



ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

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

Special Meeting Minutes - 05 March 2026 - 6:00PM

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

Chairman Lewis called the Special Meeting to order. The Chair noted that the meeting was separately noticed and is being held immediately following the public hearing on the Road Safety Grant project for Old Highway 191 and 37.

The Board discussed public testimony, the safety objectives associated with the grant, and potential options for modifying the project while remaining eligible for funding. The Board acknowledged the concerns raised by residents, including noise impacts, roadway conditions, accident history, grant requirements, and potential alternatives. They noted that while their review had focused on roadway safety, the public had raised additional issues not previously considered.

The Board directed LHTAC and Keller Associates to assess possible alternatives within the grant parameters and agreed to reconvene at a future meeting to review options that could preserve the grant without installing rumble strips. Staff noted that withdrawing from the grant would result in a loss of approximately \$150,000, while proceeding with modifications could reduce the County's cost to about \$60,000. LHTAC and Keller representatives are scheduled to participate via phone during the March 23 Board meeting to discuss these options.

Each commissioner made a statement. Commissioner Jeppsen thanked the community for their participation, noting that hindsight is 20/20 and that both the Board and engineers had learned from the process. He emphasized that the Board had focused on roadway safety and had not previously considered some of the issues raised by residents. Commissioner Jeppsen encouraged continued public involvement in Board decisions. Commissioner Eliason agreed, noting that the Board had not been aware of these concerns and invited residents to use the County website to review agendas and minutes. Chairman Lewis emphasized that no decisions are made without a quorum, expressed appreciation for the community's feedback, and stated that the rumble strip project should not move forward at this time. He noted that the Board will review alternatives before any final decision.

Chairman Lewis also thanked the engineers for assisting the community in understanding the grant process.

Commissioner Eliason moved to scrap the rumble strip portion of the grant project and directed staff to explore options that would allow the County to continue utilizing the grant funding. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

***** Meeting adjourned by 8:22 pm*****

Bill Lewis

Bill Lewis, Chairman

Shanci Dorius

Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk