

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNY COMMISSIONERS

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

Due to the COVID-19 virus concerns this meeting was provided to the public via teleconferencing. Commissioner Stokes participated via telephone.

Commissioner Lewis called for a review of the agenda. The following items were suggested as additions to the meeting. Gun Club, Cyber security, COVID-19 concerns and a report on the court house operations under the COVID-19 restrictions.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to add the topics of the Gun Club, Cyber security, COVID-19 concerns and a report on the court house operations under the COVID-19 restrictions, to the agenda for discussion or reporting only.

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

Public Health – Taia Murray and Avis Semrad reported on the department's activities from October through December of 2019. They further discussed the recommendations made by the health department regarding the Corona virus threat. Social distancing and food delivery rather than dining out were two of the suggestions to minimize the possible exposure. Group gathering over ten persons was also discouraged.

BLM employees; Melissa Warren, Mike Kuyper, John McKinney, Bryce Anderson and Geoff Phelan participated via telephone. It was reported that their office was running on a skeleton crew. Bill Lewis took the assignment as point of contact for the coming fire season. Grazing improvements have been made in the Curlew area and the department is taking comment for further improvements. When asked about gravel availability in the western part of the county they reported that they did have gravel pits in Stone of which the county has a permit for county use only. This pit was identified as being on the southwest part of Stone Idaho near the Utah border. The spoke of an agreement with the weed department to spray on BLM property and an agreement had been drafted. This agreement will be provided to the commissioners and discussed in the next regular meeting. Hansel road in the southwest part of Pocatello Valley has been identified as a road that should be addressed by the commissioners and either vacated or validated. It was reported to have been maintained by the county and it leads to public lands and the recommendation was to validate the road. This item will be placed on the next agenda and a date scheduled for public hearing.

County Treasurer Leigh Love brought a resolution before the commissioners whereby asking for permission to destroy old records. She explained that the tax notice comes in two parts. The top part, kept in her office, has the same information as the bottom half which they are scanning. She would like to have approval to destroy the boxes containing the top portion of

the notice as it is a duplicate document of which the information is available on other documents. Attorney Brower reviewed the various types of document categories and the time frame they must keep such as permanent, semi-permanent and temporary.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve resolution 2020-03-02 for the destruction of records as identified on exhibit A of the resolution and identified as the top portion of tax notices retained in the treasurer's office from past years and as reviewed by the county attorney.

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

Extension office – The county is without an extension agent and hopes to someone in that position soon however this vacancy leaves only one county employee in the office for most of the day. The 4-H director position is only part time but does cover the office on occasion. The request was made to upgrade the ATC phone service by adding call forwarding. This will allow the extension office manager the ability to receive calls while doing business away from the office. The anticipated cost would be around \$12.50 dollars to add the service and about \$3.00 dollars per month thereafter. It was noted that the office had voice messaging at one time however the call forwarding was the current preferred option.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the installation of call forwarding or message recording as decided by the extension office.

Commissioner Stokes seconded. All commissioner approved and the motion carried.

Probation officer position – Attorney Brower reviewed the options for hiring a new probation officer. He stated that in limited circumstances a job can be posted as gender specific however there are requirements that must be met. The concern is that probation must conduct drug testing and this is a gender specific role depending on the probationer. Also discussed was the Idaho law limiting relatives within the second degree to a commissioner to be hired. It states that if they are already employed then they can continue with their job and receive across the board increased and promotions. The commissioners discussed exactly what promotion was as written in the law. It was recommended that they consult the county risk management team at ICRMP for clarification. The commissioner expressed an urgency to filling the position and scheduled a special meeting for the following week on March 31st giving them time to research the issue.

Economic development – It was reported that the joint Malad City/Oneida County economic development will be activated and start working to improve the community. One item of interest is the need of a new Hotel.

Emergency Manager – Dan Williams reported on the current available funds in the SHSP grant for 2018 and 2019 that will need to be obligated and spent before they expire. He questioned the status of the backup battery system for the dispatch center and whether or not the commissioners wanted to obligate the money in this direction. He also reported that the hospital would like a reserve water tank and that the High school, the volunteer ham radio

group and the county Emergency Operations Center would all benefit if they county could purchase new radios.

Dallas Jones indicated that they would need to have an electrician analyze the court house before they could give a bid on the dispatch backup system. It was suggested that the current backup battery system in the computer server room be looked at as well

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the expense, up to \$2,000.00 dollars, to have an electrician complete a review of the court house for the purpose of recommending a backup batter system for the dispatch center.

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

Court house lockdown report;

DMV is still receiving a lot of requests for renewals and title work – they are asking people to renew on line or wait if at all possible.

Treasurer is running well with few calls – will increase as the tax season draws closer.

Attorney is slow due to the Supreme Court rescheduling all non-essential case load.

Probation is still seeing mandatory clients and administering drug testing as needed.

Sheriff has closed the drivers license down with limited exceptions. The civil deputy work has increased.

Clerk's office is still receiving recordings and has been working with the Secretary of States office, with the other counties, to determine how best to prepare and conduct the May primary election. The Court clerks have rescheduled the court calendar per ISC directive and they have increased their efforts to scan old documents.

It was reported that of 39 cyber security e-mails sent to county employees as part of the ICRPM training, none of the e-mails were opened which is a good thing. The training effort is a way to help employees recognize e-mail threats from outside predators.

The commissioners reported that the gun club will not be holding their spring trap shoot at the fair grounds due to the covid-19 concerns and the governors order to cease all large gatherings.

The May primary will e conducted by absentee ballot only. This option has always been available to voters and will be the best way for citizens to vote without the possible spread of any virus.

The meeting minutes from March 9th , 13th , and 17th were reviewed.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the meeting minutes with modifications to the March 9th minutes to correctly explain the billing for Franklin County to inspect Commercial construction.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded all commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The claims were reviewed for payment.

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

March 23rd, 2020

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

He meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk