



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BILL LEWIS, CHAIRMAN – KEN ELIASON - BRIAN JEPPSEN

10 COURT STREET, MALAD, IDAHO 83252

Meeting minutes for June 26th, 2023

Attendance: Bill Lewis, Ken Eliason, Brian Jeppsen

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a pray offered by Commissioner Eliason. Commissioner Lewis called for a review of the agenda.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to add budget meeting for week of July 10th, 2023. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Consent agenda was discussed and commissioner Lewis asked that one claim be removed from the approval list.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to remove the claims form the consent agenda. Commissioner Jeppsen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the meeting minutes for June 12th, 2023. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve the claims except for the payment for commercial building inspections to Mr. Bigelow. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Greg Friedli questioned the commissioners if they had made a decision regarding his request to close the road known as 300 north between 5400 west and 5800 west. Commissioner Eliason reported that the commissioners discussed the issue and felt that the road should remain open. Safety concerns were discussed as well as road conditions. Attorney Brower outlined the process to petition the commissioners for the vacation of a road. Road supervisor Dianna Dredge outlined her plan to patch the road short term and the long-term plans for widening and rebuilding it.

Dave Colton came to the commissioners seeking additional funding for the senior citizen center to help provide meals for their patrons. State funding has diminished and the centers savings is being used to keep operations flowing. The commissioners expressed concern that outside funding will not be reinstated and they do not want to prolong the problem if the center is going to close anyway. Mr. Colton was optimistic that funding will be found. He is asking for \$5,000.00 dollars in addition to the \$8,000.00 dollars that they already receive. The commissioners will consider as they discuss the new budget.

Dave Colton inquired about cancellation of the \$30.00 dollar annual fee for the T.V. Translator district.

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He claims that the old flour mill silos adjacent to his house block the signal for his home.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to approve the cancelation of the T.V. Translator district fee of \$30.00 dollars for Dave Colton at 500 N. 500 W.

Commissioner Eliason questioned if the translator district was like the solid waste district as it related to fee collections.

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

Airport grant – the board applied for a grant to seal the runway at the airport. The estimated cost for the project is \$127,357.22. The grant was approved for 100% of the cost and needs commissioner acceptance and signature to finalize.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve resolution 2023-06-01 to accept the grant from the State or Idaho Aeronautical division in the amount of \$127,357.22 for the application of a seal coat on the new runway.

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

Oneida County has an audit team from Searle Hart conduct financial audits each year. The audit for FY2022 was completed and two documents are before the commissioners for approval. The journal entry report and the representation letter.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to sign the journal entry report and representation letter from Searle Hart, for the FY2022 financial audit.

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

Election Systems and Software (ES&S) is the provider of choice for Oneida Counties election hardware and software. They have passed the state certification for an upgrade version of their software and would like the county to approve the purchase of this upgrade. The cost will be submitted to the Secretary of State for possible payment with grant money.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the agreement to purchase the upgrade to the election tabulators at the cost of \$5,485.00 dollars.

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

Secure Rural Schools money comes from a federal program that benefits county roads and school districts. The commissioners have been asked to designate how they would like to allocate the funding in the coming year. Past funding has been accepted under Title I whereby the county road department received 70% and the school districts receive 30%.

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Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to delay a decision on the SRS funding until a future meeting. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

PERSI- the clerk reported that PERSI rules have been changed due to a new interpretation of Idaho Code for part time employees. Idaho Code states that a part time employee cannot work 20 hours or more in any 10 weeks of a 20- week rolling work period. Prior interpretation was that of a 22-week rolling period was used.

Commissioner Lewis reported that several counties have invested in drones with the capability of spraying noxious weeds. The benefits include more accurate application of chemical, less hazardous to the employee on steep terrain. The drawback is the initial cost to get setup. It has been reported that it would take between \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00 dollars initially.

One other side benefit would be possibly using it in conjunction with a search and rescue situation.

Event center rental – Commissioner Lewis asked for clarification on when an entity receives the use of the event center for free and when they pay. Currently some entities use the facilities without cost however commissioner Lewis thinks that if said entity is holding a fund raiser, they should pay a portion of the rental fee to help cover utility costs. He further suggested a 50% charge.

Other suggestions were to collect a cleaning fee that could be refunded if the building is maintained after use.

Commercial building inspections – a bill was submitted for the inspection of commercial permits. One of those permits is for the new school however commissioner Lewis stated that the county building inspector should be certified this fall and will be able to complete the project. For this reason he has asked that the original bill be modified to allow for only those inspection that are completed are those paid for.

Sheriff Jones presented his "B" and "C" budget to the commissioners.

D-6 treatment, helping with the diversion court participants, has need for office space. Options were discussed and it was determined that space at the annex building would work well for their needs. Director Ashley Bringham will work with the county to update the space and work out arrangements for rent.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to allow temporary use of space at the annex building for D-6 treatment until a formal agreement can be agreed upon.

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

The commissioners discussed budget requests from various offices and departments.

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Commissioner Lewis made the motion to hold an executive session per IC 74-206 (1)(d) To consider records that are exempt from disclosure as provided in chapter 1, title 74, Idaho Code;

(f) To communicate with legal counsel for the public agency to discuss the legal ramifications of and legal options for pending litigation, or controversies not yet being litigated but imminently likely to be litigated. The mere presence of legal counsel at an executive session does not satisfy this requirement;

Commissioner Jeppsen seconded. roll call vote was taken.

Commissioner Lewis – Aye

Commissioner Jeppsen – Aye

Commissioner Eliason – Aye

The motion carried.

Executive session was concluded.

The commissioners discussed the need for additional counseling sessions for law enforcement personnel.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to modify the contract with empower counseling to allow for up to 20 total sessions per employee.

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

Budget discussions resumed.

The meeting adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Lewis", is written over a horizontal line.

Bill Lewis, Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew L. Colton", is written over a horizontal line.
Matthew L. Colton, Clerk Deputy clerk

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