

Mary Souza's reaction to Jim Brannon's layoff/firing/whatever (from Coeur d'Alene Press online comments section):

" Jim Brannon was ready for the possible budget crunch. Last July he prepared several budget contingency plans, just in case Habitat's fund raising numbers fell sharply, like most other non-profits. Jim's budget plans would have taken care of the shortfalls and kept everyone employed.

Here's the KEY ISSUE: The regular October board meeting will be on Oct. 15th, but they called a "special meeting" right before the televised city council candidate forum. Jim was not invited. Then, 90 MINUTES before he was to go on TV, they handed him a letter ending his job.

But they are paying him through the end of October, so why didn't they just wait until the regular meeting?

Oh, and one final point: Rick Shipman, the board chairman, is quoted in this article as saying how "painful" it was to eliminate Jim's job and how he could "hardly sleep at night". What a bunch of bunk! Shipman made Jim Brannon drive over his office at US Bank on 4th Street at exactly 4:00pm (before the 5:30 candidate forum). Then he handed Jim the letter that says his services are no longer needed. End of story. What a COLD way to deal with "one of your best co-workers"!

This was political all the way. "