of a child in a bathtub.

Children – Individuals 17 years of age or younger.

Circumstances of Death – The situation, setting, or condition present at the time of injury or death.

County of Injury – The County where the injury leading to death occurred.

Medicolegal Death Investigator – An investigator appointed by the Coroner to assist in the investigation of deaths in the jurisdiction of the Valley County Coroner's Office.

External Examination – A detailed postmortem external examination of a body.

**Drug Toxicity** – A death caused by a drug or combination of drugs. Deaths caused by poisons and volatile substances are excluded.

**Ethanol** – An alcohol, which is the principal intoxicant in liquor, beer and wine. A person with an alcohol concentration in blood of 0.08 grams percent (0.08 g%) is legally intoxicated in Idaho.

**Ethanol Present** – Deaths in which toxicological tests reveal a reportable level of ethanol (0.005% or greater) at the time of death.

**Jurisdiction** – The extent of the Coroner's authority over deaths. The Coroner's authority covers reportable deaths that occur in Valley County. Idaho Code § 19-4301A defines reportable deaths. Not all natural deaths are reportable deaths within the jurisdiction of the Coroner.

**Investigation** – An exploration conducted at the scene to determine circumstances surrounding a death, to include a general external examination of the body and the surroundings.

Manner of Death – The general category of the condition, circumstances or event, which causes the death. The categories are natural, accident, homicide, suicide and undetermined.

**Manner:** Accident – The manner of death used when, in other than natural deaths, there is no evidence of intent. This category includes motor vehicle crashes which are deemed unintentional in nature.

Manner: Homicide – The manner of death in which death results from the intentional harm (explicit or implicit) of one person by another.

Manner: Natural – The manner of death used when a disease is the sole cause of death. If death is hastened by an injury (such as incurred in a fall), the manner of death is not considered natural (regardless of time lapsed between injury and death).

Manner: Fetal – The designation used for certificates in fetal death which do not receive an actual manner designation (Certificate of Fetal Death)

Manner: Suicide – The manner of death in which death results from the intentional harm (explicit or implicit) of one's self.

Manner: Undetermined – The manner of death for deaths in which there is insufficient information to assign another manner.

**Method of Death** – The method of death describes the physical means leading to a cause of death. For example, the cause of death in a case is asphyxia, but an accidental hanging brought on the asphyxia and would be the method of death.

Motor Vehicle Crash Related Deaths — An accidental death involving a motor vehicle. Motor vehicles include automobiles, vans, motorcycles, trucks and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs and/or UTVs). Excluded are bicycles, tricycles and aircraft. The decedent is usually a driver (or operator) of, a passenger in, or a pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle. The death of a bicyclist struck by a motor vehicle is considered to be a motor vehicle crash related death.

Opiate – A class of drugs, including morphine, codeine and heroin, derived from the opium poppy

plant (Papaver somniferum).

Place of Injury – The location where the injury leading to a death occurred. In this report, several categories may be used:

Residence – Includes areas in and around dwellings, but excludes long-term care facilities and

institutions.

Street/Roadway – Includes all streets and public areas designed for automotive transportation, to include alleyways.

Highway - Includes all designated highways and interstates.

Railroad or Airport – Includes all public areas designed for mass transit and motorized transportation via train, light rail, or airplane.

Body of Water – Included naturally occurring and man-made bodies of water such as lakes, rivers, ocean, streams, swimming pools and reservoirs; but excludes small containers holding water, such as bathtubs, pails and toilets.

Jail/Prison – Any establishment used to house inmates; other institutions are excluded.

Motel/Hotel – Includes any place of lodging rentable by various lengths of time; excludes rooms rented and used as long-term residences.

Parking Lot – Includes all areas designed for parking surrounding a place of business, residence, or other area.

Vehicle – Includes any automobile, truck, or SUV, regardless of location of vehicle or whether parked or in motion.

Commercial/Business – Includes buildings, commercial property and other places of commerce.

Institution – Includes hospitals, long-term care facilities, and group homes, but excludes private residences; may be broken down into separate categories including Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

Outdoor Area – Includes areas around buildings or structures such as courtyards, and developed outdoor areas such as city parks, golf courses, ski areas, or urban outdoor areas under construction, but excludes undeveloped outdoor areas such as fields or ranches.

Farm/Ranch – Includes undeveloped outdoor areas such as farm or ranch fields, or other rural land

Unknown - Insufficient information is available surrounding where an injury occurred.

Stimulant – A class of drugs, including cocaine and oral and indictable amphetamines, whose principal action is the stimulation of the central nervous system. Cocaine is an alkaloid derived from the leaves of the coca plant (*Erythroxylum coca*) a shrub which grows in the Andes Mountains, 1,000 to 3,000 meters (3,000 to 9,000 feet) above sea level, and can be ingested orally, taken intravenously or by inhalation.

## Organization Chart

#### **CORONER**

Scott G. Carver, D-ABMDI