

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Christophersen leading the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer.

A review of the agenda was called for. It was suggested that the veterans funding be postponed and that election poll watcher be added to the agenda.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to delay discussion on veteran funding until a future date and to add ballot poll watchers to the agenda.

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

Soil and Water budget request. The county has given assistance to the Soil and Water District over the last several years. Administrator Staci Tripp came before the board requesting a continued financial commitment from the county in the amount of \$15,000.00 dollars for the coming FY2021 budget year. It was reported that the State of Idaho gauges their monetary support to the district based in part by how much support is given from the county and other sources.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve a letter of intent to support the Oneida soil and Water District in the amount of \$15,000.00 dollars for the FY2021 budget.

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

Poll watcher- Commissioner Stokes stated that State Representative Chad Christensen was claiming to have been denied the ability to have a ballot poll watcher for the coming election. He further exclaimed that because this election was so unique that a watcher should be allowed to view the process.

Clerk Colton who runs the elections identified that there will be no polls as the Governor has declared the May Primary to be conducted by absentee ballot only due to the COVID-19 Concerns. He further informed the commissioners that Idaho Code defines the process whereby a candidate can request watchers and that no request, formal or otherwise had been received. He did state that two separate citizens had spoken with election personnel and offered to work the elections but they did not ask to be watchers. Because of the unique circumstances with this election the clerk did state that he would offer the opportunity to both citizen to watch the proceedings.

Steve Hess came before the commissioners seeking some improvements to a section of road near his house on Hess Road in Holbrook. This section of road has been scraped to the point that all of the gravel is in the barrow pit leaving only clay and dirt on top. With only the slightest amount of moisture the road becomes real slick and has the potential of causing an accident.

Road foreman Blaisdell thought that he could bring a lift of gravel to this road within the next two or three weeks.

The May 11th, meeting minutes were reviewed.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Lewis seconded. both commissioners approved and the motion carried. Commissioner Stokes abstained without reason.

The claims were reviewed for payment.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the claims for payment. Commissioner Stokes seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Probation hiring committee recommendation- the committee selected to interview for a Chief probation officer presented their recommendations to the commissioners via committee member Attorney Cody Brower. The first choice by unanimous decision was Gabriel Jimenez with Jonathan Hayes as the first alternate and Nishon Neal as the second alternate.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve Mr. Jimenez for the position of chief probation officer with Jonathan Hayes as the first alternate and Nishon Neal as second alternate.

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

Commissioner Lewis will offer the job to Mr. Jimenez at the budgeted rate of \$38,055.00 per year. The money received for a specialty court coordinator was also discussed as a possible source of an increase to his salary.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to allow Commissioner Lewis to offer the budgeted amount of \$38,055.00 to the probation candidate.

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

Gabriel Jimenez was participating on the phone and traveled to the court house to speak with the commissioners. Wages were discussed with Mr. Jimenez and the allowance of available court assistance money was noted again.

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to offer Gabriel Jimenez a total of \$40,055.00 per year for the position of chief probation officer. \$38,055.00 from the budgeted expenses and an additional \$2,000.00 from the specialty court funding from past years.

Commissioner Stokes suggested paying the budget amount only and then addressing an increase in October through the regular budget cycle.

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

One medical indigent application was received in the clerk's office however it was not received in the time frame identified by Idaho Code. Because it was not received timely the recommendation was given to deny the case. Ramifications for approving a case that has not followed Idaho Code would be that the State Catastrophic fund would deny the case and the county would pay the full bill. The county is only responsible for \$11,000.00 dollars of cases that are approved.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to deny medical indigent claim #10-2020-10003 due to the application being filed untimely.

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

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to send a letter offering the chief probation officer position and wage Mr. Jimenez for approval and signature.

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

Commissioner Lewis reported that he had received official letters acknowledging close out of the 2017 and 2018 EMPG grants from the Idaho Office of Emergency Management.

The road project north of Holbrook has been completed and a final walk through will be conducted in the next few days. A letter of acceptance of the project has been requested. A letter will be drafted for next meeting and approved at that time.

The BLM sent two letters to the commissioners informing them of activity in the county. the first project is in Black Pine. Pilot Gold is wanting to explore the option of mining. This mining would take place in Cassia County however the access to this location is on Oneida County roads. Road foreman Blaisdell expressed some concern about the maintenance however it is possible that the company might be willing to assist with this effort.

The second letter announced the sale of timber in North Canyon. Interested individuals should contact the BLM directly.

The meeting was recessed until 12:00 pm.

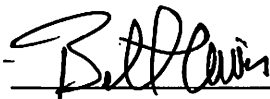
A&M Formulations Idaho representative John Kjelgaard came before the board to seek property tax exemptions under Idaho Code 63-602NN. This allows a property tax exemption for businesses that meet certain criteria. This business has met with Malad City officials and they are working on a lease deal for space in the Industrial park. The business manufactures hand sanitizer and they are looking to expand in to surface disinfectants and dish soap products. Their plan is to build their facility in four phases, all to be completed by the end of the year if possible. Phase one is expected to employ just over 30 people some of which will transfer from their current location.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to provide tax exemptions under IC 63-602NN, for 5 years at 100% to A&M Formulations.

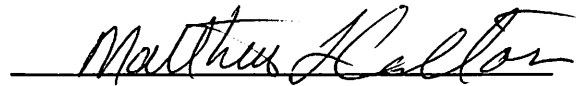
Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved. The motion carried. Commissioner Stokes requested that local contractors be used when possible.

A tax reimbursement incentive letter was presented to the commissioners. The letter simply states that the county supports the project proposed by A&M Formulations and estimates the total savings in property tax dollars.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to sign the support letter for A&M Formulations. Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk