

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Firth.

Hess Lumber recycling – The county has agreed to help purchase cardboard collection bins to be used at local business. Through a previous collection project it has shown that many thousand pounds of card board are discarded every month. This effort will help eliminate material going to the landfill which in turn will help extend the landfills active life. A bin will also be placed by Hess Lumber for private citizens to use. Hess Lumber has asked if the county would sign a letter of support for this project to accompany their letter to the businesses to encourage support for the project.

Commissioner Stokes asked if the recycling will extend past cardboard. Commissioner Daniels indicated that some plastic collection has begun and will be the next main effort.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the letter of support for Hess Lumber. Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Firth called for a recess of the regular meeting to accommodate the scheduled public hearing on the proposed gas station near exit 3.

Turkey trail – This road runs through the North West part of the county in the Daniels area. It runs through private land and the owner has tried to gate the road on several occasions and has asked that it be abandon as well, in an attempt to keep hunters out. The road is access to public lands and that is why there is interest to keep it open. Cody Brower explained some federal (RS2477) and state laws that can allow a road to remain a public access road but only if certain documentation can be provided. Past maintenance and public use are among the items of proof that need to be found. Kyle Christiansen has spent time collecting many of these documents and Cody feels they are sufficient to prove the road should be opened once and for all. He emphasized that the decision to initiate the project to prove this road should be public can only be made by the board of commissioners. Bear Lake Commissioner Vaughan Rasmussen (in attendance for other topics) indicated that the process could take some time and may cost some money. He advised that if the county proceeds with the project that they should include the whole county and address any other roads that may be in question, at the same time to help minimize the overall cost.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to move forward with the investigation on this and other county roads that may need to be considered. Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

Rocky Mountain Power – Vaughn Rasmussen explained the reasons for the county wide power outage in December. He also reported on future upgrades that are being planned that will help give better service to the county.

Communication – Commissioner Daniels expressed concern that the public doesn't receive informational updates from the county as quickly as they should expect. It was suggested that

they should explore several options and find the best ways to let people know what is happening.

Road & Bridge – this department is going to attend some training opportunities and it was recommended that they apply for tuition help through grants. The commissioners agreed this training would be beneficial and the help with tuition is always welcome. The scholarships were signed.

Cassia County – Idaho State is considering a possible tax decrease due to an excess of monies. A letter from Cassia County was presented requesting that this possible tax cut be deferred for now with the surplus money being used to help rebuild the many counties and state roads that have been compromise during the severe winter. It was recommended that each county write a similar letter of support for this effort and to send it to the legislature and representatives.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to write a letter of support from Oneida County to use some of the States surplus money to help rebuild the state and county roads and infrastructure. Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Prosecutor's office space – Cody Brower would like a written agreement between he and the county allowing him to use his office space for personal use. He is starting a private practice out of his home however clients sometimes come to his office. The commissioners stated that he is considered to be a $\frac{3}{4}$ time employee. His wage references this and one of the benefits for this position is to allow him to use the office for some private practice. Earlier in the year Cody made the suggestion that a percentage of his billing would cover the usage however after talking with other counties he asked if the commissioners would sign an agreement stating the counties benefit along with a charge for utilities used over the county limit. The commissioners agreed to this suggestion and will wait for Cody to present the document for their approval and signature.

Personnel policy – Cody made a few changes to the manual, mostly to reword sections that were vague or unclear, and asked for the commissioners to review and comment.

Court house security – Sheriff Jones had a U.S. Marshal visit the court house and make suggestions on security improvements. A written report will come soon. Commissioner Daniels indicated that the 50/50 grant would not allow purchase of the safety vests until this fall. It was thought that this delay would be too long. The SHSP grant money from emergency services is available for this purchase however the commissioners will need to decide soon so the money can be obligated to this effort. A decision will be made in the next meeting.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

The claims were reviewed for payment.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve payment of the claims. Commissioner Daniels seconded and the motion carried.

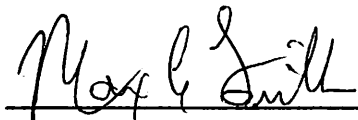
February 27th, 2017

Commissioners discussed how to proceed with the investigation and review of the information received at the public hearing. An independent engineer will be brought in to analyze the plans and discuss.

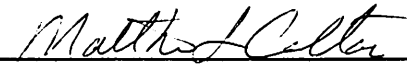
Commissioner Daniels made the motion to move into the scheduled executive session.
Commissioner Stokes seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Daniels made the motion to approve medical indigent applications #10-2017-10007, # 10-2017-10008, and # 10-2017-10009.
Commissioner Firth seconded and the motion carried.

With all business concluded, the meeting was adjourned.



Max C. Firth, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk