



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman - Ken Eliason - Brian Jeppsen

Meeting Location: Event Center, 459 South Main St., Malad City, Idaho 83252

Regular Commissioners Meeting - 09 February 2026 - 9:00AM

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

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

Approve Agenda

Commissioner Eliason moved to accept the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

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

Total# of Payments	Fund Description	Amount Paid
	GENERAL FUND/CURRENT EXPENSE	\$ 38,016.57
	ROAD AND BRIDGE	\$ 83,265.84
	AIRPORT	\$ 307.15
	DISTRICT COURT	\$ 49.44
	FAIR, COUNTY	\$ 663.23
	JUSTICE FUND	\$ 18,117.32
	PARKS & RECREATION	\$ 25.67
	REVALUATION	\$ 5.68
	WEEDS	\$ 132.96
	CONSOLIDATED ELECTIONS	\$ 34.62
	E-911	\$ 6,832.34
	DRUG COURT/SPC.CT. COORDINATOR	\$ 899.00
	TOTAL:	\$ 148,349.82

Set Aside Funds for One-Time Spending (timestamp:00:03:45)

The Board briefly discussed setting aside Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds for one-time expenditures related to capital improvement projects. Potential uses discussed included county needs such as the Weed Building replacement or a new playground. No motion was made.

Playground Donation (timestamp:00:05:43)

The Malad Community Foundation is \$10,000 short of funding to install rubber mulch, which is more durable than wood chips, for the new playground. The County

previously committed \$1,000, and the Committee requested a total contribution of \$10,000 from the County.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to contribute a total of \$10,000 from the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funds to the Malad Community Foundation for the county's portion the new playground equipment at the city park. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes, motion carried.

Airport - Airfield Lighting Improvements Project - Proposal (timestamp: 00:09:59)

The Airport Board has worked over the past few months to obtain bids for replacing the antiquated runway lighting. Spare parts for the current system are largely discontinued, making replacement necessary to maintain safe operations.

The Airport Board received three proposals based on a Request for Proposals (RFP). Krystal Denney, the Community and Economic Development Director for the Southern Idaho Council of Governments (SICOG), assisted with scoring the proposals. The Board preferred JUB Engineers, Inc. based on the qualifications of services, their experience working with smaller airports, and their in-house electrical engineering capabilities.

Once JUB Engineers, Inc. is engaged, a bid for engineering services will be sought. The Airport Board retains discretion to move to another proposal if it is not satisfied with the process and will continue to oversee the project and make decisions on implementation as needed.

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve the Airport Board's recommendation to select JUB Engineering for the airport lighting project and to authorize JUB Engineering to enter into negotiations for engineering services related to the project. The motion further authorized Chairman Lewis to work with the Airport Board regarding this matter. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Airport- Possible GEM Grant (timestamp: 00:17:32)

The Airport Board discussed a project to provide Jet A fuel at the airport. The project includes epoxy lining an existing above-ground tank.

The Airport plans to apply for a GEM Grant through the Idaho Commerce Department to support the project. A \$25,000 local match is already included in the Airport capital funds budget. The existing underground tank is 2,000 gallons, and the existing above-ground tank is 5,000 gallons. Board approval is required to submit the grant application.

Commissioner Eliason moved to authorize the Airport to apply for a GEM Grant for the purchase and installation of a new Jet-A fuel tank and fueling system at the Oneida County Airport. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Senior Center Vehicle and Insurance (timestamp: 00:23:49/

The Senior Center reported receiving a donated vehicle to replace the aging Geo Tracker previously donated by the County. The center plans to sell the Geo Tracker and register the donated Jeep for use by the Senior Center. The Jeep has approximately 24,000 miles and will be used for meal delivery services. The Geo Tracker is currently registered to the Senior Center, as confirmed by the DMV. No action was required.

Road Access Near 5600 W 2000 N - Blaisdell, Tubbs (timestamp: 00:28:SBJ

The Board reviewed a map of the road formerly known as Harrison Road, located near 5600 West 2000 North, approximately 0.6 miles west of the intersection. Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge stated that this portion of road is not included on the County's validated road list, does not provide access to BLM or forest land, and is not maintained by the County.

The road extends only to the area where the Blaisdell and Tubbs families water livestock, and access to the reservoir stops prior to that point. There is a turnaround area before the proposed gate location.

Property owners Ron & Shirley Blaisdell and Austin Tubbs noted that increased off-road vehicle traffic has caused significant damage, and the road is currently in poor condition.

The Blaisdell and Tubbs families plan to install a gate near the turnaround and repair the road to allow access for livestock watering.

Attorney Lyle Fuller reminded the Board that the County recently completed the road validation process, and this road was not included on the list of validated county roads.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to acknowledge that the portion of road formerly known as Harrison Road, located approximately 0.6 miles west of 5600 West on 2000 North, is not a validated county road, and to approve the installation of a gate and/or fence by the adjoining property owners at that location. Maintenance of the road west of that point shall be the responsibility of the property owners. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rumble Strip Project (timestamp: 00:38:0SJ

The Board discussed the possibility of holding a public hearing for the Road Safety Grant Public Hearing, due to significant public comment at recent Board meetings. The project includes the rumble strips and other options on approximately 24 miles of Old Highway 191 from the state line border to the Bannock County line and 14 miles of Old Highway 37 from Highway 38 to the Power County line.

Attorney Lyle Fuller provided guidance on Idaho Code requirements for public hearings, including notification by letters to property owners within a specified radius and publication in the newspaper. While a hearing is not mandatory in this situation, the Board expressed a desire to obtain input from citizens to help set parameters for noticing and scheduling.

Representatives from the Local Highway Technical Assistance Council (LHTAC) and Keller Associates provided explanations and options for the project, including a letter from Keller Associates. The final design must be completed by the end of March, and the Board noted that following full noticing procedures could delay the project timeline. The public expressed a preference for letters to be sent directly to property owners, which the Board supported. The Board also noted that a decision regarding the public hearing must be made prior to sending the project out to bid at the end of March, as delaying the decision could make the County liable for the entire cost of the project if the project is abandoned or alternative options are not considered.

Based on this input and discussion, the Board decided to hold a public hearing. Three potential dates were considered, and Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge consulted with Keller Associates and LHTAC, who recommended March 5, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. as the preferred date and time. Supervisor Dredge relayed this information to the Board prior to the end of the meeting, and the Board amended the original motion to specify March 5 as the hearing date and to include a deadline for written comments to be received by the county. Notices will be prepared in accordance with Idaho Code requirements, balancing public input with the project timeline.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to set a public hearing for the Safety Project, which includes the Rumble Strips and other options, on Old Highway 191 and Old Highway 37 in the Holbrook area. The hearing will be held on Thursday March 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Event Center. The County will publish notice of the hearing twice in the newspaper, and radius letters will be sent to property owners within 300 feet of the affected roadway. Written comments from the public must be received by the Clerk's office by Monday, March 2, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Highway 191 - North of Devil Creek - Mike & Avis Semrad (timestamp: 01:02:49)

Mike and Avis Semrad addressed the Board regarding safety and speed concerns on Old Highway 191 north of Devils Creek to the Bannock County line. They recently received a speeding citation shortly after the posted speed was reduced from 55 mph to 50 mph. Mrs. Semrad expressed that they would have appreciated advance notice of the speed change and a period of warning before citations were issued.

The Semrad's also raised a safety concern near their property on Bissell Road, near a dip in the road where at least three vehicles go off the road each winter. Many of these incidents are unreported. Because the road is higher at this point, people responding to incidents often have to access the accident site via the Semrad's

property, resulting in damage to their fence and land. They suggested installing a 100-foot guardrail to address the issue, noting that the hazard is not only due to speed.

Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge reported that Keller Associates was consulted about this section of the road. The engineer advised caution, noting that adding another obstacle on the edge of the road could create additional hazards unless there are frequent, unrecoverable accidents. No decisions were made by the Board.

HVAC Bid - Mike Semrad (*timestamp: 01:16:30*)

Mike Semrad addressed the Board regarding an HVAC bid he submitted, noting that he had not received a response. Mr. Semrad explained the differences in his bid compared to other proposals, including the type and quality of equipment, and emphasized that he preferred to provide a system designed to last 20-30 years rather than one that might experience problems within five years. Mr. Semrad expressed the importance of having the opportunity to explain his bid. The Board noted that the Maintenance Manager has authority to oversee HVAC purchases and project decisions. No decisions were made by the Board.

R&B - Access Points for Robyn & Ronnie Gamble Development in St. John (*timestamp: 01:22:44*)

The Board discussed road access and driveway permits for the front two sections (three parcels) of property transitioning from agricultural use to development. The Board noted that previously, after a public hearing, it had chosen to honor development regulations in place prior to the current development code. With some development now underway, questions have arisen regarding how to address driveway permits.

Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge reported that there are two accesses off Daniels Road intended to service up to 12 homes, and no driveway permits currently exist for these accesses. She referenced the 1998 road standards and stated that, at minimum, culverts are needed to prevent damage to the road or driveways. Supervisor Dredge noted she is evaluating long-term options to protect both the County and property owners and will contact the property owners for additional information. This matter will be brought back to a future meeting to discuss how to proceed with the remaining driveways.

R&B - Request to Purchase a Grizzly Rock Screen (*timestamp:01:44:29*)

Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge reported that the Department previously rented a Papa Rock Screen through Bear Iron Works in Colorado and found it effective. The cost to purchase is \$17,350 and includes the rock screen, a removable screen, and a vibrator, which is the mechanical component that shakes the screen to separate rocks by size. Rental fees were approximately \$2,000 per month. Supervisor Dredge noted that owning a unit would allow it to be moved and used more frequently, and funds are available in the current budget.

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve the purchase of the Papa Rock Screener, which includes the removable papa 2" rock screen rock screen and a motorized vibrator for a total of \$17,350. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

R&B - Hauling Gravel on Gravel Roads (timestamp: 01:so:101

Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge discussed situations in which landowners have purchased and hauled gravel onto county gravel roads and then requested that the Department blade the material. She noted that while landowners may coordinate with the Department to schedule grading after gravel is placed, there have been instances where gravel was dumped on the roadway and left ungraded for several weeks, creating a potential safety hazard.

Supervisor Dredge also addressed the type of material being placed on roads prone to washouts. In some cases, road base has been hauled in; however, she advised that 3-inch ballast from Nucor may be more appropriate in certain areas, as it is less likely to wash out. No decisions were made.

R&B - Gravel Policy (timestamp: merged with previous topic)

Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge reported that a gravel policy is being proposed to provide guidance for situations in which landowners purchase and haul gravel onto county roads. The policy would establish standards for the types of gravel that are safe and most effective for roads prone to washouts. Supervisor Dredge stated that the Department is happy to work with landowners.

Attorney Lyle Fuller discussed with the Board that the proposal could take the form of a policy, resolution, or ordinance, noting that penalties vary depending on the approach and that the County may already have ordinance language covering this topic. The primary purpose of the policy is to ensure proper permitting and maintain clear communication between the Department and the community. No decisions were made.

Sheriff - Employee Retirement /timestamp: 02:02:28

The Board was informed that Justin Schwartz will be retiring on March 1, 2026, after nearly 33 years of service to the County, making him the longest-serving employee. His service includes time in dispatch, the jail, and as a sheriff's deputy for more than 23 years.

Sheriff Williams requested that the County assist with the cost of a retirement celebration that will be held at the fire station. Estimated expenses include refreshments and supplies of up to \$250, plus the cost of a newspaper ad. The Sheriff also requested that the County allow Schwartz to retain his badge and service weapon, to be mounted on a plaque and presented to him, which is permitted under Idaho Code.

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve up to \$250 of contingency funds to be used towards the cost of refreshments and advertising associated with the retirement party for Justin Schwartz. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to use miscellaneous funds from the Sheriff's budget to purchase a firearms display/plaque to present to retiring Officer Justin Schwartz along with his service weapon and badge, per Idaho Code 31-830 which gives the county permission to present a retiring officer with his duty weapon and badge. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sheriff- Performance Raises (timestamp: 02:10:23)

Sheriff Doug Williams is requesting performance raises for Fiscal Year 2026 (FY2026). The City contract with the Sheriff's Department states that three percent (3%) of the contract goes toward wage increases for the Sheriff's Department. There are three tiers based off scoring from an evaluation questionnaire completed by each employee. The payout of \$8,850 from the three percent (3%) in the contract would be divided among nine eligible employees.

If accepted, it would begin on the February 21 pay cycle. The high-tier performance raise is \$0.55 per hour for six employees (Jenny Hawkes, Dallas Jones, Brittania Butler, Jason Gleed, Wendy Steffenhagen, and Rachael Hawkes). The medium-tier performance raise is \$0.32 per hour for three employees (Scott Leckie, Luke Zitting, and Abby Timothy).

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to approve the proposed performance wages as outlined by the Oneida County Sheriff, to be funded from the three percent (3%) performance raise allocation in the city contract. High-tier raises of \$0.55 per hour are for six employees (Jenny Hawkes, Dallas Jones, Brittania Butler, Jason Gleed, Wendy Steffenhagen, and Rachael Hawkes), and mid-tier raises of \$0.32 per hour are for three employees (Scott Leckie, Luke Zitting, and Abby Timothy), effective with the February 21, 2026, payroll cycle. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sheriff - Public Safety (timestamp: 02:20:54)

Sheriff Doug Williams expressed appreciation for the commissioners' support as he works to improve morale through wage increases, performance feedback, and one-on-one discussions with employees to help them set goals.

Sheriff Williams also expressed concern about budget cuts at the state level and the potential impact on the county. The department is short-staffed and has not received any qualified applications to fill the vacancies. The remaining officers or □ experiencing burnout, and there is insufficient manpower to perform their duties to the fullest. This has become both a public and officer safety concern.

Sheriff Williams discussed efforts to address challenges with recruitment and retention. Other agencies are fully staffed, so he has explored ways to attract officers to Oneida County, including housing options, wages, or other points of interest that might appeal to experienced officers. While starting wages in Oneida County are slightly lower, the recruitment challenge may not be solely related to pay.

Sheriff Williams noted that the department subscribes to Indeed for \$88 per month to assist with recruitment. Additionally, onboarding a new officer requires significant investment, including sending the officer to POST certification, providing uniforms, and covering accrued compensation time. Therefore, a sign-on bonus may not be the most effective solution. No decisions were made regarding this discussion topic.

Sheriff - Comp Time (timestamp: 02:31:44)

Sheriff Doug Williams reported that he contacted Sharon Jutila with SMJ Consulting; Ms. Jutila has not yet provided a formal response. However, she communicated with Sheriff Williams indicating that the county policy is acceptable but that some verbiage could be added. Ms. Jutila also indicated she would reach out to County Attorney Lyle Fuller regarding the necessary language to bring the county into compliance with the comp time code referenced by Sheriff Williams in a previous meeting. No decisions were made regarding this discussion topic.

Event Center Trees (timestamp: 02:36:21)

Trevor Robbins with Healthy Greens was hired by the City to manage the trees and appeared before the Board of Commissioners to discuss the county trees at the Event Center. When asked about his credentials, Mr. Robbins noted that he has seven years of experience in plant health care, is a credentialed arborist through the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), a Master Gardener of Idaho, and holds a pesticide applicator license through Idaho. He is also working toward Urban Forester Professional and Tree Risk Assessment qualifications and will be eligible next year to test for Board-Certified Master Arborist status.

Mr. Robbins reported several issues with the trees at the Event Center, including planting concerns, disease, root rot, and damage to some trees. He noted that older trees require ongoing care and emphasized the importance of inspections, pruning, and maintenance, including a plan beyond the initial three-year program. He also discussed lawn management and indicated that a lawn could be established that would withstand occasional driving and campers.

Mr. Robbins provided recommendations for tree care and maintenance, including mulching, monitoring, pruning, and ongoing maintenance. He noted that year-one costs could be reduced if stumps are removed by the county and there was a suggestion to involve local scouts as part of an environmental project. It was also noted that the Event Center budget should include planning for future tree care.

Commissioner Lewis motioned to authorize Trevor Robbins with Healthy Greens look at the trees at the courthouse and provide the county a bid and

recommendations. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to accept the proposal from Trevor Robbins with Healthy Greens as presented for maintenance of the Event Center trees. Year 1 maintenance would total \$4,680, with a minimum first-year aeration of \$480, funded from PILT. Year 2 maintenance, including pruning, would total \$1,025, and Year 3 maintenance would total \$1,045; both amounts would be added as line items to the Event Center budget. The plan and funding will be reviewed as needed. Commissioner Eliason seconded the motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Assessor- Property Tax Cancellation Request - RP0068100 /timestamp: 03:01:07)

A tax cancellation request for \$1,489.60 for the occupancy was brought before the Board. Rusty and Jeanie Jones' home burned down, but the Assessor's Office was not aware of the loss. As a result, they were taxed on the non-existent home as well as on the new home, including the difference in value from the old house to the new house based on occupancy.

Commissioner Eliason moved to cancel the occupancy tax on RP0068100 for the 2025 tax year for \$1,489.60 for a house that burned down. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

P&Z - Development Code Proposed Amendments /timestamp: 03:05:39)

The Planning & Zoning Commission determined that they would like to present proposed changes to the Development Code to the Board of Commissioners twice a year. Some of the items that have been under consideration for several months and are now brought before the Board for review include updated and separated language regarding "Butcher Shop" and "Slaughterhouse". The proposed changes clarify the definitions of Slaughterhouse and Butcher Shop and adjust the Land Use Chart accordingly. Specifically, the Land Use Chart would reflect that Slaughterhouses and Butcher Shops require a Conditional Use permit in the Agricultural Zone, while Butcher Shops would be permitted in Commercial and Industrial Zones.

The Commission also identified that section 4A-8, Contiguous Parcel, contradicts the definition and has proposed deleting it to eliminate confusion. Additionally, they requested codification of Penalties and Enforcement within the Development Code. The proposed changes to the 2022 Development Code include adding section 5-3-71, the Standards of a Slaughterhouse, adjusting the numeric order of standards, and revising Chapter 7-8, Penalties, to standardize the process for violations and clearly identify associated fees and penalties.

These recommendations are intended to strengthen the county's Development Code. The Commission clarified that these changes do not place limitations on stockyards or meatpacking, but rather provide clarification regarding their regulation.

Commissioner Eliason moved to delay action on the Planning & Zoning's Development Code Proposed Amendments until the next commissioner meeting on February 23, 2026 pending clarification on stockyards and meatpacking. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Collection Agency Agreement (timestamp: 04:03:38)

County Attorney Ethan Rawlings has identified a collection agency that can assist with the collection of outstanding debt. There is zero cost to the county, and 100% of the funds collected are returned to the county, with the agency assessing a 33% collection fee to the debtor. An agreement has been drafted and will be reviewed by Fuller and Fuller prior to presenting it for signature at a future meeting. No decisions were made.

Airport Hangar Lease (timestamp: 04:09:00)

The Oneida County Airport actively seeks grant funding. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has indicated that continued eligibility for future grants will require updating hangar leases to outline appropriate non-aeronautical uses. Legal Counsel Lyle Fuller recommended adding an "Exhibit A" to the leases going forward, identifying acceptable non-aeronautical uses for the hangars. This update would help the county remain in good standing when applying for grants. No decisions were made regarding this item.

129k Truck Route Resolution (timestamp: -04:10:45)

After discussion addressing questions from the Board, Resolution No. -2026-02-01 was unanimously passed, adopting a route for oversized trucks to traverse county roadways. It was noted that the City has already adopted the 129,000-pound oversized truck route.

Commissioner Eliason moved to accept Resolution No. 2026-02-01, designating the 129,000-pound oversize truck route from the Hess Pumice Plant north through the city to the city-county line. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Election Software - Purchase Agreement (timestamp: 04:15:30)

The Elections Department would like to purchase updated equipment that allows ballots to be printed on demand when voters arrive to vote. Based on the voter's registration and party affiliation, the appropriate ballot is selected and printed at that time. The total cost from Tenex is \$9,000, with a \$600 maintenance fee. Part of the cost will be covered using Help America Vote Act (HAVA) grant funds, and the remainder will be paid from available election funds. The quote presented is for six printers. Future upgrades are planned for new tabulator machines.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to sign the Tenex Software Solutions, Inc electronic poll book contract for the purchase of updated elections equipment in the amount of \$9,000, plus \$600 for annual maintenance. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Engage Wellness (timestamp: 04:20:30)

Computer Arts, the software system used by the county, hopes to test the Engage Wellness additions to determine if they can successfully implement the program, which was approved at a board meeting late last year. Attorney Lyle Fuller has been communicating with Engage Wellness regarding the contract for an Idaho public entity and suggested some edits to the contract. Kyle Corbridge with Engage Wellness returned a red-lined copy of the version sent by our attorney addressing indemnity clauses and language confirming that Engage is in compliance with tax and federal laws. Within the next few weeks, Attorney Fuller hopes to reach agreeable terms with Engage Wellness regarding the contract. No decisions were made regarding this item.

Old Metal Detector Donation to Butte County (timestamp: 04:24:12)

Butte County does not have security and is interested in the old metal detector currently stored at the Event Center, where it was used during the courthouse remodel project. County Attorney Lyle Fuller explained that a county-to-county donation of this type is acceptable.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to dispose of the surplus metal detector currently stored at the Event Center by donating it to Butte County, with Butte County responsible for pickup. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Services - Outreach Information for Asbestos/Mesothelioma

(timestamp: 04:25:00)

Discussion was held regarding the appropriateness of adding a link to the county website for Emergency Services outreach information on asbestos and mesothelioma. All links must be compliant with Idaho Code. No decisions were made regarding this item.

129k Truck Route Permits (2) -Twain Hayden - Mid-Crystal Farms (timestamp: 04:29:20)

Two 129,000-pound truck permits were presented for approval for Twain Hayden with Mid-Crystal Farms. The permits would allow travel on the Arbon Highway from the Power County line to Stone.

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve the two temporary overweight permits for Mid-Crystal Farms from Arbon Highway to the Power County line to Stone. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Onan Diesel Generator in Stone (timestamp: 04:33:19)

County Maintenance Manager Tory Richardson provided an update on the Onan diesel generator donated to the county by Bannock County. The Road and Bridge Department picked up and delivered the generator to its new location at Stone Elementary School. Parts for the generator still need to be picked up from Pocatello.

A concrete pad approximately 12' x 20' is needed so it meets the edge of the school building, which would place the generator away from the building, and allowing at

least three feet of clearance around it. Additional concrete will be needed to include the fuel tank inside a fenced area. A chain link fence will be required on the pad for safety. The fence posts would be incorporated to allow for a lean-to covering over the generator.

Research will need to be conducted on fuel use and efficiency to determine how much fuel will be required. A transfer switch is needed that would automatically transfer power from the source during a power outage.

A rough estimate for the lean-to roof, concrete, parts, and electrical is at least \$10,000. The generator will be added to the regular maintenance schedule with the county's other generators and should be started monthly as part of regular checkups.

It was proposed to use 2024 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) funds, which has approximately \$11,500 available. No decisions were made.

Extension - Department Update & Highlight *(timestamp: 04:48:48)*

County Extension Agent Sawyer Fannesbeck provided the board with a brief update by stating the last quarter of 2025 was busy, although this is historically a slower time.

Extension classes were held both in person and online. In-person classes included Beef School, which had 30-40 beef producers in attendance. The presenter, from Utah State University, discussed using drones to locate cattle. A Beef Nutrition Specialist also spoke, and other discussions covered water conservation and available grants. The Oneida County Farm Bureau sponsored the dinner/event.

A Smart Shopping class was held for 12 participants, teaching strategies to use money wisely, such as taking advantage of deals, shopping in bulk, and reading ingredients. Broulims provided gift cards for each participant.

4-H activities included Lacey Clark overseeing afterschool programs two days per month. She recently began sharing agriculture-specific content in elementary classrooms.

The focus of the Extension Agent position is guided by an agreement between the University of Idaho and Oneida County, allowing the placement of an extension agent. Approximately 80% of the role is dedicated to extension and outreach, with the remaining 20% allocated to other duties. The position also requires authoring a journal publication every five years.

Extension - Opioid Funds Request for Mental Health First Aid Class *(timestamp: 04:57:09)*

Commissioner Lewis oversees the Extension Office as part of his commissioner duties and is part of County Extension Agent Sawyer Fannesbeck's advisory committee, which meets quarterly. Mental health in the community has been a recurring topic at these meetings. Mental Health First Aid, run by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, was identified as a valuable training opportunity.

Opioid funds are available to the county for use in prevention, education, and outreach related to opioid use. Mr. Fonnesbeck prepared the application and presented it to the Oneida County Opioid Committee, which approved the request. The final step is for the application to be signed by the Board.

The request is for \$2,295 to cover individual registrations at \$25 per participant, as well as lunch and a travel stipend for the instructor. The six-hour class is scheduled for March 17, with a 20-person cap.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to approve the use of Opioid Settlement Funds in the amount of \$2,295 for the Mental Health First-Aid class to be held on March 17, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (timestamp:05:01:06J)

Commissioner Jeppsen motioned to move into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(a) *To consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. This paragraph does not apply to filling a vacancy in an elective office or deliberations about staffing needs in general; AND per Idaho Code 74-206 (1)(a) 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 Eliason. Roll Call Vote: Ayes from Commissioners Lewis, Eliason, and Jeppsen. Motion carried.

The Board reconvened in open session following Executive Session held pursuant to Idaho Code§ 74-206. No action was taken during Executive Session.

Earlier in the meeting, the Road and Bridge Supervisor had been directed to contact LHTAC and Keller Associates to confirm their availability to attend the Road Safety Grant Public Hearing regarding the Rumble Strip Project. Upon reconvening in open session, the Deputy Clerk reported that she had been contacted by the Road and Bridge Supervisor and advised that both LHTAC and Keller Associates had responded with their availability.

The Board resumed discussion of the previously addressed agenda item and amended the original motion to set the Road Safety Grant Public Hearing for March 5, 2026. The motion, as amended, carried.

... Meeting adjourned by 3:45 pm***



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Shanci Darius, Deputy Clerk