



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

459 South Main St, Malad, ID 83252

Commissioner's Meeting
15 OCTOBER 2024 – 9:00 AM

REGULAR MEETING

*** RECORDING # 241015-0086 ***

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

Commissioner Lewis opened the meeting and Commissioner Jeppsen led everyone in the pledge and a prayer.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to amend the agenda to include a short discussion on the Bureau of Land Management emergency communication building as a discussion item. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

The annual Easter egg hunt in Malad recently expanded in order to include teenagers and special needs participants. To help offset the added costs, Andrea Bleazard requested a five-hundred-dollar donation from the county for the 2025 Easter egg hunt, which is an increase from the county's last donation of two-hundred-dollars.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve a five-hundred-dollar donation for the 2025 Easter egg hunt to be paid with contingency funds. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Communications Building was moved to its new location near the TV translator building. The Idaho Military Division (IMD) has not yet sent the letter confirming Oneida County's ownership of the

building. Once confirmation has been received, the Racoon Radio Club may sign a lease with Oneida County, allowing the club to run power to the building. Commissioner Jeppsen will reach out to Danny Miller, BLM and Kendall Anderson, IMD to discuss how to finalize the months-long process to give the building to Oneida County and then lease it to the radio club.

Roads on the Summit were discussed, specifically the platted (but non-existing) road and the actual existing road on the property belonging to Sid Lewis. The Malad Summit Subdivision plat map shows a road going alongside the edge of Mr. Lewis's property, which doesn't exist. Conversely, the map does not show an existing road that goes through Mr. Lewis's property and that the county has maintained for many years. Mr. Lewis would like the county to make a trade so that the property description(s) can accurately reflect what is there. Mr. Sid Lewis has worked with the Assessor's office to prepare the necessary documents and legal description changes appropriately. Assessor Kathleen Atkinson stated that the Malad Summit Subdivision roads were not put where they were platted to be. While the normal procedure would be to do an amendment, it has not been happening. Assessor Atkinson assured commissioners that Mr. Lewis has done his due diligence in properly preparing for the requested changes. The county and Sid Lewis will complete reciprocal quick claim deeds in order to trade the property. Additionally, there were two deeds prepared that fixed the property descriptions where the road separates the property.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve the legal description change to fit the actual circumstances of the property owned by Sid Lewis. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Jeppsen, with Commissioner Lewis abstaining from the vote. Motion carried.

Twain Hayden with Mid Crystal Farms in Arbon requested two temporary overweight permits in order to haul grain on the Arbon highway from the Power County line to Stone.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to approve two temporary overweight permits for 129,000-pound weight from the Power County line in Arbon to Stone, Idaho. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen stepped out of the meeting and returned later.

Oneida County Treasurer and Clerk/Auditor presented the Joint Quarterly Report. Most departments were within their budget while others like the Justice Fund or Fair are usually guaranteed to go over budget. Indigent funds were addressed and Clerk Colton stated those funds are there to pay for

circumstances as needed as the county wraps up the expenses we are accountable for. The state took over indigency at the state level for most things. As an aside, Treasurer Love invests county funds when possible. This has earned the county over \$466,000 in interest so far this year. This money is set aside in a reserve account for any unexpected large expenses such as an emergency, a large court case, or cyberattack.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to accept the Joint Quarterly Report from the period July 1, 2024 – September 30, 2024 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was absent for this discussion.

The Idaho Policing Policy Manual is a law enforcement policy agreement that is signed annually between Oneida County Sheriff's, Idaho Counties Risk Management Program (ICRMP), and the State of Idaho.

Commissioner Eliason Motioned to accept the Law Enforcement Policy License Agreement for the year 2025 in the amount of \$1,500. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was absent for this discussion.

Chief Deputy Doug Williams applied (and was approved) for a grant to provide funding for the school resource officer in Oneida County schools. A memorandum of understanding was signed between the school and sheriff's office to outline the terms of the grant for each party. The grant will pay for three years of the school resource officer's salary as well as the cost of benefits. The grant funds are retroactive to the beginning of the school year and will pay the school resource officer \$31.03 per hour with a built-in 5% increase annually over three years.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the memorandum of understanding between the Oneida School District and Oneida County Sheriff's Office for the school resource officer wage of \$31.03 per hour plus benefits with a 5% increase for year two and a 5% increase for year three of the grant. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was absent for this discussion.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to acknowledge the school resource officer salary would be retroactive to the first day of school. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was absent for this discussion.

An update was given concerning the previously acknowledged letter from Summit National Bank regarding a data breach. The letter indicated affected customers could apply for a free twelve-month subscription to Experian, one of the three top credit bureaus. When the county contacted Summit National Bank to inquire about the subscription, the representative stated that government entities or businesses were not eligible to enroll. County Treasurer Leigh Love allayed the commissioners concerns by apprising them of the process her office goes through to review funds daily and how they work with our financial institution(s) to take action on any potential issues or discrepancies.

Computer Arts (Harris Computer) provides software with modules designed for various county offices to complete required tasks. Computer Arts sent the annual contract for commissioner approval and signatures.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the Computer Arts / Harris Computer one-year master agreement addendum A (but not addendum B) for a cost of \$32,910.74. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was absent for this discussion.

Assessor Kathleen Atkinson has been tasked with organizing and streamlining the titles and registrations for Oneida County vehicles. Currently there are fifteen different profiles with sub-profiles. Assessor Atkinson stated that old titles cannot be fixed but moving forward things can be organized.

Oneida County has a standard annual agreement with the University of Idaho regarding the local extension agent and office. The county extension agent is an employee of University of Idaho. Per the terms of the contract, Oneida County contributes \$1,500 towards the salary and covers all other extension office expenses. The agreement is for \$100,377.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the cooperative agreement with the University of Idaho extension program in Oneida County. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Ayes from Commissioner Eliason and Commissioner Lewis. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was absent for this discussion.

The Town Hall meeting on October 30, 2024 at 7:00pm will focus on emergency management and communication. Commissioner Jeppsen returned later in the meeting and added to the discussion that refreshments could be offered.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve up to two-hundred dollars for refreshments for the town hall meeting on 10/30/2024 at 7:00pm. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen returned to the meeting at the beginning of the Ag Protection Ordinance discussion.

The Agricultural Protection Ordinance (APA) was introduced by the legislature and the Farm Bureau. Oneida County Planning & Zoning reviewed a sample ordinance and formed a draft version of an agricultural protection ordinance that better fit Oneida County. A three-to-five-member committee is needed with at least two of the committee members in an ag-related field or with either planning & zoning or the Farm Bureau. Some discussion centered around whether the APA model ordinance be a standalone ordinance or if a new chapter should be added to the existing development code. A public hearing will be held in December.

Commercial insurance broker Blake Frasure with Advantage Plus Insurance Services in Pocatello requested the opportunity to present a quote for workers compensation insurance coverage for Oneida County.

Recent legislation for local area of impact ordinances was discussed. Last year the board of commissioners met with the City of Malad to finalize an area of impact ordinance. Since then, the legislature passed new law (Idaho Code 67-6526) that was effective July 1, 2024. The county ordinance appears to have a few points that may not be cohesive with the new legislation. Oneida County is making plans to review the area of impact ordinance under the new law. Some key points for review are regarding how to modify or confirm the existing area of impact by the end of the year, how to define the impact area, and meeting deadlines for re-establishing and reviewing the area of impact ordinance by the end of 2025. The commissioners considered how best to work with the city and determined that information on the new legislation and a map would be shared with the city officials with a request for the city to mark areas best suited for growth.

A public hearing for planning & zoning will be on November 6, 2024 at 6:00pm for the proposed Agricultural Protection Area (APA) ordinance. Documents will be sent to the clerk's office by November 15, 2024 and a public hearing with the board of commissioners will be held on December 9, 2024.

A proposed fee schedule for planning and zoning will have a public hearing with the board of commissioners on November 12, 2024 at 9:00am, with the regularly scheduled commissioner meeting immediately following the hearing.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to add a public hearing regarding the proposed fee schedule for Planning & Zoning to the November 12, 2024 agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

According to Commissioner Jeppsen, the county has met the requirements set by Fish & Game and the Forest Service with regards to the Deep Creek Reservoir agreement. The agreement is nearly ready to be signed, pending a response from Kim Obele with the Forest Service. Additionally, Commissioner Jeppsen is looking for information regarding possible funding to repair the crown on the dam.

The winterization of the water system at the fairgrounds by Bennett Landscaping & Tree Care was discussed. A \$250 quote was provided that included fresh bark and mulch around the trees, trading tripod supports for t-posts, and winterization costs. Clerk Lon Colton shared concerns about the drip system (for the flowers) causing water to pool around the front of the event center and has even come inside the storage room on the northwest corner of the building. A second concern with the drip system is that the rock fascia on the west side of the building is mounted on plywood, which can rot.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve the \$250 bid from Bennett Landscaping & Tree Care to winterize the water system for the trees and plants at the Event Center and to place T-posts and mulch around the trees using funds from the Event Center Budget. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Southeastern Idaho Public Health Conference is being held in Idaho Falls on October 23-24, 2024. The commissioners are unable to attend and neither is their delegate, Bob Christofferson. A proxy form is available to allow commissioners to delegate the Oneida County vote to someone else.

Commissioner Lewis motioned that the commissioners delegate their vote to former Bear Lake County Commissioner Vaughn Rasmussen at the Idaho Association of District Boards of Health Annual Conference on October 23-24, 2024. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioners moved out of the regular meeting and into executive session.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to move into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 1(b) *To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member, individual agent or public school student.* Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. Roll call vote was taken. Ayes from Commissioner's Lewis, Jeppsen, and Eliason. Motion carried.

Commissioners moved out of executive session and back into the regular session to adjourn for the day.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

***** Meeting adjourned by 1:00 pm*****



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk