

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Stokes leading the Pledge of Allegiance and then offering a prayer.

JUB engineer Jon Farrell presented a draft copy of a map showing the location of Malad City's requested easement along 1500 South. The easement is needed for a pipe line to carry waste to the location of a new waste treatment plant. Because of culverts and other obstructions in the vicinity of the proposed crossing points under the rail road and county roads, more investigation is needed to determine where the actual pipe line should be placed. Chairman Lewis indicated that the county was willing to work with Malad City and the engineer's to make sure that the best possible solution is found.

Road concerns – Jay Hansen made three suggestions for road work. The first is that Road and Bridge operate their grader on two shifts in the spring citing that the necessary moisture is only in the ground for a short time and two shifts will allow more gravel road miles to be worked. The second is for the county to paint center lines on their roads to assist in night driving. The third request is that a Highway district be considered. The recommendation is to poll surrounding counties regarding the third request.

BLM – Blaine Newman, Melissa Warren and Joel Gosswiller introduced themselves to the new commissioners. It was determined that Commissioner Christophersen would be the contact for the county should we have a wild fire incident whereby communication with the BLM is necessary. Blaine further reported that the road maintenance agreement with the county has expired and pending future funding will be reintroduced at a later time. The weed spraying agreement involving three counties has been dissolved and a separate agreement with Oneida County may be possible in the near future. It was noted that the BLM is still willing to work with the land owners in the western part of the county to establish a fire protection district. Commissioner Stokes commented on the current roads on BLM to which Blaine indicated that they may make changes to the travel plan whereby changing the list of open and closed roads.

The scheduled medical indigent appeal hearing was canceled by the requestor.

Certified Local Government (CLG) board – It was explained to the commissioners that counties and/or cities could create a CLG board that could act on behalf of historic site preservation in their jurisdictions. If adopted the board would be eligible for grants and other assistance for this effort. It was thought that the county could adopt this CLG and both the city and county could benefit from having one board. The action must be done by Ordinance after which a board would be selected. Luke Waldron was mentioned as one who has the background and knowledge to head up a board such as this. The topic will be added to the next agenda for discussion and decision.

Bear River Heritage Area – As discussed in previous meetings they are seeking national recognition for the purpose of accessing help with funding and assistance with their Heritage Area preservation. Previous commissioners had approved the counties support then questioned if the recognition would impact land use concerns. The support was rescinded until further investigation. Today BRH representatives cleared up any concerns with land use stating that their efforts will not affect anyone in their use of private land. This topic will be added to the four county agenda when other commissioners can get together and discuss the request for support.

Events Center – The building committee spoke to the commissioners about bidding for the manufacture of the events center building now, then bidding for the construction when the building engineering is complete. The commissioners asked the committee to move forward with preparing the documents for the building bid process.

ADA renovation of the court house bathrooms – Budget was set aside for the rebuild of two bathrooms in the court house, one on the main floor and one on the top floor, for the purpose of wheel chair access. The bid process was discussed along with the actual scope of the project. Commissioner Lewis took the action item to investigate the needs and seek contractor input concerning the best methods to use moving forward.

One Certificate of residency was presented for approval. The request was from Carson McClain and it was approved.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the Certificate of Residency submitted by Carson McClain.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

The IRS mileage reimbursement rate increased to \$.58 cents per mile in January. It was questioned whether the county should increase as well or remain at \$.54 cents.

It was stated that the county does not have an obligation to increase as the commissioners control the budget and can adopt the rate they deem necessary.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to increase the rate to \$.58 cents per mile for reimbursement when an employee must drive their own vehicle on company business.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

The meeting minutes from February 11th, were reviewed.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the minutes as written.

Commissioner Lewis seconded and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

The claims were reviewed for payment.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the claims as submitted.

Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

One building permit for Ryan Smith was reviewed.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the building permit as submitted.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded the motion and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

The “Narrows” project will begin construction this spring and the engineering firm overseeing the project has asked the commissioner what process they would like to follow for signing the possible change orders that come about. It was explained that as projects like this get underway, the scope of the project could change, sometimes these changes will save money other times it might add cost. The desired plan would be to have one person assigned to approve the change orders so that the project can keep moving without delay. Commissioner Lewis indicated that Commissioner Christophersen would be

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his choice where he has oversight of the Roads and Bridge department. It was further discussed that if the change was going to add cost that maybe the full board should discuss the request. A \$25,000.00 dollar limit was also suggested for a single signature approval.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion that he be approved to sign all change orders for the narrows project that fall under \$25,000.00 dollars of increased cost to the project. Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

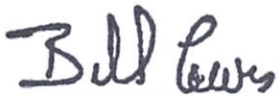
Airport – Board members questioned the commissioners on what options they had going forward with the maintenance of the airport. It was noted that in the past a manager would live on site and could take care of the day to day needs and this seemed to work quite well. The maintenance will need to be explored and a plan presented at a later date. The board reported that they are still waiting to meet with Bill Statham from the Idaho Aeronautical division. It is anticipated that Mr. Statham will be able to help create a five year plan for the facility and give advice as to where to find funding sources to help bring the runway back to a favorable condition. Snow removal was also addressed. Commissioner Christophersen was asked to work with Road and Bridge to ensure the airport is cleared of snow after they have opened the roads, specifically on the taxi way, the apron and around the fueling station. Sheriff Jones offered to have his ordinance officer patrol the airport and report any conditions that would demand that a “Notice to Airman” (NOTAM). A NOTAM is used to alert pilots of hazardous conditions or closures of the facility.

Jail contract – Commissioner Stokes reported that he has been speaking to the Cache County jail and they do have beds available currently and that the cost savings per bed would be significant. He further quoted Franklin County as saying “they are enjoying the savings” since moving to the Cache facility. It was further noted that he believes other Idaho counties also house prisoners out of state. Commissioner Stokes further reported that he has spoke with someone at ICRMP who claims that insurance would not be affected as was suggested in the past; also he called the Idaho Attorney General’s office who stated that they have no oversight of the action of housing prisoners out of state. The request was made to allow Commissioner Stokes to investigate further, the option of housing our inmates in Cache County to which Chairman Lewis indicated in the affirmative.

Training – Attorney Brower spoke about public access roads and the process of validating or vacating roads in the county.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to move into the scheduled executive session per IC 74-206(1) (f). Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried. All commissioners approved.

Following the executive session the meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk

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