

# Jones

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# denies

# high cost

**BY BEN J. PLASTINO**

**Post-Register political editor**

Jim Jones, Jerome, Republican attorney general candidate, said here Friday he only plans to spend about \$60,000 in his campaign and scoffed at claims of his Democratic opponent, J. D. Williams, he would spend \$200,000.

"I don't think this is a campaign issue," said Jones in a Post-Register interview.

"His silly statement that I'm spending \$200,000 on the electronic media is absolute hogwash. He claims he heard this in a rumor but I'm convinced that he manufactured the rumor himself."

Jones said he is of the mind that a candidate should have some issues and present a positive program.

"If he can't find any issues I'll be glad to meet with him and suggest some," he said.

Jones said an attorney general candidate "should deal in facts as the office is very powerful and sensitive."

He then observed that when Williams headed the so-called "park and narc" squad as deputy attorney general against drug pushers that the Pocatello City council in 1972 passed a resolution criticizing the operations for bringing unjustified charges.

Jones said the real issues are to get drunk drivers off the street with a program for tougher treatment for those convicted of drunk driving, as well as mandatory treatment for those who have drinking problems.

He also said there should be tougher penalties for drug pushers.

He said if elected he would keep abreast of laws in which there were challenges over state control of water, whether in Idaho or elsewhere.

He pointed out his election is important as he could be the swing vote on the State Land Board which oversees state lands.

He also said he plans to use the attorney general's office to combat con men, bunko artists and fly-by-night salesmen.

Jones said "consumer fraud is increasing in Idaho and something has to be done about it."

"I don't believe the attorney general should act as a referee between the legitimate businessman and his customer," he said. "This is something which can be handled by private attorneys or in small claims court."