

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 8, 2007

CONTACT: Heather Dawson
788-4221, ext. 18

HAILEY REPLACES KEY STAFF POSITIONS

(Hailey, Idaho) – Mayor Susan McBryant announced that Hailey’s efforts to fill several key city department head positions have been successful. She is proud to leave the next administration well-staffed in the wake of a series of resignations which began last June.

Hailey’s management team underwent a 60% turnover which left several city positions vacated including Library Director, Planning Director, Public Works Director, Police Chief, and City Administrator. The Mayor’s position itself is part of the turn-over, as Mayor McBryant announced last summer her intent not to run for a second term.

Mayor-Elect Rick Davis has expressed interest in the city administrator replacement, and McBryant deems it appropriate to leave that choice to the new administration. With the public works department running under interim management, Hailey’s new permanent managers include:

Planning Director Beth Robrahn

Known throughout the valley as a program developer, collaborator and strategic planner, Robrahn successfully launched the Wood River Rideshare program and the Peak Bus service. Both marked the beginning of a valley-wide multi-modal transportation system now operated by the Mountain Rides Transportation Authority. Her experience in land use planning came through her work with the City of Ketchum Planning Department and a Master’s degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of British Columbia. She is completing a term as an elected official on the Bellevue City Council.

Police Chief Jeff Gunter

Gunter has been in law enforcement since 1990, first as a patrolman then sergeant for Hailey Police Department. He resigned his position with Hailey to take on the combined role of Bellevue City Marshal & City Administrator from 1998 to 2000. He returned to Hailey Police in the rank of Lieutenant and functioned as a department leader until 2007, when he worked for three months as Hailey’s interim police chief. Pleased with the management steps implemented by Gunter as interim chief, Mayor McBryant awarded him the permanent Police Chief position in late October.

Library Director Nancy Gurney

Gurney began volunteering at the library through the newly established Friends of the Hailey Public Library in 1988. She served as treasurer of the Friends of the Hailey Public Library for the past 15 years, and a Hailey Library Board trustee through most of the 1990’s. During that time that the Library Board worked to pass a bond measure which purchased the Fox/Brown building, and helped plan the remodel of the building for the purpose of housing the library. Gurney became an employee of the library in 2003. Since June, library director functions have been shared among key staff people. Gurney is happy to take on the role of Library Director effective in early November, with the help of newly-named Library Assistant Director LeAnn Gelskey.

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