



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

459 South Main St, Malad, ID 83252

Commissioner's Meeting

22 APRIL 2024 1:00 PM

* RECORDING# 240422-0057 & 240422-0058 *

IN ATTENDANCE: County Commissioners Bill Lewis and Ken Eliason. Commissioner Jeppsen is excused.

Pledge and Prayer were led by Commissioner Lewis.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the consent agenda, which includes the payment of claims and minutes from meetings held on 4/8/24 and 4/15/2024. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discussion for a budgeted pay increase (by one step) for a 4-H Coordinator in the Extension office was had. Employee has met all goals set when she was hired in addition to improving the program and has been helpful to county extension agent Sawyer Fannesbeck.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to move 4-H Coordinator Lacey Clark from grade 5 step 1 to grade 5 step 2. The new pay rate of \$14.57 will be effective at the next pay cycle. Seconded by commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

In September 2023 an elevator was installed to help the courthouse be ADA compliant. It came with a one-year warranty. Idaho Code requires a complete annual inspection of the elevator. In previous discussions with all three commissioners present, the annual contracted, discounted cost was noted to be \$3,041.28. This contract includes four total inspections for the year, one of them being the full inspection required by the state. The contract also provides assistance during regular business hours from a technician who is in Logan, Utah daily. After hours service is available from a technician traveling from Layton,

Utah and will be billed as an after-hours call. The contract can be cancelled if TK Elevators is not performing maintenance and does not provide the required service within thirty (30) days.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to sign a five (5) year service agreement with TK Elevator in the amount of \$3,041.28 per year. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

An approved repair to the annex roof saw additional cost when water damaged foam material and fascia was encountered while removing the old roof, increasing the cost for materials and labor by \$1,730.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve additional payment to Mountain Peak Builders for foam material, fascia, and labor in the amount of \$1,730 to be paid out of the capital funds expenditures. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Several members of Idaho and Utah amateur NGO radio club(s) were present to discuss issues between the club and BLM regulations regarding the building that houses the radio equipment and came prepared with a possible solution. Club members present were: Mike McCarthy, John Lloyd, and Mel Parkes (Utah VHS Society), Ted McArthur (Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club), and local club members J. Michael Madsen, Tracy Drury, Jim Mustos, Fred Clavell, and Bill Drury. Members shared information showing that Malad is a key site for a network of more than thirty repeaters between neighboring states to Idaho, including Utah and Arizona.

BLM regulations state NGO radios are no longer able to put their radio equipment in the same building as the BLM for security reasons. The BLM will attend the next Oneida County Board of Commissioner's meeting on 5/13/2024 to discuss proposed options. There are two buildings on the site. One is empty and is owned by the state of Idaho. BLM regulations state there are not to be empty buildings on the site. The proposed solution is to request the building be donated to Oneida County. In turn, Oneida County may choose to enter into a municipal agreement (at no cost to the county) that would allow the NGO club to use the building to store their equipment separate from the BLM equipment. This would require the county to provide a "letter of acceptance of donation." Blaine Newman with the BLM and Danny Miller, a realty specialist with the BLM will contact the state to initiate the start of the transfer of ownership if the Oneida County Board of Commissioners approves the donation at the 5/13/2024 commissioner meeting.

P&Z Administrator Rhonda Neal presented the Facts & Finding Conclusion of Law for both the Airport Overlay District and the Randy Gamble Rezone request. A public hearing will be held once the commissioners finalize the tentative date of Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Event Center.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to hold a public hearing for the airport overlay district and the Randy Gamble rezone request on May 28, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Event Center. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was represented at the meeting by Katy Bergholm, Christ Cathcart, and Jennifer Cornell. Ms. Bergholm stated they are happy to come annually (at the minimum) to share information. In the fall of 2021, the state of Utah reported seeing higher concentrations of thallium, which is toxic to humans, in their cattle. While they are unsure where it was consumed by the cattle, subsequent testing revealed thallium on the Malad River up to the Idaho border. Idaho's DEQ began testing north from the Idaho-Utah border and found the concentration of thallium was higher the further north they came. DEQ has currently concluded the thallium is naturally occurring and not human caused. Over the past year, they have consistently found high concentration of thallium near the Woodruff Bridge area. Ms. Cornell reported that it is not uncommon to have metals in our water and that thallium can be mobilized by geothermal activity. DEQ is sharing information with many departments such of Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, IDWR, and DEQ. Ms. Bergholm stated that county residents could be of assistance by allowing DEQ to sample wells in the areas near Woodruff. The samples can easily be obtained from the tap or a stock tank.

The 2022 resolution for the noxious weeds fee schedule has been updated with the info discussed and agreed on at the last board of commissioner meeting on April 8, 2024.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to sign and accept Resolution 2024-04-01, a Resolution of the Oneida County Board of Commissioners establishing the Oneida County Noxious Weed Fee Schedule as presented and amended in open meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

Southeastern Idaho Public Health (SEIPH) appeared before the board of commissioners with a budget request for their fiscal year 2025, which starts July 1, 2024. Prior to the budget discussion, a reminder of the upcoming budget hearing was given. The county commissioner chairman (or a designated proxy) is required to attend. The budget hearing will be held at the SEIPH office in

Pocatello on May 23, 2024 at 9:30am. Commissioner Lewis confirmed he had already made arrangements to attend.

Maggie Mann, Director of Southeastern Idaho Public Health (SEIPH), presented the status of the current budget. Ms. Mann requested a \$61,770 contribution for fiscal year 2025, an increase of \$899 dollars from the current budget. The 2.6% increase is based on figures from the current fiscal year and changes in population and property market value in Oneida County.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to support the Southeastern Idaho Public Health budget request by committing our \$61,770 portion for the Southeastern Idaho Public Health fiscal year 2025 beginning July 1, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

The county received a grant for Opioid funds that the commissioners wish to use in an ongoing, positive way. Two parties came before the board requesting financial support from the opioid fund. Director Maggie Mann with Southeastern Idaho Public Health shared information about education, community outreach, peer support specialists, counseling and medical services, and training. After discussion, Ms. Mann will provide the commissioners with financial figures for each area of assistance she outlined. After reviewing the *Opioid Approved Abatement Strategies* document and information contained in House Bill 406 (which goes into effect on July 1, 2024), Chief Deputy Doug Williams presented the board with figures for the department's immediate need for supplies, training, fentanyl tests kits, gloves, sharps containers, and other supplies for the officers. There was discussion for Chief Deputy Williams to also obtain figures for items needed over the next several months and present them for board approval.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to authorize spending up to \$2,000 (two-thousand dollars) towards the Sheriff's department expenses for fentanyl kits, gloves, sharps containers, death & homicide investigation training, and other items for in-the-field harm reduction needs. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

***** Meeting adjourned by 6:00 pm*****



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk