



# ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

459 South Main St, Malad, ID 83252

## Commissioner's Meeting

11 DECEMBER 2023 1:00PM – 4:45PM \*RECORDING 21132\*

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**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Commissioners Bill Lewis, Brian Jeppsen, and Ken Eliason

Commissioner Bill Lewis opened the meeting by leading all in the Pledge of Allegiance and offering a prayer.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to add "SHSP Grant update" to the agenda (for discussion only). Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to approve the consent agenda which includes claims and the minutes from recent meetings dated 11/27. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Shelley Williams from The Enterprise newspaper asked the commissioners if they would like to take out a Christmas Ad at a reduced price. Commissioner Eliason motioned to put a Christmas ad in The Enterprise newspaper 12/21 edition for \$550. Commissioner Jeppsen seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Todd Hubbard, ITD District 5 Engineer, and Molly Besar, Executive Director with Four County Alliance of Southeast Idaho, shared information about road grants and the 129,000-pound truck route applications. This would gather funding for roads designated as "freight" routes and "129" routes. The benefit of 129's is that they distribute weight more evenly and have less pounds per axle, causing less wear and tear on roads. Mr. Hubbard and Ms. Besar offered several options starting with obtaining an Engineering Study of Daniels Road leading to Wrights Creek to determine what recommendations are made and planning for a larger project to be spread out over time.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to apply for the LHTAC Engineering grant for local highway/road maintenance and improvement and to use any funds granted for maintenance on the 26-miles of county road from Daniels to Wright's Creek Road. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Arne Jones requested to increase the salaries of part-time dispatch to \$17.50 hourly and reserve deputies to \$20.00 hourly, citing difficulties with hiring and retaining part-time employees. Sheriff Jones discussed an estimated \$30,000 annual savings by having part-time employees that can cover for full-time employees and still allow the Sheriff to stay within his allotted budget. The numbers pulled by Sheriff Jones give supervisors a guideline to go by when approving time off for employees (coverage of 7.6 shifts per month for reserves and 8.75 shifts per month for dispatch) and would allow the accrued PTO and comp time levels to go down if part-time people were available to cover shifts. Sheriff Jones said that his department will not ask for a wage increase in the next budgeting session for FY2025.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to accept a part-time wage increase for dispatch to \$17.50 hourly and part-time deputies to \$20.00 hourly with the understanding that no wage increase will be requested for the 2025 budget. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

School resource officer Doug Williams discussed the need to have law enforcement present in the schools. The school board signed a contract for the current school year allowing deputies be at the schools & school events on their days off.

ACTION ITEM: talk to the department of Labor to ask about compensation and logistics of having officers at the schools on their days off. Identify how they will be compensated (and how much).

Comp time discussion centered around county employees being mindful of their accrued comp time and staying within the limit. ACTION ITEM: Pay out of comp time will be on the next payroll.

Dave Colton requested additional funding for the Senior Center citing rising costs of food and operation. Currently they serve 380 meals in-house and 250 meals are delivered per month. Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve a 1-time \$5,000 payment for the support of the Senior Center for food purchases. Seconded by Ken Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

A dumpster has been at Daniels Reservoir for several years with no charge but was recently discovered and added to the tax roll. The board for St John Irrigation Company (Austin Tubbs and Lloyd Briggs) requested the county remove the \$427 charge for an additional dumpster, stating that it was placed at the reservoir without being requested. Jason Lower with IDAWY said the goal is to serve the people and the county and suggested options to resolve issues in the future such as putting up signs to "Pack It In, Pack It Out". He said he would also include Fish & Game in the discussion and resolution.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to cancel the \$427 solid waste fee on the current bill for the St. John Irrigation Company. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion Carried.

Ameriben Membership Agreement was discussed with company representative, Brenda Blitman. She explained the Northwest Data Exchange and Membership Agreement and answered questions specific to Oneida County being a small county where employees wear multiple "hats" and were only rated on one of their responsibilities the last time this was done. Ameriben representative explained hybrid / weighted positions. Two subscriptions were discussed. A Northwest Data Exchange subscription for \$2,500 that renews at the start of each fiscal year and a Select Membership for \$4,000 annually that starts in April or May. In order to sync the subscriptions, a 6-month subscription for \$2,000 was discussed.

Commissioner Ken Eliason motioned to continue the annual Northwest Data Exchange subscription for \$2,500 and a 6-month Select Membership for \$2,000 with Ameriben, which would go to the end of the Fiscal Year on September 30, 2024 (to sync the renewal dates for both annual subscriptions in the future). Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Facts and Findings regarding the Nielson rezone had unresolved issues and questions. ACTION ITEM: Commissioners will find answers to their questions and get clarification in order to revisit this agenda item at the next commissioner meeting.

The Extension Office budget did not allow for unforeseen revenue. The Extension office requested to be allowed to exceed the County Agent-Travel budget (0430-0001) and to exceed the Supplies-Demonstrations budget (0443-0000) as long as the funds are recouped to the county general funds from sponsorships, reimbursements, or participants fees. Moving forward, a budget will be requested to account for the added revenue.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned the Extension Office be allowed to exceed the county agent travel budget with incoming funds expected and to use the supplies fund for the extension office budget to better manage the funds that come in and out through events with the extension. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Two quitclaim deeds were written up to help straighten a road east of the industrial park. Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the quitclaim deeds granting property to JRD Properties and the second claim deeding property to Oneida County from Oneida County to allow the Assessor's office to clean up the legal description of the property. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

The quitclaim deeds will be recorded once the survey has been recorded.

Dianna Dredge with Road and Bridge requested funds to purchase a mini-excavator. She has funds in the capital account and would like to reallocate in order to purchase an excavator. Commissioners gave verbal approval for Ms. Dredge to continue searching for a suitable excavator.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to sign a CAT Financial lease purchase agreement for a motor grader with CAT Leasing for purchase agreement # 001-70126482 for \$46,234.29 as the first lease payment. Commissioner Jeppsen seconded. All ayes. Motion carried.

Disaster preparedness pre-application for a grant. Dan Williams submitted "intent to submit". ACTION ITEM: Commissioner Jeppsen to follow up with Southeast Idaho Council of Governments (SEICOG), need to hire a grant writer and submit the grant prior to the 1/15/2024 deadline. Commissioners will discuss at the next meeting.

Emergency Services Plan (SHSP) Grant update: Dan Williams sent EHP paperwork 2 weeks ago and the turn-around is 25 days. We are unable to place an order for a backup generator for the event center without an Equipment Authorization Number (EAN), which must be in the bid or it voids the SHSP grant. The generator must be installed by 4/30/2025 and the installation time frame is 21 weeks. There is a possibility of filing an extension and it requires an action plan.

After review, Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve the 2024 Retail Alcohol Beverage Licenses for Oneida County (see list) and it was seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

**2024 Alcohol Beverage Licenses approved for:**

Family Dollar LLC dba Family Dollar Store, Inc #28427  
G&K Atkinson LLC dba Central Service  
Thomas Market Inc dba Thomas Market  
Hotel Malad LLC dba Hotel Malad  
CJ's Travel Stop LLC dba CJ's Travel Stop  
Maverick, Inc. dba Maverick, Inc. #630  
Dude Ranch Café Partnership dba Dude Ranch Café  
American Legion Post 65 Inc. dba American Legion Post 65  
K-C Oil Inc. dba K-C Oil  
Ronna Hess DBA Chat N Chew  
Wind River Petroleum, Inc dba Top Stop Convenience Stores  
Parkland USA Corporation dba KJ's 80217

ESRI Renewal – This is a software GIS program for digital mapping in the Assessor's office. The version currently in use in the Assessor's office will soon be obsolete. Commissioner Eliason motioned to sign the lease agreement for the ESRI Basic and Standard for \$2,090. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Airport Hanger lease amendments. ACTION ITEM: obtain documents to review and sign at the next meeting.

Assessor Atkinson discussed purchasing a new vehicle for the county to fill a need, based on availability and another county vehicle with high mileage. Commissioner Lewis motioned to

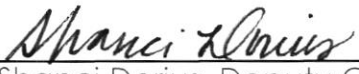
purchase a grey Ford Edge from Caribou Motors for \$42,700. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion Carried.

ACTION ITEM: Decide what should be done with the Ford Escape county vehicle with high mileage on it (trade in value \$13,000, reallocate for short range use, etc).

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to give a \$50 gift card to Thomas Market to each part-time and full-time employee by the end of this week. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

\*\*\* Meeting adjourned just before 4:45pm\*\*\*

  
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Bill Lewis, Chairman

  
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Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk