



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

459 South Main St, Malad, ID 83252

Commissioner's Meeting

FRIDAY - 24 JANUARY 2025 – 9:00 AM

REGULAR

* RECORDING# 250124-0112*

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

Commissioner Lewis opened the meeting by leading all in the pledge and a prayer.

Approve Agenda

The Malad Mountain Communications Building topic was added to the posted agenda within the 48-hour window mandated by Idaho Code. Commissioners may formally add the topic to the agenda via a motion.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to amend the agenda by adding the item for the "Malad Mountain Communications Building" as it has been discussed in the past. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda, Payment of Claims, and Approval of Meeting Minutes

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

Board of Equalization

No items to address

Reconnaissance / Survey of Downtown Malad – Jean Thomas

Jean Thomas presented commissioners with a proposal for a grant that requests a \$6,500 match, but will accept "in-kind" services in lieu of cash. This grant is similar to the one obtained for the American Legion Building. Kirk Huffaker

Preservation Strategies, a professional historic preservation firm, is willing to assist the county with this grant process as he did previously with the American Legion grant. Mrs. Thomas is gathering the required attachments to submit with the current grant application. This survey is up-front work to qualify the county for future projects.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve the application for the grant from the Idaho State Historical Preservation Office to certify local subgrant application for fiscal year 2025 for the reconnaissance (survey) of Malad City. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Coroner – Autopsy Travel Reimbursement Rate

County Coroner Brad Horsley requested clarification on how he will be reimbursed when required to travel. He was of the understanding that he had been approved for a flat fee versus per diem. Clerk Lon Colton reviewed the minutes from past meetings and did not find anything. County employees submit actual claims for per diem reimbursement and it was suggested Mr. Horsley do the same.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to reimburse the county coroner for autopsy travel in accordance with the already established county policies of per diem and reimbursement of actual expenses. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Coroner - Deputy

During the budget session for FY2025, County Coroner Brad Horsley requested a deputy to assist with the work load and requested \$750 in the budget for this position. Commissioner Lewis later realized that the selected person for the position, Eric Crowther, was married to Commissioner Lewis's niece and that Idaho Code is clear that a second-degree relative cannot be hired while Mr. Lewis is a commissioner. Attorney Lyle Fuller clarified that Mr. Crowther, who is employed by the funeral home, could be appointed Deputy Coroner as long as he received zero compensation from the county and his wages came from a non-county source.

Idaho Code 18-1359 (4) No person related to a county commissioner by blood or marriage within the second degree shall be appointed to any clerkship, office, position, employment or duty with the commissioner's county when the salary, wages, pay or compensation of such appointee or employee is to be paid out of public funds.

Robin Gamble Property in St. John

Robin Gamble and her husband Ronnie (who was unable to attend the meeting) requested the opportunity to address the board of commissioners regarding issues with their property, as they feel their concerns have not been adequately addressed. Also present to answer questions was Planning and Zoning Administrator Rhonda Neal. The Gamble's purchase of the land was contingent upon the Planning and Zoning Commission approving their intended plans for the land. The commissioners reviewed the information provided, asked questions, and requested additional time to further research the matter. The Gamble's were invited to return at a future commissioner meeting, with a tentative date set for February 24, 2025.

Malad Mountain Communications Building

In a previous discussion regarding the lease of the Malad Mountain Communications Building (also known locally as the West Hills Communications Site) to the Radio Amateur Club of Oneida Neighbors (RACOON) club, there were a few items that needed to be updated in the lease prior to signing which included a spelling error and clarification of paragraph seven that discusses the county giving notice for non-emergency visits to the building. The RACOONS would like to be present to ensure their equipment is undisturbed. The updated document was presented for approval and signatures from each party.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve and sign the lease agreement for the Malad Mountain Communications Building between Oneida County and the Radio Amateur Club of Oneida Neighbors (RACOON) Club. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Weed – BLM Reimbursement Follow-up

Attorney Lyle Fuller drafted a letter to send to the BLM regarding the reimbursement request sent earlier this month. The due date for payment is before the next commissioner meeting, so Mr. Fuller will add a line requesting an extended due date.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to approve the letter presented by Fuller & Fuller regarding the BLM reimbursement request for weed spraying, with language added to the final paragraph that clarifies the next Board of Commissioner meeting is not scheduled until February 10, 2025. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Ben Naylor Rezone Hearing Cancellation

Ben Naylor was recently approved for a conditional use permit by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Naylor sent an email to the clerk's office the morning of January 15, 2025 stating, *"I, Benjamin Naylor, am withdrawing my application for the appeal hearing of my rezone request that is currently scheduled for February 10, 2025 before the board of commissioners because I have now been approved for CUP [Conditional Use Permit]."* His statement was read and acknowledged by the board of commissioners.

Veterans Service Officer (VSO) Ratification

Commissioner Jeppsen consulted with the commander of the American Legion to ask for a recommendation to replace the outgoing Veteran Service Officer for Oneida County. David (Dave) Colton was suggested as a candidate, along with two others who expressed interest in the position. After consideration, the commissioners decided to offer Mr. Colton the same wage as the previous officer and agreed that he could work in any available space at the courthouse, as he does not have sufficient room at home for the necessary equipment.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to ratify Dave Colton as the Veteran Service Officer for Oneida County. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Veterans Service Officer (VSO) – Thank You Card for Outgoing Officer

The commissioners expressed their desire to sign and send a thank-you card for former Veterans Service Officer Bob Stokes to show appreciation for him and his diligent service.

Excess County Property

The clerk's office has identified excess county property that needs to be disposed of. This includes items from the current courtroom remodel such as the courtroom benches, jury chairs, and tables used by the prosecution and defense. Additionally, approval was sought to sell old filing cabinets from the courthouse, as well as two old 4-wheelers from the weed department. Commissioners have entrusted the clerk's office with determining the appropriate pricing and listing descriptions for each item, utilizing the most effective platform for each. Bryan Lyons from Exit 13 Antiques and Collectables will be invited to evaluate and suggest pricing for the courtroom items.

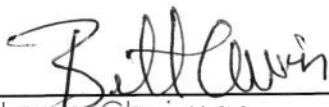
Commissioner Lewis motioned to dispose of the jury chairs, benches, tables, filing cabinets, and two 4-wheelers through the clerk's office using the best method for each item. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Courts – Quote for Deed Book Storage Racks

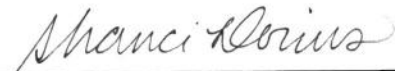
The courtroom requires a cabinet to properly store the court record books. A 16-opening rack has been identified that will fit in the available space within the court vault. The cost of the rack is \$2,092.85, and the court facilities funds currently allocated for the courtroom remodel could be used to cover the expense.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to accept the bid for \$2,092.85 from StoreMoreStore.com to purchase shelving for court document storage using court facilities funds. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

***** Meeting adjourned by 11:30 am*****



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk