

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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

Commissioner Lewis called for a review of the agenda.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to add Airport electrical upgrades to the agenda for discussion only.

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

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the review and payment of the claims and the December 14th meeting minutes.

Rocky Mountain Power - Representative Steve Liechty reported on projects that his utility will be working on in the coming months. The upgrades will include two new circuit breakers at the Malad substation and the replacement of transmission line. It was further reported that new relays have been installed and they will help identify issues hopefully reducing the down time when outages do occur. RMP lineman Kevin Stevens has retired from RMP and a replacement has been hired. Commissioner Stokes questioned if the local rates will be increased due to the scheduled upgrades. Mr. Liechty reported that there will be no rate increases because of their upgrades however the utility does plan on petitioning the state in June to allow an increase.

Road and bridge – Road foreman Scott Blaisdell asked the commissioner to consider updating the road standards in the development code. he stated that the current standards are from 1998 and require a six inch sub base, a two inch base and a two inch layer of asphalt. Franklin county requires twelve inches of sub base, five inches of base material and two and one half inches of asphalt.

Another area of concern is the size of turn arounds in a cul-de-sac. Scott would like to see the standard changed to reference a road standard similar to Franklin Counties and he would also like to see subdivision turn arounds built to accommodate his snow plow trucks just in case the county ever assumes responsibility of their roads. It was recommended that planning and zoning be involved with the decision.

The propane bids for calendar year 2021 were presented. Two bids, one from Direct Propane and one from J Peak Propane were received. J-Peak bid \$.15 cents over rack price and Direct Propane bid \$.20 cents over rack price.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the J-Peak Propane bid for \$.15 cents over rack price for calendar year 2021.

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

Events Center – It was reported that the contractor will address the issues of carpet repair, door adjustments and the furnace repair including proper duct work and vents being corrected/installed. In a letter to the county the contractor also agreed to pay \$600.00 dollars towards the lost propane due to leaking lines after installation. The \$600.00 dollars will be deducted from the final payment.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to accept a \$600.00 dollar reduction to the final payment on the events center as compensation for the leaking propane lines to the furnace, and to accept the furnace upgrade as outlined and to release the final payment to the contractor.

Commissioner Lewis seconded. Commissioner Stokes abstained from voting. Both commissioners Christophersen and Lewis voted in favor and the motion carried.

Fair board members – John Hardy and Rhett Daniels accepted the invitation to serve on the board.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve John Hardy and Rhett Daniels as fair board members.

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

Planning and zoning is still in need of a new board member.

Commissioner Stokes addressed the topic of unfunded and underfunded mandates imposed on the counties by the state of Idaho. He presented a resolution whereby calling for the state legislature to prohibit additional unfunded mandates and underfunded mandates.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve resolution 2020-12-01 calin for the state legislature to prohibit underfunded and unfunded mandates on the counties.

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

Seven overweight permits were presented for approval. Five permits from Hess Pumice and two permits for Crystal farms in Arbon. The overweight permits will allow trucks to haul 129,000 pound loads with properly configured trucks on designated routes only.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the seven overweight permits.

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

A financial expense report for the Public Defense Commission was presented for signature. The report shows how the money received from the PDC was spent in the last fiscal year. Oneida County received \$50,000.00 dollars. \$25,000.00 given to all counties and an additional \$25,000.00 dollars due to joining with Power County to create a joint public defense office.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve and sign the Public Defense expense report. Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Two beer and liquor licenses were presented for approval. One each for the Maverik Store and the Family Dollar store.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve both beer/liquor licenses.

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

A resolution to retain funding for the counties vessel fund was addressed. The county receives money from the state to help improve the waterways. If this money is not utilized in the same year as it was received then a resolution must be passed whereby explaining how it will be spent over the next few months. This year the county has some money remaining and it was determined that the best use of this money would be to assist with SCUBA training and certification for the search and rescue team that is training for underwater rescue.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the retention of waterways money for the use of SCUBA training and certification.

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

Commissioner Lewis addressed the issue of how the county should deal with the COVID virus in the new year. The current enhanced family medical leave act will expire on December 31st, and Commissioner Lewis would like to approve a county policy for the future. A copy of the Power County policy was presented for review. Items discussed included the need for employees to wear masks at their work station as well as when they do business in other offices or when the work directly with a customer. What must be done to comply with the stage two order from the state.

It was agreed that the county needed a policy but it was unclear just what the policy should contain. It was agreed that the employees should be able to cover time away from work with PTO and that all efforts should be made to allow an employee the opportunity to work from home if they can't come to work. The Power County policy was altered to fit the Oneida County needs by Attorney Brower.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the Oneida County COVID policy.

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

Airport electricity – Commissioner Stokes reported that the cost to install power to the east side of the hangers would cost around \$16,850.00 dollars. This would include several individual meters to allow access from each hanger. He further recommended that the power to each hanger be cut off. No decisions were made.

The meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk