ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill Lewis, Chairman – Ken Eliason – Brian Jeppsen

Regular Commissioners Meeting

13 October 2026 (TUESDAY) - 9:00AM

Meeting Location: Event Center

459 South Main Street, Malad City, Idaho 83252

IN ATTENDANCE: Commissioner Chairman Bill Lewis, Commissioner Brian Jeppsen, and Commissioner Ken Eliason. *Commissioner Jeppsen was excused early.*

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

Approve Agenda

Commissioner Eliason moved to accept the agenda as presented and to have the Groundwater Study topic occur at approximately 11:00 a.m. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to approve the meeting minutes from September 28 and September 30. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

***Consent Agenda* (Payment of Claims)**

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve the payment of claims for Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Total # of Payments	Fund Description	Amount Paid
86	GENERAL FUND/CURRENT EXPENSE	$ 79,713.74
52	ROAD AND BRIDGE	$ 361,948.14
4	AIRPORT	$ 10,113.39
4	AMBULANCE	$ 83.05
3	DISTRICT COURT	$ 65.67
16	FAIR, COUNTY	$ 3,176.94
41	JUSTICE FUND	$ 75,126.96
1	HEALTH DISTRICT	$ 16,100.50
2	PARKS & RECREATION	$ 63.84
2	INDIGENT & CHARITY	$ 200.00
2	REVALUATION	$ 236.67
1	SOLID WASTE	$ 809,603.99
1	TORT	$ 100,613.50
20	WEEDS	$ 8,941.00
1	PILT	$ 38,614.25
8	E-911	$ 4,437.76
	TOTAL:	**$ 1,509,039.40**

Pathology Services Agreement with Ada County – Agreement No. 32135 (FY2027)
The Board reviewed the 2027 Pathology Services Agreement between Oneida County and Ada County.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to approve Agreement No. 32135 for Pathology Services with Ada County. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution for Records Destruction per County Retention Schedule - Treasurer - RESOLUTION NO. 2026-10-01
Rachael Clark with the Treasurer's Office requested permission to destroy backup tapes containing tax drive information that have exceeded the 10-year mandatory retention period.

Commissioner Jeppsen moved to pass Resolution No. 2026-10-01, A Resolution to Authorize the Destruction of Records in the Treasurer's Office. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.

Excess County Property: Large Safe - Treasurer's Office
The Treasurer's Office requested permission to dispose of a large, unused safe located in their office.

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve the disposal of the large, unused safe in the Treasurer's Office through the regular excess county property process. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Juvenile Detention Facility Room Report - FY2026
Commissioner Lewis shared the room population numbers from the juvenile detention facility room report for the past year, which totaled only 22 nights. In previous years, the county had utilized the facility far more, averaging around 200 nights per year. Billing for the service is based on a 10-year rolling average. No decisions were made.

Juvenile Justice Form C - Financial Report
County Clerk Lon Colton explained that the Juvenile Justice Form C Financial Report is an annual report required to be submitted to the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC). The report identifies the budgeted and actual costs of providing juvenile justice services and the sources of funding. Clerk Colton also explained that the reporting deadline is changing. The report was previously due in December but is expected to be due in August or September moving forward.

Commissioner Eliason moved to accept the Juvenile Justice Form C Annual Financial Report for the period from October 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Proposed Ordinance to Address the Protection of Youth Runaways - ORDINANCE NO. 2026-10-01

A proposed ordinance to define a runaway and the conduct of running away was presented to the Board. The need for the proposed ordinance arose from situations involving juveniles who required intervention but did not fall within the categories addressed by either the juvenile justice system or child protective services. The intent of the proposed ordinance is to address situations where the facts and circumstances of a case may not fit either category and additional options for assistance are needed, such as placement in a juvenile shelter care facility rather than a detention center.

Commissioner Eliason moved to support Ordinance No. 2026-10-01, an ordinance of the Board of County Commissioners defining a runaway and the conduct of running away, declaring such conduct to be a status offense, and providing for enforcement and a penalty. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Transportation Plan - Paragon Engineering

The transportation plan being prepared by Paragon Engineering remains incomplete, although it was originally expected to be completed approximately one year ago and a six-month extension was subsequently granted. The extended deadline expired in July. The County has paid the majority of the contract balance and continues to await completion of the plan. The delay is affecting the County Road and Bridge Department's ability to apply for grants. Commissioner Eliason contacted Engineer Stephen Freiberger, who explained that there had been a discrepancy regarding the mileage. He indicated that a draft would be available by the end of the week and that the plan should be completed by the following week. Commissioner Eliason will prepare a letter to Paragon Engineering regarding the status of the transportation plan if the anticipated progress has not been made by the end of the week.

R&B - Request to Purchase an Asphalt Hot Box Patch Truck

Road & Bridge Supervisor Dianna Dredge reported that the department is no longer able to obtain parts for the nearly 40-year-old asphalt hot box patch truck. As a result, the department has been borrowing parts from other areas of the truck and the auger to keep it running. A replacement truck has been located.

Commissioner Eliason moved to approve the purchase of the 2012 International 7400 Pro-Patch Asphalt Patch Truck from T&N Asphalt Services, Inc. for $42,500. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

R&B – Request to Exchange the Old Patch Truck with Malad City for Asphalt Millings

The City is interested in acquiring the old patch truck and asphalt millings are available that could be used as road base. Both the City and County Road and Bridge Supervisors feel this is a fair trade and agreed to seek approval from their respective governing bodies.

Commissioner Eliason moved to authorize the exchange of the old road and bridge patch truck with Malad City for the asphalt millings stored behind the City Road and Bridge building. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.

Malad Airport Lighting Bid Results and Next Steps
Six bids were opened on September 17 for the Malad Airport Lighting Project. Mortensen Electric submitted the apparent low bid, initially reported at $600,000. A calculation error was subsequently identified, resulting in a corrected bid amount of $619,150. Mortensen Electric stated that its intent was to bid $600,000. Kayla Brown, a Project Manager and Professional Engineer with J-U-B Engineers, Inc (J-U-B) recommended that the County consult legal counsel regarding how to proceed with the bids.

Attorney Jared Coburn with Fuller & Fuller Law discussed two options: reject Mortensen Electric's bid and proceed with the next-lowest bid, or reject all bids and rebid the project.

During the project review, J-U-B identified necessary upgrades to the building housing the electrical components. These upgrades were not included in the original project scope and resulted in an estimated funding shortfall of approximately $258,670. The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) Division of Aeronautics was considering an additional grant to help cover the shortfall, which would require a 25% County match. The Board discussed the funding contingency and the need for additional funding before the project could proceed.

> *Commissioner Lewis moved to reject Mortensen Electric's bid of $619,150 for non-compliance because it is outside of the bounds of their class B permit or not within their license certificate. Seconded by Commissioner Jeppsen. All ayes. Motion carried.*
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> *Commissioner Jeppsen moved to award the bid for the Airport Lighting Project at the Oneida County Airport to Mesquite Electric LLC for $697,400, contingent upon approval and receipt of the additional ITD Division of Aeronautics grant funding for the necessary building upgrades. Any amount exceeding the original $675,000 grant would be subject to a 25% County match. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.*

Ground Water Study
On September 14, 2026, the Groundwater Study results were accepted, and the Board authorized sharing the study results with the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) for review and comment. The other recommendations were to be considered before moving forward, if agreed upon. Those recommendations include incorporating the Groundwater Study into the Comprehensive Plan and forwarding the draft plan to the Planning Commission for consideration. The draft plan should include any land use changes the Board wishes to address based on public feedback received at the Groundwater Study meeting. It was noted that completion of the new Comprehensive Plan was pending completion of the Roads and Bridges (R&B) Transportation Plan and incorporation of the Groundwater Study.

During the Open House where the Groundwater Study was presented, citizens provided input by placing dots next to their preferred priorities on a printed list. Preserving agriculture and directing growth toward Malad City received the most dots. The priorities also included supporting agriculture as an important economic driver in Oneida County

and retaining agricultural and recreational uses, along with limited industrial and commercial growth, in the unincorporated areas of the county. During the discussion, Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Chairman Steve Daniels confirmed these priorities were in line with the Comprehensive Plan. A motion was made and then re-stated for clarification.

> *Commissioner Jeppsen moved to direct Planning & Zoning staff to incorporate the Groundwater Study into the new Comprehensive Plan and, because of the public outreach and citizens' selection of choices, to ensure the Comprehensive Plan language directs residential and commercial growth into Malad City and the impact area that surrounds the city while retaining agricultural and recreational uses, along with limited commercial and industrial growth in the unincorporated areas of Oneida County, based on the fact that agriculture remains one of the driving factors for county residents. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried.*

American Legal Codification Project Discussion

The County is working with American Legal to codify its ordinances into an organized county code. American Legal recently sent the draft codification document and a letter indicating that the County has a 60-day window to review the document and identify any needed changes or updates. Anything submitted to American Legal after July is on hold until the draft is finalized. The departments will review the document. A final discussion will take place at the second meeting in November, after the review, and any changes or comments will be submitted to American Legal by the December 8 deadline. No decision was made.

Jones & DeMille Engineering Agreement – Project No. 2609-002 Idaho Estates (Ida-Home) Subdivision Stormwater Review

Fuller & Fuller worked with Jones & DeMille Engineering, which was awarded the project on September 23, 2026, to remove indemnification provisions and resolve any points of concern in the agreement before presenting it to the Board for approval. Jones & DeMille (JDE) will submit monthly progress invoices and a final invoice upon completion of services for the Idaho Estates (Ida-Home) stormwater review. The project is expected to be completed, with the findings ready for presentation, at the November 9, 2026, Commissioner meeting.

After review and discussion, the Board accepted the agreement.

> *Commissioner Eliason moved to authorize the work order and agreement between Jones & DeMille Engineering and Oneida County for the scope of work outlined in the agreement for the Idaho Estates (Ida-Home) Subdivision Stormwater Review, titled "Oneida County 2026 Subdivision Stormwater Review," Project No. 2609-002. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. All ayes. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was not present for this motion.*

Commissioner Jeppsen was excused from the remainder of the meeting at 11:55 a.m., prior to the motion for the Jones & DeMille Engineering Agreement.

Event Center Rentals

William and Breanna Charles requested the use of the Event Center free of charge to host free monthly community events featuring Thursday night family movies during the winter months. Concessions would be available for purchase at cost. Attendees would bring their own blankets and chairs, and the Charleses would ensure the building was left in good condition. The Charleses noted that there are limited activities available for families during the winter and would like to hold the events through May, when summer activities become available. The Charleses also have their own screen, speakers, and projectors and would not need to use the Event Center's equipment. The Board would like time to consider the request. The Charleses will return at the October 23, 2026, meeting at 9:00 a.m. No decisions were made.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board moved out of the regular meeting and into Executive Sessions under Idaho Code *74-206 (1)(b)* ***AND*** 74-206 (1)(c).

> *Commissioner Eliason 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 or individual agent, or public school student* ***AND*** *per* Idaho Code 74-206 (1) (c) *To acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency. Seconded by Commissioner Lewis. Roll call vote: Aye from Commissioner Lewis, and Aye from Commissioner Eliason. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was not present for this motion.*

At the conclusion of Executive Session, the Board returned to the regular meeting.

New Weed Building

A location has been identified for the new weed building, and the Board discussed the possibility of acquiring the property.

> *Commissioner Lewis moved to authorize Commissioner Eliason to move forward with negotiations with the landowner and, if agreeable with the owner, to work toward having the property surveyed to determine the size of the property being considered for purchase. Seconded by Commissioner Eliason. All ayes. Motion carried. Commissioner Jeppsen was not present for this motion.*

***** Meeting adjourned by 1:55 p.m.*****

Bill Lewis, Chairman

Shanci Dorius, Deputy Clerk