



## ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BILL LEWIS, CHAIRMAN – BOB CHRISTOPHERSEN – KEN ELIASON

10 COURT STREET, MALAD, IDAHO 83252

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### Meeting minutes for March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Commissioners in attendance: Bill Lewis, Robert Christophersen, Ken Eliason

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

The consent agenda consisting of the payment of claims, the approval of meeting minutes and approval of one certificate of residency was first on the agenda.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the consent agenda which included the claims, meeting minutes and on certificate of residency.

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

Max Tavoian presented a PLAT map breaking out a small piece of land under the county rules for a minor subdivision. A letter of recommendation to approve the PLAT was submitted by the planning and zoning board. The commissioners reviewed the PLAT.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the PLAT map for Max Tavoian.

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

Jayden and Baily Moon also presented a PLAT map under the county rules for a minor subdivision. A letter of recommendation to approve their PLAT was submitted by the planning and zoning board. The commissioners reviewed the PLAT.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the PLAT map for Jayden Moon.

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

Rhonda Neal presented a third PLAT map under the county rules for a minor subdivision on behalf of Jeremy Moon. A letter of recommendation to approve their PLAT was submitted by the planning and zoning board. The commissioners reviewed the PLAT.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the PLAT map for Jeremy Moon.

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

Pat Field, a candidate for one of the legislative seats in the newly formed Legislative district 27 met with the commissioners. He was interested in some of the county concerns. Two items of concern are housing issues and subdivisions and the strain that they put on the aquifers and high demand for water, especially with the agricultural community.



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Probation tutor- Probation officer Gabe Jimenez asked the commissioners for approval to hire Abby Rosenquist as a part time tutor for some of the kids that are under his supervision. Commissioner Lewis asked if the program was helping. Gabe said it was helping most of the kids.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve Abby Rosenquist as a tutor for the probation office on a limited part time basis within the approved budget.

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

Sheriff Jones proposed the lease of the county building used for relaying communications across the county. This building is located on top of the Holbrook summit and the company interested in the lease is Teton Communications.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the lease of the county repeater building to Teton Communications.

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

Holiday pay – the commissioners have discussed changes to the personnel police as it pertains to holiday pay. They have suggested paying workers for the holiday rather than accruing time off. The Sheriff's office and road department were asked to provide suggested dollar amounts that would be needed if they were to pay for holidays. The Sheriff's department has provided preliminary numbers for the commissioners to review.

Elevator project – It was reported that Attorney Brower was working on documents to send to the contractor as it pertains to the bid approval and contract agreement.

Attorney Brower was unable to report. Follow up will be needed.

The 2020 EMPG grant from the Idaho Office of Emergency Managers was sent to the commissioner for approval of an update to total funding. The change took into account money that was not used in a previous grant that needed to be returned to the State.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the 2020 EMPG grant adjustment.

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

Tax exempt request from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - Under Idaho Code 63-612B religious institutions can seek tax exemption by submitting a request to the board of commissioners. A request has been received from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for several properties.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the tax-exempt request for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints for all properties in Oneida County.

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



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Elevator project updates with Departments – The commissioners reported that the elevator construction will begin soon and that all departments will need to be ready to adapt to necessary changes in operations such as helping customers with mobility needs. One suggestion was to meet them at their vehicle in the parking lot. Signs will be needed to help direct foot traffic as well as give notice of phone numbers that can be called when assistance is needed. The rear door or east door may be unusable at times during construction and all offices need to be adaptable to the needs of the customer. The courts may be held at the events center as needed. Mick Udy was selected to oversee the project and approve minor changes as needed.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve building inspector Mick Udy as the project manager with authority to approve change orders up to \$10,000.00 dollars in cost with a maximum of \$50,000.00 dollars overall.

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

Approach permits – road department secretary Lisa Baker expressed concern regarding persons not following the approved actions on their approach permits or neglecting to obtain permits altogether. One action that she suggests is to record the permits thus making it easier to track them for future reference. The idea comes from another county that has similar problems and also would like to record them. The permits can be attached to the parcel in the Assessor's office so that persons looking for information on specific parcels can research more easily. It was further suggested that a cost be added to the permit to help compensate for the time and expense of the county. The commissioners directed her to speak with the county Attorney as seek legal advice before they proceed.

The road department informed the commissioners of a situation whereby more and more farms are extending their fields closer to the county road and reducing the barrow pit. The State reviews roads on a regular basis to determine eligibility for state funding. When the farmer takes out the barrow pit then the state rejects the road from inventory until such time as the county can reinstate the barrow pit for proper water drainage purposes. This problem has been ongoing for several decades with out any resolve. Another issue is when farmers have moved their fence closer to the road which also inhibits travel on these roadways. The road department would like some help in eliminating these encroachments on county rights-of-ways. This topic will be addressed with the county prosecutor.

Part time employment for the road department – due to the inability of finding qualified and interested persons to fill full time operator positions in the road department, they have asked for permission to seek seasonal part time help from younger citizens. these positions would not require the CDL license and they would only be performing duties such as road side weed control or flagging for the road crew when they work on the road. They would further like to pay \$15.00 dollars per hour which is the same rate as the current part time help.



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Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the hiring of seasonal part time help for the road department at a rate of \$15.00 dollars per hour.

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

The commissioners approved a letter of support for Malad City in their application for a grant to help mitigate storm water drainage along Bannock Street. The letter stated that they would offer help equivalent to a certain dollar amount which has yet to be determined. The commissioners asked for time to see what allocations they could make in equipment use so that a dollar amount could be calculated.

Quad Board of Guardians – Oneida County has joined forces with three other counties to form a board of guardians that will serve all four counties. The board members for Oneida County along with a coordinator have been selected however no expenses have been authorized. They are seeking minimal spending authority to cover travel to other counties once a quarter plus training costs and enough money to host the quarterly meetings in Oneida County.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve spending for the quad board of guardians in the amount of \$1,000.00 dollars for the remaining fiscal year.

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

Ambulance request for ARPA funding – two items were proposed by the ambulance department. An auto CPR machine that will read the patients vital statistics and if needed, administer CPR with accurate chest compressions for that individual. The second item is powered air purifying respirators. This enables the caregiver to breath clean air that has been filtered rather than being exposed to the possible toxic environment of an individual with contagious symptoms. The request was for multiple units of each item that can be used on separate ambulances. The powered air purifying respirators come in different sizes and it was suggested that two large and two small would be sufficient.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve two auto CPR machines and four powered air purifying respirators. Two large and two small. The total cost will be around \$43,422.00 for the CPR machines and \$6,200.00 for the powered air purifying respirators.

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

The meeting was adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Lewis".

Bill Lewis, Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew L. Colton".

Matthew L. Colton, Clerk