

**PUBLIC INSPECTION FILE**

**4Q 2016**

**SECTION ONE:**

**KIDK**

***ISSUES PROGRAM LIST***

**JAN. 1, 2017**

The following represent some of the key issues facing the broadcast area of KIDK during the current filing period. They are referenced on the accompanying programming summaries.

Unless otherwise noted, all programs aired as part of EYEWITNESS News at 5:30 pm & 10 pm

- A) **EDUCATION:** Issues relating to public school and university education in our community.
- B) **HEALTH / ENVIRONMENT:** Issues related to our environment and health of our community.
- C) **GOVERNMENT/POLITICS:** Issues facing local government including taxation and political moves in an election year.
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- E) **LAW ENFORCEMENT:** Tracking trends in neighborhood crime and the legal progress of criminal cases.

**SECTION 2:**

***RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS***

**A. *EDUCATION***

**Title: COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Broadcast Date: 10-25

Duration: 2:22

Description: Supporters of a drive to create a Community College in Idaho Falls formally launched a petition drive. The effort will require about one thousand signatures to get the issue on the May ballot. If approved, it would be the fourth community college in Idaho. Supporters said it would expand the availability of course at Eastern Idaho Technical College and expand its student base by about one thousand to 4,000 students.

**Title: BONNEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 15-YEAR PLAN**

Broadcast Date: 10-26

Duration: 1:15

Description: The Bonneville school board is trying to determine how much of a supplemental levy to seek from voters in 2017. It is currently \$2.8 million, but the board is considering a move to increase that to \$5.8 million. It would be used, primarily, to improve teacher salaries. The board is also considering the need and cost of new school buildings to meet increasing enrollments.

**Title: TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

Broadcast Date: 11-29

Duration: 1:45

Description: Wilcox Elementary School kindergarten teacher Mary Spiker was selected as Idaho Teacher of the Year for 2017. State school officials traveled to Pocatello to make the announcement. Her principal said the award reflected the teacher's dedication to making sure that students' needs were always placed first. Spiker credited the entire school staff for her success. She will now become a nominee for national teacher of the year.

**Title: D25 V LEGISLATURE**

Broadcast Date: 12-6

Duration: 2:19

Description: The Chubbuck-Pocatello school board met with southeast Idaho legislators to outline their concerns for the upcoming legislative session. The key issue is a shortfall of needed funding to maintain school programs and hire capable teachers. The district is also losing money as the result of a court ruling limiting the amount of money it may collect from student fees. They also note a steadily dwindling pool of labor to fill teaching and administrative positions.

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Broadcast Date: 12-15

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Description: Local school districts are stepping up recruitment efforts because of a shortage in the pool for new teachers and administrators. One school hired a student teacher from the University of Idaho before the recruit had even graduated. District 91 typically has 80 to 90 teacher openings each year. But, this year, there are fewer candidates to fill the positions. Districts in Wyoming are even offering cash bonuses.

**B. HEALTH/ENVIRONMENT**

**Title: "UNFLUSHABLES" CREATE PROBLEMS**

Broadcast Date: 10-17

Duration: 2:00

Description: Although manufacturers claim their disposable wipes are “flushable”, local wastewater managers say that is not the case. Experts said the material does not break down and is creating treatment problems for municipal machinery. One city in Minnesota is taking legal action to recover damages from the makers of those products.

**Title: IDAHO FALLS WILDFIRE COSTS**

Broadcast Date: 10-24

Duration: 2:00

Description: Idaho Falls fire department officials said the city spent \$450 thousand fighting wildfire this summer. The city was reimbursed \$650 thousand. In addition to firefighters, the city was also reimbursed for the services of its EMT’s on fire calls across the state. Funds were also authorized to compensate for the use of equipment.

**Title: FMC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

Broadcast Date: 11-10

Duration: 1:15

Description: Officials met with the public in Ft. Hall to outline the results of a comprehensive study of the environmental impacts of FMC plant operations in the region. At issue were the potential impacts of chemicals released from the plant had increased health risks and mortality rates. The study found no significant rise in the number of deaths or cancer. But some tribal members disagree and believe the scientists failed to review all the health aspects they were legally required to review.

**Title: BLUE CROSS V. EIRMC**

Broadcast Date: 11-13

Duration: 2:28

Description: Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center has become an “out-of-network” provider for Your Health Idaho Blue Cross of Idaho insurance clients. The failed negotiation will lead to higher out-of-pocket costs for people with Blue Cross plans in the Idaho Falls area who seek emergency care at the hospital. The higher costs do not apply to people who buy supplemental Medicare or who are employed by a company that offers Blue Cross insurance.

**Title: COPING WITH DIABETES**

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Description: People who suffer from diabetes deal with their dietary restrictions all year long. Dieticians, however, encourage others to keep their needs in mind during the holiday season. She said it is not that diabetics can’t eat Christmas treats, they just need to watch the frequency of eating treats and portion sizes. There are about 130,000 Idahoans who suffer from diabetes. Experts said there are also “substitute” sweeteners that can be used to accommodate diabetic diets.

**Title: EIRMC MARKS 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Broadcast Date: 12-22

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Description: The Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center is marking its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The center came together after supporters of one-time Catholic and one-time LDS hospitals realized there would be significant cost and service economies if they were operated as one entity. The two entities came back as a community-based major, regional referral center. The hospital employs over 1400 workers. 45 of them have been with EIRMC from its opening day.

**C. GOVERNMENT/POLITICS**

**Title: ELECTION SECURITY**

Broadcast Date: 10-17

Duration: 2:31

Description: In the wake of rhetoric from candidate Donald Trump, local election officials assured citizens there is no "rigged" election. They said it would be very difficult to tamper with the election process. Local election judges are training to make sure no one is discouraged from voting. Every ballot is accounted for and votes are not connected in any way to the internet. There are also numerous redundancies in the vote-counting process.

**Title: STUDENT VOTING QUESTIONS**

Broadcast Date: 11-7

Duration: 1:40

Description: The Madison County Clerk is receiving some criticism because of signs posted at polling places. The signs advise college students that they should vote in their home precincts. The signs warn that if students register in Idaho, they may be putting their home state eligibility on the line, which could threaten grants and their parents' tax status. Democratic groups objected to the signs, labeling them as "voter suppression".

**Title: SHORT TERM RENTALS**

Broadcast Date: 11-7

Duration: 1:45

Description: Short term home rentals are growing in popularity along with social media. Controversies that were addressed by zoning changes in Rexburg, have now moved to Idaho Falls. The city council has begun to discuss options. Councilmen are observing conflicting interests from home owners, home owner associations, and the business community. Councilmen hope to have some options on the table by spring.

**Title: ELECTION NIGHT COVERAGE**

Broadcast Date: 11-8

Duration: 2 Hours (9 pm to 11 pm )

Description: Former Congressman Richard Stallings and former State Representative Erik Simpson joined anchors for comprehensive coverage of presidential and local election returns. Local reports included insights into threats of voter suppression at polling places, the variety of issues-ranging from school bonds to national park status at Craters of the Moon-political campaign parties at local and state level, and reaction of local voters and political leaders.

**Title: DEMOCRATIC GROWTH**

Broadcast Date: 11-22

Duration: 2:24

Description: The Idaho Democratic Central Committee reports that since the November election, there has been a substantial increase in interest in the party. The local party chairman said there had been a growing number of people seeking to become active members. The party's last central committee meeting doubled in size. The party is now looking to establish a permanent headquarters and is working to fill precinct captain positions.

**Title: ZONING ORDINANCE CHANGE**

Broadcast Date: 12-7

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Description: The Idaho Falls Planning and Zoning Commission has recommended changes in the city's definition what entails a single family household and/or how many unrelated individuals can live there. The new ordinance would remove the word family and replace it with household. Many residents turned out to complain that the new regulations could create both parking and traffic problems in their neighborhoods. The proposals go to the city council in January.

**D. ECONOMY**

**Title: IDAHO FALLS POWER**

Broadcast Date: 10-25

Duration: 2:10

Description: Idaho Falls Power has reopened its lower hydropower plant after it was closed for about five years. Officials said the performance of the clean-energy system will put the city in good position for economic development. Repair of the lower plant will add enough power to serve 3,200 homes. Efforts to construct a small, modular reactor at the INL reservation could also bolster Idaho Falls base power supply.

**Title: CYBER SECURITY**

Broadcast Date: 11-16

Duration: 2:00

Description: Consumers were advised to be constantly on the watch for potential security risks. The Idaho Department of Finance said criminals can skim credit card numbers at gas stations, off the phone or at store check-outs. They can either sell information or use it to steal money, your identity, and your personal information. Experts encourage consumers to maintain long and complicated, regularly updated passwords.

**Title: SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**

Broadcast Date: 11-23

Duration: 2:06

Description: The mayor of Pocatello proclaimed Saturday as "Small Business Saturday". Several small shops in Old Town said their unique style will attract customers. Because they can't compete with "box store" prices, the smaller merchants focus on things customers won't find there. They point out that when customers shop locally, their money stays in the local community. The Small Business Administration reports 99 percent of the nation's business can be qualified as "small".

**Title: NRF FACILITY APPROVED**

Broadcast Date: 12-6

Duration: 1:30

Description: The US Department of Energy and US Navy have approved construction of a \$1.6 billion facility at the Idaho National Laboratory. The project is aimed at treating naval reactor fuel for the nuclear navy. The first \$500 million will be spent on construction activity. Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce officials said it would have a huge economic impact on the city, which currently faces a labor shortage.

**E. LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**Title: DANGEROUS DOGS**

Broadcast Date: 10-17

Duration: 2:15

Description: A Chubbuck man and his dog were attacked by two pit-bulls while walking in the Chubbuck area over the weekend. In Idaho Falls, Animal Services officials offered tips on how to avoid dangerous dogs. They include backing slowly away and avoiding eye contact. People were advised not to kick, since that could leave them off-balance. A purse or car keys can be used to help fight animals back.

**Title: REXBURG TEEN KILLED DURING HOUSE FIRE**

Broadcast Date: 10-26

Duration: 1:45

Description: A 16-year-old Rexburg girl was pronounced dead after an early morning fire at her parents' home. Firefighters said the fire was located in the attic and the girl was being carried

onto the front yard when they arrived at the scene. Rexburg Police were applying CPR until firefighters arrived, but the girl was pronounced dead at the hospital.

**Title: CALDWELL MURDER INVESTIGATION**

Broadcast Date: 12-1

Duration: 2:28

Description: Probable cause documents have been released in connection with the murder of Christin Caldwell, whose body was found buried in the basement of her home on November 9. Jeremy White was arrested with a companion, Deena Aday, in Nevada last weekend. The tape disclosed how the couple tried to destroy evidence and elude authorities. The two were being held in the Nye County jail pending extradition back to Bonneville County to face murder charges.

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Description: Fire sent flames high into the air as an LDS church building in Swan Valley burned to the ground. The 50-year-old building started to burn at around 2 p.m. and firefighters could not gain an upper hand. No one was hurt, but the building was completely gutted. Community members of all faiths lamented the fire and said they expected neighbors to come together. The state fire marshal took over the investigation to determine what caused the situation.

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Description: Convicted murderer Christopher Tapp's attorneys were in court to seek reversal of his conviction in two different cases. After court review, the two cases were sent on different courses. First, the court will consider a case which claims DNA evidence excludes Tapp as the killer of Angie Dodge. That case was set for hearing in April to be followed by a second case which alleges Tapp was tricked into a false confession.

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**Jan. 1, 2017**

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