



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BILL LEWIS, CHAIRMAN – BOB CHRISTOPHERSEN – KEN ELIASON

10 COURT STREET, MALAD, IDAHO 83252

Meeting minutes for December 13th, 2021

The meeting was opened by with the pledge of allegiance and a prayer offered by commissioner Christophersen.

The agenda was reviewed

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to add Cedar Ridge Road to the agenda for discussion. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Lewis convened the public hearing to take comment on the Secret Canyon Road request to reduce the width of the right of way from 50 feet to 25 feet.

The regular meeting was resumed following the public hearing. The commissioners discussed the information gathered in the public hearing for Secret Canyon Road. The requestor presented his concern that a 50 foot right of way allowed motorist the ability to drive around on his property causing damage rather than just driving to the public lands. He indicated that a 25-foot limit would allow vehicles to pass each other and it still gives access to the public lands. No citizens were present to give objection to reduce the road width. One citizen came to the hearing for the purpose of gaining information and the road supervisor attended the meeting. She had no opinion on the matter but did state that a 25 foot right of way should be sufficient.

Finding no objections, the commissioners found favor in allowing the road right of way leading to Secret Canyon being reduced to 25 feet.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the request of Robert Bagley to reduce the road right of way on the "Secret Canyon Road" from 50 feet to 25 feet.

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

The consent agenda was addressed.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of payment of claims and approval of meeting minutes.

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

The newspaper questioned if the commissioners wanted to place a holiday advertisement in the paper consisting of pictures of all employees from each office. This advertisement has been placed in the pasts. The commissioners asked if the size could be altered in an effort to lessen the expense and the newspaper said they would try to make the add smaller.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the holiday advertisement in the local newspaper.

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



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Tax cancellation; Assessor's office has brought two properties forward for tax cancellation. The legislature recently passed House Bill 562 eliminating the deadline to file for homeowner's exemptions which forces the county to cancel taxes after levy's have been set. Both properties being discussed were sold and the new owners have submitted application for the homeowner's exemption as allowed by Idaho Code. the first property is parcel, # RP0054603 owned by Bonnie Patzer and the amount to be cancelled is \$634.56. The second parcel is # RP0275700 owned by Matthew and Nichole Winn and the amount to be cancelled is \$288.43.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the tax cancellation for Bonnie Patzer, RP0054603 in the amount of \$634.56 and Matthew & Nichole Winn, RP0275700 in the amount of \$288.43 Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The commissioners were made aware of an issue in St. John area whereby the legal descriptions for a private parcel and some county property overlap. The land owner is seeking clarification on the correct boundary lines so that she can build a fence and pasture her horses on her land. The land in question is directly north of the old St. John LDS Church. Commissioner Lewis stated that the issue should be tabled until such time as the county could seek legal advice from their attorney.

E-911 communication console – Sheriff Jones reported that his communication console for taking and dispatching calls has not been working for over a month. They have been using hand held radios however this system is not working as well as needed. A suggested cost and vendor that can install a new console was given. Commissioner Lewis said that the commissioners were just made aware of the need for radios in a recent meeting. He stated that they need to know when the issue arises and not weeks after. He further asked if there were any other bids that would show that the county was getting the best price.

Probation office space – Approval was given to allow felony probation to use office space at the annex building if a schedule could be arranged and approved by the juvenile probation officer Gabe Jimenez. The commissioners discussed if they should charge rent or allow the use as a service. The consensus was to not charge a fee which will eliminate the need for a contract and allow the county the flexibility to reclaim the space if they need it for other purposes. Commissioner Eliason will make the arrangements.

TV Translator District – The commissioners are in the process of organizing a new board however they are still looking for a few members to serve on the board. Harry Sherman will continue to seek new members.

Idaho Department of Transportation district engineer Todd Hubbard reported a landslide at mile marker 21 on interstate 15. This landslide is on the east side of the freeway and moving in the directions of a county road. The state has installed monitoring wells to help watch the movement.



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Mr. Hubbard stated that they would like to sign an agreement with the county allowing the state to work in the county right of way .

A special EMPG grant has been made available and the commissioners have discussed using this money to purchase a radio for the sheriff's office. This handheld radio would be used on UHF, VHF, 700 and 800 series frequencies enhancing communication abilities from most locations. The commissioners asked about another radio request that included 12 handheld radios. It was explained that the two request were for different types of radios and that both are beneficial. The single radio would be paid for, in part, from the EMPG grant which would require an equal match from the county. The deadline to apply for the grant was due and the commissioners needed to make a decision.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the application for the EMPG grant for the purpose of funding a handheld quad radio for the sheriff's office.

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

Jay Brown and Blake Morgan asked the commissioners about a small section of the old freeway south of Malad City, that was given back to the county when the new freeway was completed. They are interested in having this road given to the current, bordering land owner. Mr. Morgan would like to try and purchase the land but would like the small section of freeway to be included.

Commissioners thought it best to delay further discussion and decision until such time that legal counsel can be involved.

Pilot Gold uses a county road to access their mining operation in the south west part of the county. This county road has little maintenance because of its remote location however Pilot Gold has asked if they can work with the county to provide maintenance and repairs while they are in operation.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve and sign the road maintenance agreement with Pilot Gold.

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

Findings of fact and conclusion of law document for the Steed Road validation was provided for approval upon the motion to validate in the previous meeting. Bruce Sweat expressed confusion on the testimony given as to whether it was for the portion of road heading north of the intersection that was being discussed or whether it was for the county road leading up to the intersection. Commissioner Lewis stated that the testimony covered both sections of road.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law for the Steed Road.

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

Commissioner Eliason abstained.



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Two documents were submitted for commissioner approval to join in the Opioid settlement. Both documents covered the same approval however the first document was written for the Janssen company and the second document covered all other companies named in the suit.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve and sign the opioid settlement participation papers.

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

The annual county vessel fund report was presented for approval. The report references all money received from the state that was not spent and stated how the money will be spent if the county is allowed to keep the funds for another year.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve and sign the annual vessel fund financial report whereby seeking retention of unspent funds for the coming year.

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

Panic Buttons
The company, M2 Automation gave a presentation on their service to provide panic buttons within county buildings. They had two offers. The first offer would include them installing the system and providing maintenance for a fee. The second offer would install the system only with the county providing maintenance. 23 buttons were suggested and would include locations at the library, city office and schools. Commissioner Lewis asked if the expense was in the budget. Deputy Dallas Jones claimed that he didn't think it would be a sheriff's budget item but that it should come from the county budget. Commissioner Christophersen asked if ARPA money could be used however Commissioner Lewis stated that he didn't think it would comply with ARPA requirements.

The annual road and street financial report was presented for approval. This annual report gives information on all revenue and expenses along with accounting for what road work was accomplished.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the annual road and street financial report.

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

The annual juvenile justice financial report was presented for approval. This report accounts for the state funding and how the money was utilized and how much money the county paid towards juvenile justice.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the annual juvenile justice financial report. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Eleven applications to renew county beer and alcohol licenses were presented for approval.



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Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the renewal of all eleven county beer and alcohol license.

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

Propane bids – no bids were received. It was determined that the county had filled its requirements and should now seek a company to provide propane in the best manner possible. The clerk will call local services to see if an arrangement can be made.

Commissioner Lewis asked if a schedule could be drawn up whereby having all departments and offices could come to a commissioner meeting and give a report of activities. The clerk will draft a schedule for approval.

Holiday schedule – the calendar was reviewed to see if any events in 2022 would conflict with commissioner meetings. The two days that were recognized were Columbus day on October 10th and December 26th, the day after Christmas.

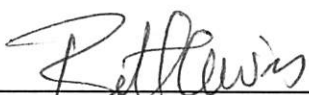
Commissioner Lewis made the motion to move the October 10th, meeting to the 11th, and to move the December 26th, meeting to the 27th.

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

Essential worker pay – the commissioners wanted to utilize some of the ARPA money to pay essential workers. They discussed what time frame they would consider to help determine who would be eligible. They further discussed the amount to be given. It was determined that a special meeting would need to be held to finalize the action. The meeting will be held the afternoon of the 15th, of December.

Cedar Ridge Road – a road in Holbrook, near Twin Springs, sits near private land and is used by the local farmer. This road is very steep in spots and also very narrow. The adjacent land owner has come to the commissioners with a proposition to trade land. He would like to help build a new road on a different alignment through his land. This new road would be wider and would not be as steep making it more useable. The commissioners asked about cost to the county for gravel etc. the topic will be addressed at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk