

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

The meeting was opened by commissioner Firth.

Commissioner Firth made the motion to amend the agenda by adding "updates on the Narrows construction project" with members of LHTAC.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Cell phone policy – Carl Erickson from ICRMP called in to the meeting to answer questions regarding cell phones provided by the county vs. personal cell phones used for county business. The main point that was stressed is that any phone that has been used to conduct company business is subject to being subpoenaed. Whether the county provides the phone for the employee with the knowledge that he can use it for limited personal use or the employee uses his own phone, s/he must understand that if the phone has been used for conducting county business, it is subject to public records laws. The sheriff reported that if the county chose to pay the stipend to his employees for using their own phones that there would be no savings as his officers would be paid at the greater rate which is equal to what the county pays currently. He suggested that the phones continue to be provided as they are now.

Commissioner Daniels questioned the procedures to be followed if inappropriate information is found on a phone. It was stated that if it is a county phone that you would need to have some language in the personnel manual to address this situation and then take appropriate actions. Commissioner Stokes asked if paying a stipend to the employee would change anything. Carl said that the stipend would not change the issue. It would still be a personal phone however you would need to think about what your policy would allow as far as employees making personal calls on company time. It was reported that the Road and Bridge has two phones, the sheriff's office has 9 phones of which two individuals carry a second phone.

Commissioner Firth posed the question to the other commissioners if they thought the county should continue with the same program to which Commissioner Stokes indicated that he thought they should. Commissioner Daniels asked that the decision be made in a later meeting so that time could be given to the review of county policies for the purpose of making sure they all reference the same information regarding cell phones.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to table the topic of cell phones and to add it to the next meeting agenda.

Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Road and Bridge – The ERF grant was presented for signature. This reimbursement grant will help provide emergency relief with the cost incurred with some of the road repairs made this spring as a result of washouts and other damage caused by extreme weather events.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to sign and submit the ERF grant with LHTAC. Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Department reports:

Assessor – Ag land values have gone up 15% and city properties have raised 15% on an average with a few adjustments. All property values should balance out as they work through the five year plan within the county. Mindy has been working with Neal all year and has been appraising on her own, with Neal's oversight.

Probation – Kristi is attending Juvenile post and will be accruing more comp. time. It is her request that the commissioners pay her comp time down again. The printer in the probation office has quit and they would like to purchase a new printer/ scanner. The scan option will be needed this fall when the Supreme Court rolls out the Odyssey program in the courts. The purchase will be taken from the Drug Court money. The commissioners said that comp time would not be paid out at this time but instructed Jill to work with her deputy and allow her to use as much as possible by October.

Road and Bridge – Dust guard has been applied to about 43 miles of county roads. The BLM work is almost complete. The road side mowing is ongoing. Two men each with a truck will help Franklin County chip seal roads next week. Franklin County will in turn help Oneida later in the year. Scott indicated that he is looking at a refurbished chip sprayer. This unit has interchangeable parts that will give it greater functionality and use. Notice went out with the assessments letting residence know that allowing their water onto county road ways is in violation of the law and would be punishable. The Sheriff will give a warning the first time with a ticket being issued for the second offense.

Landfill – A building has been acquired to cover the oil collection pad. A permit will be obtained for the structure.

Weeds – The department has been inundated with calls of citizens wanting help with their weeds. Mike is busy with all the county work he has currently and he has had trouble getting part time help with the spraying. Two farms in the west part of the county have organic status and have been given notice that they need to take care of their weed problems or the county will be forced to take action. One of the farms has asked that the county to not spray the road right of way by his land while the other farm doesn't care. It was further reported that a grant has allowed the county to acquire some weed spray that is free to the citizens for noxious weeds if they will pay for the labor to apply the chemical.

Commissioner Stokes reported that on his last visit to the land fill, he spoke with one of the employees who stated that they are quite busy. He further indicated that he is constantly taking time to clean the trash out from the undercarriage of his equipment.

Treasurer – 2nd half collections should be complete by the 20th, of the month. Jan is still working with some properties that are close to crossing the threshold of being three years behind.

Crisis Center – A formal request for consideration of monetary assistance was made to the commissioners. Their request is for \$5,000.00 dollars. Krystal Bates reported on the number of persons they have helped and the services that they provide. Commissioner Firth indicated that they would add this to their considerations for the upcoming budget.

4-H – Jacob Rickman introduced Samantha Daniels who has worked with the extension office in the past and is now an intern with Jacob. Jacob reported on the beef school they provided and spoke about some upcoming opportunities such as a livestock day camp. He also stated that a donation of 22 caliber rifles was made to the 4-H program and that shooting sports will be offered to the youth. It was noted that scholarships are available in the shooting sports field. The ward pit was offered as a place to conduct the shooting activities. Also Jacob reported that he is trying to bring in Robotics to the after school and 4-H programs and is hopeful that he can find grants to assist in the cost. Voles and moles have been a problem in parts of the county and the possibility of using barn owls to control the population is being investigated. It was stated that other counties are seeing success with the owls. Jacob spoke about multi species grazing. This is where they would bring in sheep and goats to graze the land after the beef animals have eaten the grass. Sheep and goats will eat plants that the beef stay away from. By multi grazing, the animals that follow the beef would be able to help keep the noxious weeds down and control the overall growth of the unwanted weeds.

ADA report – Southeast Idaho Council of Governments employees came to the court house at the request of Commissioner Firth, to review the ADA compliance issues with our building. Their report spoke mainly to the bathroom facilities and gave recommendations of how to rebuild and improve them. The bathroom in the jury room and the main floor bathroom have been recommended for changes including widening the door ways and altering the height and location of the mirrors and fixtures. The height of the counters in the main floor offices was also addressed but the recommendation was to have a folding table that can be used as needed.

Building permits – two permits were presented; 1 ag building for Wesley Jones and 1 addition for Dean Baer.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve an ag building permit for Wesley Jones and an a permit for an addition for Dean Baer.
Commissioner Firth seconded and the motion carried.

Planning and Zoning – The planning and zoning board held the required meetings in regards to the request for a class II permit to build a poultry processing plant in the Holbrook area. The performance standards were reviewed by the commissioners. The P & Z commission made the recommendation of approval for the permit. It was noted that Mr. Anderson has been in contact with the various State Departments and is working to get their approvals and recommendations for compliance.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to accept the P&Z recommendation and to approve the action of allowing Mr. Anderson to move forward with his class II permit for a poultry processing plant.

Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Planning and zoning has been working on the development code. The discussion has lead to the possibility of reclassifying the county zoning from multi-use to designated zones depending on the area. They provided a list of possible zoning classifications that the commissioners could consider if they so chose to move in this direction. The reason for this suggestion is to help in the enforcement of the development code as well as making it easier for new businesses that are looking to move into the valley.

Commissioner Daniels stated that this would be one way the county could help to control the growth in the county. On another topic Commissioner Daniels stated that she would like to send a letter to the commission asking for some clarification of the process and procedures in the development code. Three issues in particular are setbacks for agricultural buildings; how to handle builders seeking advice from the inspector and requiring engineered plans. Commissioner Firth stated that he would like to see only rules that are necessary and for the county to be an asset to the people.

The claims were reviewed for payment.

Commissioner Firth made the motion to approve the claims.

Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

BLM - Blaine Newman brought forth a concern regarding a stretch of road leading to the Hansel Mountain Access. This section of road in Pocatello Valley lies between a county road and a BLM road. R&B supervisor Scott Blaisdell indicated that the county has maintained this road for at least 16 years since that he has worked for the county and probably longer. Commissioner Firth indicated that the proper steps would need to be taken to add this road to the county inventory and stated that he would be in favor of the action. Blaine indicated that he would help with the legal description for the notice to be placed in the newspaper.

On other issues the commissioners were informed that the grazing on the Curlew permit will be changing to reduce the number of animals allowed to allow for better land management; also, a long term project will get underway to identify and improve fire breaks and the thought is that by improving some county roads they would provide a

better buffer should a fire break out. It is thought that this could also improve access to the public lands.

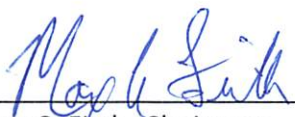
LHTAC – Scott Ellsworth, Matt Koster and Jeff Miles called into the meeting to discuss the bids received for the construction on the Narrows. One of the bids came in low however it is under review for compliance of a rule to contract with disadvantage businesses for a portion of the project. The second bid was over the amount allotted and would require additional funding if accepted. The county will wait for the decision by the review board on the low bid before they made a choice to proceed or rebid the project.

The commissioners set the date of June 25th, for a public meeting where citizen can give comment on the proposed events center for the fair grounds. The meeting will be held in the court room at 7:00 pm.

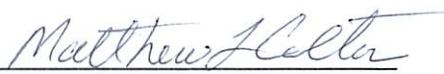
The minutes were reviewed.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the minutes as written.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.



Max C. Firth, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk