



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

459 South Main St, Malad, ID 83252

Commissioner Meeting & Public Hearings

13 May 2025

* RECORDING# 250513-0130, 250513-0131 *

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

The Board of County Commissioners moved in and out of public hearing to discuss and make decisions for or against abandonment or vacation of three sections of county roads:

- Old Highway 191 at approximately 5000 South
- Old Highway 191 at approximately 7500 South
- 6100 West requested by Bart & Julie Kendell

Commissioner Eliason motioned to move into public hearing to hear discussion about abandoning or vacating a section of Old Highway 191 near 5000 South. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Highway 191 at Approximately 5000 South

The county owns two sections of road that are landlocked, meaning in order to get to that section of road, they would need to access private property. Testimony for – and against – were heard for the section near 5000 South.

No petition was made to abandon or vacate so the board of commissioners or a property owner would need to request another public hearing. Today's discussion centered around liability concerns regarding the road if it were to remain as it is as well as consideration of liability concerns if it were to be abandoned or vacated. Discussion only, no decisions were made.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to move into public hearing to hear discussion about abandoning or vacating a section of Old Highway 191 near 7500 South. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Highway 191 at Approximately 7500 South

The county owns two sections of road that are landlocked, meaning in order to get to that section of road, they would need to access private property. Testimony for – and against – were heard for the section near 7500 South.

No petition was made to abandon or vacate so the board of commissioners or a property owner would need to request another public hearing. Today's discussion centered around liability concerns regarding the road if it were to remain as it is as well as consideration of liability concerns if it were to be abandoned or vacated. Discussion only, no decisions were made.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to close the public hearing. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

6100 West – Bart & Julie Kendell

Commissioners went into a public hearing to consider Bart & Julie Kendell's proposed abandonment of 6100 West near Illum Springs beginning at the intersection of 2500 North through 3000 North. The request is to turn the road back to agricultural land and private property per legal survey, and marked abandoned.

Commissioner Eliason motioned to move into public hearing requested by Bart and Julie Kendell to vacate the road near 6100 West beginning at the intersection of 2500 North through 3000 North. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Comments for – and against – this action were heard by the board of commissioners. The Kendell's intent with the request to vacate this section of road near 6100 West between 2500 North and 3000 North is to limit future traffic. They would like the current farming and water access to remain the same, and to have the land designated as an agricultural water lane. Concerns with this action centered around the difficulty of access on one end because there is no culvert or cattle guard, causing the farmer to go the long way around to access his property. Another concern is that with growth trends, property owners have "frontage road" and would lose that as a selling point.

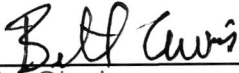
With no further discussion, the public hearing was closed, and the Board reconvened the regular meeting to consider possible action on the proposed changes.

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to move adjourn the public hearing for deliberation. Seconded Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

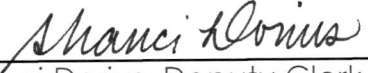
An amicable resolution could be reached if the request were amended to include only the Kendell section of the road. Any agreement would need to clearly define rights of way for cattle and associated easements, with language ensuring long-term clarity and enforceability, not only for the present but for decades into the future.

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to deny the request by the Kendell family to vacate the county road located near 6100 West, extending from the intersection of 2500 North to the intersection of 300 North. The denial was based on the road providing necessary access to water for cattle owned by adjacent property owners, the need for continued access to move farm equipment, and the road's historical and ongoing use, which serves a public benefit. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

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



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk