



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BILL LEWIS, CHAIRMAN – KEN ELIASON – BRIAN JEPSEN

10 COURT STREET, MALAD, IDAHO 83252

Meeting minutes for November 13th, 2023

Attendance: Commissioner Lewis, Commissioner Eliason, Commissioner Jepsen.
Chairman Lewis called for a review of the agenda.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to remove meeting minutes from the consent agenda and discussion of dock from the regular agenda.
Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Questions were asked regarding planning and zoning contacts, a custom knife award from the fair board and what the payment status was on the elevator.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of the payment of claims.
Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

TJ Burbank presented bids for the access control units request for multiple doors in the sheriff's office and court room and court clerk's offices.
It was explained that the wireless system could be expanded in the future if more doors were to be added. A verification of number of doors and their locations was had.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to approved the bid of \$28,183.45, for access control locks to be installed by TJ Burbank and to take the expense from the one time expense monies.
Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Hayden from Arrowhead Countertops, presented his plans for the counters in the clerk's office, the treasurer's office, the assessor's office and in the drivers license area. It was stated that road and bridge did not think they needed any changes and the extension office said they had other means to being ADA compliant.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to accept the Arrowhead Cabinets bid of \$47,509.06 for the ADA counters in the Clerks, Treasurer's, Assessor's, and Driver's license offices.
Commissioner Jepsen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to approve a 50% down payment for the cabinets.
Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

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Airport electricity – the airport board is expanding locations for hangers and would like power ran to the southeast corner of the airport. This location will become the new hangar area for single planes. They have money in their budget and would like to accept the bid from State line Electric to run this power. The bid is for \$25,950.00.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to approve the Stateline bid of \$25,950.00 to run power under the county road to the southeast corner of the airport.

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

Wrights Creek road agreement – The proposal was made to hold a special meeting to discuss a road agreement with Hess Pumice regarding maintenance of the road from the Pumice mine to the Perlite mine. The date discussed was November 22nd, at 11:00 am at the event center.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to hold a special meeting on November 22nd, at 11:00 am to discuss a road agreement with Hess Pumice regarding the Wrights Creek Road.

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

The road department has a 140 M grader on lease that they would like to trade in for a 150 M AWD. The lease is a few months premature however the new grader is available and the company is willing to work with the county. Commissioner Lewis reported that Attorney Pearson reviewed the lease document and gave his o.k.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the lease with Western States for the 2023 cat 150 grader for a term of five years.

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

Kevin Jones owns property between two county roads near an intersection in St. John area. He would like to deed the land to the county as it is of no use to him due to size and location.

The commissioners wanted more information and tabled the discussion until Kevin could meet with them in open meeting.

Assessor Atkinson presented a resolution to destroy old records from her office. The list of items to destroy was detailed and found satisfactory.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve resolution 2023-11-01 to destroy assessor records older than 2014.

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

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Assessor Atkinson presented four properties That have recently applied for the homeowner's exemption. Under current Idaho Code properties can receive the exemption at any point during the year thus a partial cancelation will be necessary for the 2023 tax year. Those properties are:

Parcel #	Owner	Address	amount to be cancelled
RP0239702	Benjamin Naylor	1850 N 5600 W	\$133.34
RP0095700	Raymond Woolston	475 Bannock St.	\$272.58
RP0033500	Jewel Hull	322 N 400 W	\$360.40
RP0281607	Keith L John	408 Pack Mule Ln	\$236.82

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to approve the tax cancelation on four parcels, RP0239702, RP0095700, RP0033500, and RP0281607, due to homeowner exemption applications; the total cancelation being \$1003.14.

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

Assessor Atkinson reminded the commissioners on their past discussion on whether it is better to keep the ford escape or trade it in. The car would be worth about \$12,000.00 to \$13,000.00 dollars if traded in and it has around 80,000 miles. The dealer where it was purchased has two ford edge models at a cost of about \$43,000.00 dollars.

Weed superintendent Cody Clyde reported on his investigation of the drone that would be used for spraying weeds. The drone discussed in the past would be available around February or March of 2024. the generator purchase for charging the batteries in the field, is looking to be quite expensive and he would like to explore other options. The road department has a small generator they are willing to loan to Cody to see if it is big enough to handle the task. If this generator works then they could buy one of similar size for less money than the unit that was suggested by another county. The training and licensing will be at a low to no cost as Cody can do most of the studying and test preparation on his own. The drone is 100% American made.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the purchase of the mid-range drone, HG216, from Helio at a cost of \$29,820.00 from one-time expense funds.

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

The road and bridge suggested a weather camera to monitor a few of the more distant county roads for snow and ice. The cost is \$3,000.00 per year. Their initial request was for three cameras however they would like to try one to see how efficient is it and then possible expand the number of cameras.



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Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approved the purchase of one weather camera for road and bridge from one-time expense funds.

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

The senior citizen center came before the board in the spring to seek additional funding in their effort to continue their program of sharing meals. They have asked for \$5,000.00 dollars. Commissioner Lewis thought it would be appropriate to have them come back and discuss the possibilities of their past funding being reinstated.

Commissioner Lewis reported on his assignment to find suitable locations for a bulk gas tank that could be used by all county department and to ensure fuel is on hand in an emergency.

The locations he reported are; east of the court house, at the annex building, by the ambulance building, at the fairgrounds, near the fire station, at the road and bridge yard or the search and rescue building. The location at the ambulance building was the preferred location.

It was further reported that the county will still pay taxes on the fuel whether buying at the pump or in bulk.

Holiday gift proposal – it was suggested that an emergency kit could be given as a gift this year but after much discussion, with employee participation by those in attendance, it was determined by the commissioners that they wanted to give a \$50.00 dollar gift card from Thomas Market to all FT and PT employees. The clerk warned about tax implications but they were ok with paying the taxes that may be due.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to give all full time and part time employees as of December 1st, 2023, a \$50.00 dollar gift card to Thomas Market and to pay any additional taxes associated.

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

Law enforcement contract – Malad City has contracted with the county for several years for law enforcement. With changes to their agreement a new contract was drawn up and ready for both parties to review and approve. Two changes being made are the amount to be paid and some of the services provided.

Commissioner Jepsen made the motion to approve the law enforcement contract with Malad City. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The sheriff department came before the commissioners seeking a raise in pay for all part time dispatch and patrol saying they must do the same work as the full-time employees. They commented that it was better to pay more and get quality workers than to have a law suit against the county. This discussion will be taken up at a latter date when more information is available.

November 13th, 2023



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The generator for the event center can be paid through the SHSP emergency services grant and will not need the EHP approval if the cement pad is already in place. The commissioners discussed how much grant money to allocate to this project.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to approve \$40,000.00 SHSP grant money for the purchase of a generator for the event center with all remaining money coming from the one-time expense funds. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The 2023 EMPG and SHSP grants have been offered to the county and are awaiting approval. The EMPG grant is for 20,283.30 of which the county will pay half. The SHSP grant is for \$22,738.49.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the SHSP grant for \$22,738.49. Commissioner Jeppsen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to approve the EMPG grant for \$20,283.30 with the county paying a match of 50%. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

After further discussion regarding the purchase of the event center generator it was determined that the grant money should only pay for the generator.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to amend his previous motion of using \$40,000.00 dollars for the generator to allocating just \$36,780.00 dollars of SHSP grant money for the generator. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

As part of receiving the emergency operation grants, a percentage must be used in law enforcement. The current request is for new communication radios in the amount of \$13,926.70.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to approve the expense of SHSP grant money in the amount of \$13,926.70 for search and rescue communication radios. Commissioner Eliason seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

D-6 treatment, a counseling resource for eligible persons in the justice system or trying to stay out of the system, has need for office space and the county has agreed to help provide some office space. An agreement has been drafted but the commissioners wanted more information and definition on actual space to be used.



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Computer Art/ Harris is a software company that provides the financial software and recording software for the clerk's office, the financial software for the Treasurer's office and a civil program for the civil deputy. They have a contract with Oneida County that is renewable each year.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to approve the contract with CAI/Harris for software programs in the Clerk, Treasurer and Civil Deputy offices.

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

Canvas of the November 7th, city council election

The commissioners reviewed the statistic and results for the election.

Commissioner Jeppsen made the motion to certify the city election held on November 7th, 2023.

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

A new board member is being sought to represent Oneida County and surrounding counties on the Eastern Idah State Fair board. Regene Jones has filled the position for 12 years and has done a great job. The name suggested was that of Wes Harris. Wes comes from Franklin County and has interest in serving in this capacity.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to nominate Wes Harris from Franklin County to serve on the Eastern Idaho State Fair board.

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

Records retention schedule – copies of available examples of retention schedules will be sent to the commissioners for review.

Animal Damage Control is seeking \$2,500.00 dollars this fiscal year however only \$2,000.00 was budgeted. The commissioners discussed changing the amount but no changes were made.

Gene Caldwell has presented his resignation letter to the county as veteran service officer. His last day will be December 31st, 2023. Robert Stokes has indicated interest in this position and receiver endorsement from the local POST of the American Legion.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approved Robert Stokes as the new veteran service officer for Oneida County beginning January 1st, 2024.

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

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Meeting schedule for November 27th, 2023. It has been suggested that interim prosecutor Vic Pearson could attend the commissioner meeting if it were held in the afternoon. The suggested start time is 1:00 pm.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to change the commissioner meeting start time for the November 27th, meeting to 1:00 pm.

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

Former county attorney Cody Brower has made the request that the county sell him the county cell phone he has been using. Search on E bay showed that his model of phone can sell from \$275 to just over \$300.00 dollars and he offered to pay \$300.00.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the sale of the used cell phone to Cody Brower for \$300.00 dollars.

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

Probation presented "Form-B" which shows the statistics of Juveniles helped in the past year.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to accept and sign the form-B for probation.

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

The commissioners interviewed three interested parties wanting to contract with Oneida County to fulfill the prosecutor position for the remainder of the current term. Rocky Wixom was the first interview. Peter Wells from May, Rammel and Wells law firm was second with Fuller and Fuller law firm following up. Peter Wells participated via telephone. Lyle Fuller also called in however Ethan Rawlins, also from this firm was present. The commissioners wanted to deliberate on the applicants following the interviews and moved onto the next agenda item.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Lewis".

Bill Lewis, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew L. Colton".

Matthew L. Colton, Clerk

November 13th, 2023