



## A Circular for the McCroskey Township

November 19, 2024 (Thanksgiving Time)

Issue #8

### **More Shenanigans?**

If you thought you would show up at the Zoning Board and County Commissioners meetings last month, you would have been disappointed. They tabled everything (“tabling” means “postpone” in the language of parliamentary procedure). Maybe they knew we were coming. Don’t think that this little newsletter goes unnoticed by the local powers that be.

Regardless, they passed their amendments when we weren’t looking. No hearings. Maybe they discussed them during the Executive Session. We do not get invited to them. The county attorney was very happy.

I was expecting this. It’s typical maneuvering by officials at all levels of government. Never make a decision when there is a hostile audience. Wait until everyone has left.

The new amendments contain restrictions on subdividing. Details next month.

### **Water Adjudication Anyone?**

The same shenanigans have gone on now for over 10 years on the matter of water adjudication. It is only discussed during the Executive Session, which is kept secret. Then, they vote on things without disclosing to the public what they are voting on.

Should we be expecting a sell-out?

### **A Secret Government?**

Typically, posting of minutes for the Zoning Board meetings runs behind by two or three months. The Board meets twice a month. Decisions are made before the citizens are even aware of what is going on.

Even worse, the minutes for Commissioners Meetings are not posted on-line at all. You have to make a special request to the County Clerk

For those of us on the Westside, the two-to-three hour round trip to St. Maries is the only other option. The Commissioner meetings can be accessed by phone conferencing, but the audio is terrible.

### **Stormy Clouds on the Horizon**

In Idaho, I’ve been warning about the Governor’s Executive Order #2022-04 for “All Hazards Prevention and Mitigation.” It is a blueprint for a martial law dictatorship.

Don’t know why it is needed here, except that someone is expecting something really bad to happen: like maybe an economic crisis that creates a lot of social unrest. Is that what they are expecting? Food riots? Dispossessed homeowners who can’t pay their mortgages or their taxes? Homeless people in the millions?

### **More On Agricultural Exemption Zones**

*Local governments shall exempt agricultural buildings from the requirements of the codes ... - Idaho Statutory Code, 39-4116 (5).*

As mentioned last month, the new Ag Exempt Zones might be a Trojan Horse: sort of like, “If it ain’t broke, why fix it?” . . . “But wait! We are going to break it.”

As in the old statute quoted above, farms are already protected under the normal application of constitutional law. Why the new law?

The new statute comes with a “state of emergency” clause. Is it in anticipation of the “martial law rule” scenario which is about to unfold?

If you are a rural property owner - large or small - you need to pay attention to this new development. Currently, the county zoning board has been commissioned to come up with a local ordinance to put this statute into effect. It is important for you to express to them your opinion as to how this ordinance should read.

### **The Elections are Done**

Sometimes, I wonder if Thanksgiving follows the Elections because we are supposed to be thankful they are done and we can get on with our normal lives.

There is a lot of play acting involved with running for political office. Sometimes, it is entertaining. Most of the time, it is irritating.

The Founding Fathers never meant for elections to matter very much. The government was supposed to be so small and inconsequential that it did not matter who was in office: they had very little power to interfere with the freedoms of the American people.

Nowadays, people treat an election like their lives and livelihoods depend upon it. Proof that the government at all levels is too big and powerful.

I don't know if there is a political solution. It is better to team up with your neighbors and become self-reliant so that you don't need what the government is trying to offer you.

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**Next issue: More reports on County Business. What the Farmer's Almanac has to say about the upcoming Winter, And whatever else I can think of.**

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If you want to read more or missed the previous issues of this newsletter, you can find them at the website: [savebenewahcounty.com](http://savebenewahcounty.com). James Stivers, Editor/Publisher [jwstivers1@gmail.com](mailto:jwstivers1@gmail.com).

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