



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

459 South Main St, Malad, ID 83252

Commissioner's Meeting

10 JUNE 2024

8:00 AM – EXECUTIVE SESSION

9:00 AM BUDGET SESSION

1:00 PM MEETING

* RECORDING# 240607-0063, 240608-0064 & 65*

IN ATTENDANCE: County Commissioner Chair Bill Lewis, Commissioner Brian Jeppsen, and Commissioner Ken Eliason.

Budget sessions for the Veterans Service, Road & Bridge, Coroner, Assessor, Sheriff, Ambulance, and Parks & Recreation were discussed. Budget sessions will continue at the next Board of Commissioner meeting.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to move back into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 1(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;* Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. Roll call of vote: Commissioner Lewis, aye. Commissioner Jeppsen, aye. Commissioner Eliason, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to move out of executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. Roll call of vote: Commissioner Lewis, aye. Commissioner Jeppsen, aye. Commissioner Eliason, aye. Motion carried.

The regular meeting was opened by Commissioner Lewis, who also led the pledge and prayer.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to accept the consent agenda as presented, which includes the payment of claims, certificate of residency, and approval of meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

The annual county audit was recently completed by Searle, Hart, and Associates. Auditor Dana Izatt presented positive results by using the phrase "good opinion of the report." The results included evidence that federal money was spent appropriately. A major part of the audit focused on the federal money for the coronavirus state/local fiscal recovery funds, due to the large sum of money involved (\$448,073). This also returned a good opinion. Mr. Izatt stated the county is trending well with spending.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept and sign the letter of approval for the 2023 financial audit from Seale, Hart & Associates. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

The BLM and Forest Service agencies were represented by:

Kim Obele, Westside District Ranger (Forest Service)
Mike Johnston, Fire Staff Officer (Forest Service)
Blaine Newman, BLM Field Manager
Clint Bastian, NF/Portneuf Assistant Zone Fire Management Officer

Discussion included information from a recent annual meeting to update pre-season coordination for wildfire. All signs point to a nationwide active fire season in 2024. If any fire activity is in our area, Blaine Newman will be the primary contact as the BLM agency administrator. Usually, the field manager will be in touch with the commissioners if anything is going on and it was determined that Commissioner Brian Jeppsen would be the point of contact for Oneida County Board of Commissioners.

Clint Bastian discussed a regional review that occurred within the last. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) plans for staging (dozers, helicopters, etc.) in the event of a fire and indicated that Eastern Idaho is fortunate to have two helicopters supporting our area. Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) has a presence in southern Idaho and will be an additional resource. The BLM and Forest Service will each have one fire engine stationed in Malad.

Mike Johnston shared statistics and the forecast for the 2024 fire season, which take in factors like the amount of snow from the previous winter, grass, and the weather outlook for summer. In our area, the weather is forecast to be warm and dry all year.

East Idaho Fire Association has meetings each month on the first Thursday at 12:00pm. Chief Corey Child in Rexburg is the primary contact for this organization. The Oneida County Fire District was encouraged to attend and be involved in these monthly meetings.

While discussing emergency preparedness, Mike Johnston suggested that private landowners can get information on ways to prepare and receive financial assistance. The BLM and Forest Service encouraged Oneida County to always strive to be prepared and are willing to share preventative measures with the community after fire season in the fall.

The AS400 system used in the Assessor's office was originally only a three-year purchase, but it has been ten years. The system died recently and the assessor's office had to wait for parts, which are old enough that the system will no longer be supported in the near future. After sharing four options with the commissioners, Assessor Atkinson was asked her to obtain more information on the UAD system and determine the cost difference between a monthly plan and yearly plan with the AS400 system. The four options presented were:

1. Move to the Aumentum system, which would cost \$12,000 per year
2. Buy a new Uninterrupted Power System (UPS) at the cost of \$35,145. This comes with a three-year software and hardware support and would assist with conversion from the county's current AS400 system.
3. Continue with the AS400 system by purchasing a one-year extension. The contract for hardware and software maintenance and support with this year-long extension would cost \$3,684. The risk is that parts cost extra and may be difficult to locate or may be obsolete.
4. The state is developing a free web-based system. The Uniform Appraisal Database (UAD) Web is a statewide system but would not be ready to set-up Oneida County anytime sooner than Spring 2025.

Assessment corrections for non-irrigated ag land are being made for 2,150 parcels that were determined to be incorrect. Assessor Atkinson will resend corrected notices to the affected parcels and requests \$1,770.49 for re-printing and overnight posting services.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to pay the postage and printing cost of \$1,770.49 to resend the revised non-irrigated ag land assessments to the 2,150 affected parcels. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rhonda Neal, Planning & Zoning Administrator gave a status update on the department. Mrs. Neal also gave a reminder that Hickory sheds need a building permit if over two-hundred square feet or if it is a dwelling.

Projects with applications:	7
People contacted with splits:	3
Rezoning, one of which is a year old:	3
Violations reported to P&Z:	15+
P&Z Public Hearings:	2
P&Z Public Hearings scheduled for July:	0

The Opioid Kroger class-action law suit was discussed. Affected parties must choose to opt-in to be included in the suit. The deadline is August 12.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to authorize opting-in to participate in the Kroger Opioid settlement. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Per Idaho Code 63-501, a Board of Equalization (BOE) must be on the agenda once a month from January – June. If there is nothing to consider, the board will not need to convene. For now, the BOE will be on each agenda through the end of July and again on the first Board of Commissioner meeting in November.

A suggested topic for the next Town Hall Meeting in Oneida County was "Emergency Preparedness" to help the community know what resources are available and to have a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). CERT-trained individuals in the community would be able to assist until first-responders arrive in the event of an emergency. The next Town Hall Meeting will likely be in the next few months (October – November).

State disaster preparedness (House Bill #425) was discussed at the recent Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) meeting attended by commissioner(s). The area of impact senate bill 1403 eliminates the committee of nine, effective July 1, 2024.

Legal Counsel Lyle Fuller asked if there was an impact agreement locally. Malad City and Oneida County recently signed an area of impact agreement. It was suggested that commissioners may need to proactively determine if the city/county code would apply. Also discussed was having a commercial inspector assess county buildings as a preventive measure to avoid future potential issues.

Commissioner(s) attended a recent AARPA meeting where housing for elderly population was discussed. There appears to be a push to create housing options for them that are appropriate for the aging populace (one-level, no stairs, etc.).

One topic of discussion at a recent LEPC meeting included power companies having a system that could determine if there were any potential issues and have the ability to mass communicate messages to customers to let them know of a power outage. This would allow customers time to prepare for the outage.

Proposed changes to the new County Vehicle Use Policy were discussed.

Regional Economic Development for Eastern Idaho (REDI) invoiced the county for continued service and commissioners determined there was value in signing the agreement.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to support the Regional Economic Development for Eastern Idaho (REDI) participation agreement for \$2,500. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried.

The regular meeting was recessed for the Development Code Proposed Amendments Public Hearing.

Commissioner Lewis reconvened the regular Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to accept the proposed amendments as presented by Planning and Zoning with exception to the verbiage contained in the animal feeding operation and an editorial update, changing the word "density" to "size". Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

The commissioners then moved out of the regular meeting in order to have the Public Hearing for the Airport Overlay District.

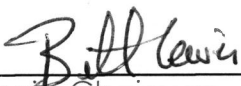
Commissioner Lewis again reconvened the regular Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve the proposed establishment of the Airport Overlay District as proposed by Planning & Zoning. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

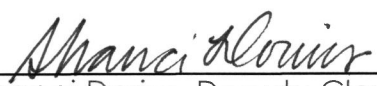
Commissioners explained to the Randy Gamble rezone party that the density restriction in the development code was removed in the previous hearing tonight.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to honor the request from Randy Gamble to not move forward with the rezone hearing due to recent changes in the planning and zoning development code. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

***** Meeting adjourned by 6:45 pm*****



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk