

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Daniels.

BLM – Blaine Newman announced the retirement of Dave Pachoretti. John Norrad will temporarily take his place as the county contact for the next two months. Starting in June Blaine will fill this roll to work with counties through the summer fire season at which time they hope to have a permanent replacement. Blaine informed the commissioners that the BLM is going to be updating their water inventory in regards to all springs, streams, and range improvements. This is preparation should the state begins a water adjudication project for this area. It was requested that the county concentrate on the roads in the Gardner canyon, Samaria's, North Canyon, and Pleasantview areas when doing road work for the BLM per their signed agreement. They will have their own road maintenance crew working other areas in the county. Monitoring of sage grouse continues for the purpose of tracking their population and movements. This information will be applied to their data base. Curlew grazing permits are close to being renewed however the number of animals allowed may be reduced. Efforts are under way to restore a 1930's cabin in the Juniper area near the rest stop. The project is expected to finish in the late summer.

Economic Development – Kathy Ray presented updates from her four county jurisdictions that include a Hotel being built in Soda Springs with feasibility studies being conducted in Preston and Malad as possible construction sites. Business expansion projects have occurred in Preston and Soda Springs and new jobs have been created in Preston and at Creative Mines in Malad. A Technology fair will be conducted at the Malad High School on April 18th to help show the many opportunities available in the job market for students and those looking for a career change. A micro grant is being considered to help the hospital train and elevate their current CNA's to the level of LPN. This grant will be administered through the County per the Grantors request.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the participation with the micro grant to help train hospital CNA's to LPN's with the County administering the grant.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Kathy further requested confirmation of the county's financial support of \$5,000.00 dollars to the Four County Economic Development effort in the coming 2018 fiscal year.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the financial support to the Four County Economic Development in the amount of \$5,000.00 dollars in FY2018.
Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Hospital – Administrator John Williams explained the need to expand the services and facilities to accommodate growth of the county hospital. It was suggested that a private facility may be built that could be leased by the hospital. With a new facility, reimbursement rates would be increased which will help cover the cost however there may be a delay in the posting of these revenues. John asked if the hospital could be included in the county budget to the extent that

money would be available to help through these times of waiting for the revenues to be credited.

The commissioner indicated that a formal request could be submitted during the regular budget cycle which will start in June.

Second council for the Luera Trial – Aaron Thompson sent a letter of interest for this position at the rate of \$175.00 per hour. Attorney Brendan Taylor indicated that James Archibald was also interested in the position however no formal request was made so a fee was not available. Anne Taylor was the first applicant showing interest at the rate of \$150.00 dollars per hour.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve Anne Taylor as second council, as awarded by the courts, in the Luera case.

It question was asked about Mr. Archibald interest and what he would be willing to accept as a fee. Commissioner Daniels withdrew her previous motion so that Mr. Archibald could be given the chance to make an offer. Mr. Taylor will report back once contact has been made.

Prosecutor office space – as discussed and approved in previous meetings, a resolution and agreement was presented for signature describing the allowance for County Prosecutor Brower to use his office space for private use for a limited number of hours per month.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the resolution, number 2017-03-01, and agreement as written.

Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Exit 3 gas station building permit – The J-U-B engineering report addressing 9 points of concern, was reviewed by the commissioners. Chairman Firth questioned the slope and runoff and the erosion that may take place. Commissioner Stokes had concerns about the time of evaporation and dispersion for water in the retention ponds saying that it should be dispersed in a 24 hour time frame.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the permit for a gas station near exit 3 with the stipulation that the retention ponds be sufficient for the area.

Commissioner Daniels seconded the motion with amendments that the area around the approach is constructed to control any possible erosion and that the culverts are lengthened and one culvert placed from the north access point the retention pond.

Commissioner Stokes seconded the amendments and the motion carried.

Mr. Rowe was concerned as to where he could find the weather facts for that area.

Commissioner Daniels informed him that the National Weather Service included the Malad area in the Pocatello region.

Brendan Taylor reported back that Mr. Archibald responded to his call and indicated that he would be interested in the second position on the Luera case for \$100.00 dollars an hour with travel time being billed at the same rate. It was noted that he was well qualified for the position.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve James Archibald as the second council for the Luera case at the rate of \$100.00 dollars per hour.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

An agreement for continued law enforcement, between the Forest Service and the county, was presented for review.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the agreement for law enforcement with the Forest Service.
Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Supplemental agreement #6 for the "Narrows" was presented for approval whereby allowing for a change in expenses due to the change in the project scope.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve supplemental agreement #6 for the "Narrows" project.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to finish the remaining floor surface in the basement of the court house with the same product used in the sheriff's office.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, a nonprofit organization, sent a formal request for continued tax exemption on their properties in Oneida County.
It was notes that all the religious institutions in the county receive this tax exemption.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the tax exemption request.
Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to move into the scheduled executive session per IC 74-206(b).
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Following the executive session the commissioners reviewed a request for tax relief by Dan Fisher. Per state law, a property he acquired should have received the homeowner's exemption for an additional year. The Treasurer suggested that where he has already paid his taxes in full for 2016, the amount he was over billed, due to the removal of the homeowner's exemption could be subtracted from the 2017 taxes.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the reduction of the 2017 taxes by the overage amount paid due to the removal of the homeowner's exemption.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

The claims were reviewed for approval.

A bill for the repair of a shared water line with the fair grounds and the Search and Rescue building was being paid from the fair budget. It was suggested that this bill should paid from the county general fund rather than the fair budget.

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Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the claims after changing the water line repair expense to the general fund.

Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the minutes as approved.

Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Senior Citizens building – Plumbing problems caused unexpected expenses. The city provided labor for no charge and they made the request that the county help pay the bill for the repair. Commissioner Daniels reminded the board that their annual contribution was increased to \$5,000.00 dollars for the current year. Their financial sheet showed that they were running in the red by a few hundred dollars. It was not known if the \$5,000.00 dollars has been sent to them at this time.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the payment for the plumbing repair at the Senior Citizens center only if they have already received the budgeted allotment of \$5,000.00 dollars.

Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Chairman Firth asked if anyone was in attendance for the Board of Equalization.

No one was present for the BOE. The Commissioners did not convene the Board at this time.

With no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned.



Max C. Firth, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk