

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNY COMMISSIONERS

The meeting was opened by Commissioner Lewis.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to move into the scheduled 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.*

And 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,*

Commissioner Christophersen seconded. a roll call vote was taken.

Commissioner Stokes – yes

Commissioner Christophersen – yes

Commissioner Lewis – yes

The motion carried.

Following the executive session, the regular meeting was opened in the court room.

Commissioner Stokes lead the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer.

Commissioner Lewis called for a review of the agenda.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to add the following topics for discussion. Evening commissioner meetings, Senior Citizen Center and Crisis Center updates.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded. all commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Probation interview schedule was discussed. It was thought that district liaison Stace Gearhart, Judge Hooste, attorney Cody Brower, Commissioner Bob Stokes and assessor Kathleen Atkinson should participate in the interviews. All members have a tie to the justice system and it was thought that an outside opinion from Kathleen would be of a benefit. The Sheriff thought that his office should also be involved however the consensus was that an odd number of participants would be best. Deputy Patsy Sherman was chosen to take the last spot. Cody's office will set up the interviews on a time schedule that agrees with the committee.

Commissioner Stokes expressed concern regarding the illegal dumping of garbage throughout the county. He further expressed concern with the young children allowed to run around the landfill while waiting for their parents and the cost of going to the landfill.

Commissioner Stokes made a motion to allow a free dump period from May 17th to May 30th, for all county residence, to issue a free dump card to anyone who brings in 5 cards that have

been consumed and the last part of the motion, to place a sign stating the all children must stay in the vehicle will inside the gates at the landfill.

It was requested that the motions be separated due to the outcomes possibly being different.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to hold free dumping at the landfill from May 17th to May 30th, and again in the fall with dates to be determined.

Commissioner Lewis questioned what items would be free. He asked if it would include tires and appliances and such. He reported that the county spent over \$4,700.00 dollars on tire disposal due to the increasing costs for the service and wondered how the cost to operate the landfill would be funded if a charge wasn't placed on those dumping there.

Lisa Baker, secretary for the land fill, reminded the commissioners that the landfill did have a free week in the past however due to patrons breaking the rules with illegal dumping of unauthorized items and persons using this time to demolish houses and such, it no longer was being used as a spring cleanup, as intended, and it was unmanageable for the employees to deal with the people dumping items in the wrong place.

Commissioner Stokes conceded to eliminate the free dumping of tires however the appliance could be dumped if they were free. Commissioner Christophersen thought two weeks was too long and suggested a couple of days in the spring and again in the fall. Commissioner Lewis further reported that the city also eliminated their free dump week because it was out of control with illegal items being place for pickup such as oil.

No second was given on the motion and the motion failed.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to place a sign at the landfill giving notice to keep children in the vehicle for liability reasons.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded the motion. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Stoke made the motion to award a free dump card when a citizen presents five used cards. The patron would be responsible to keep track of his own cards.

Commissioner Lewis reported that the regional landfill will be coming online soon and it was his opinion that they would need to be in charge of the rates and the issuing of free landfill cards.

The question was raised regarding the used cards being issued to the same person or if they could be collected from the neighbors.

No second was given and the motion failed.

Building inspections – a report was given to the commissioners showing recent building permits and the inspection reports that have been turned in to her. No numbers were verbalized.

Outstanding status was also added to the reported.

Encroachment permits – Commissioner Stokes stated that the building permit has 9 pages whereas the encroachment permit is only a receipt. Due to a recent issue in the county he is questioning why an encroachment permit is issued without instruction or clarifications. If the recipient of the encroachment permit knew they were responsible to speak with adjacent

landowners about possible buried lines, either power or water etc. then problems can be averted. He further requested that the county keep track of the permits and notify landowner of the buried utilities.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to add an instruction tag to the encroachment permit giving instruction to the permit holder and to track all permits on a spread sheet for future reference.

Commissioner Lewis thought that there were several pages associated with the encroachment permit. Lisa presented an ordinance whereby declaring the encroached areas must be returned to their original state and maintained this way for up to two years. The assumption was made that Rocky Mountain Power tracked all electrical lines however it was found that they only track their own lines. The main concern of the county is the integrity of the road. Attorney Brower agreed that the current permit is insufficient and needs to be updated. An updated document for review will be provided in the next meeting.

Property tax relief notice – Commissioner Stokes expressed concern for those citizens that may be out of work as we approach the second half property tax collection period. He suggests sending a notice to tax payers regarding their ability to petition the county commissioners for a property tax postponement due to hardship. The process of collecting taxes and the ability of a tax payer to not pay taxes for three years was explained. Treasurer Love further explained how her office works with all tax payers to make monthly payments, etc. to become current on their payments. Commissioner Stokes suggested that not all citizens have this information and that it would be his recommendation that a letter be sent with the tax notice notifying them that if they have a hardship under Idaho Code 63-711 that they have the right to come before the commissioners to seek a postponement of their property tax payment.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to send a notice, with the tax notice in November, regarding citizens rights to petition the commissioners for a property tax postponement for hardship or casualty loss per IC 63-711 on a case by case basis. Commissioner Christophersen seconded. Commissioners Stokes and Christophersen voted in favor. Commissioner Lewis voted against. The motion carried.

PILT payments update – It was reported that PILT has been funded for the coming year and that the calculations are being made but that a specific dollar amount Oneida County would receive will not be available until late June just prior to the actual payment.

Kathy Ray made her annual request for Oneida County to commit \$5,000.00 dollars towards the four-county alliance for economic development. She further reported on recent the economic development efforts made in the four counties. Commissioner Lewis was hesitant to commit at this time due to the concerns with future budgets and revenue. The acceptance letter was written to state that the funding would be committed pending availability.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to commit \$5,000.00 dollars for the four-county economic development pending availability of funds.
Commissioner Stokes seconded. all commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Events center change orders – Two change orders were presented for the events center. The first was for a reduction in cost due to the county providing the rock product for the front of the building. The savings for this change equals \$3,444.00 dollars. The second change is to allow for additional work to install metal trim that was not included in the original bid. This change adds the additional cost of \$5,390.00 dollars.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the change order allowing for the refund for the cost of the rock in the amount of \$3,444.00 dollars and the change order to allow for the increase of the bid to \$5,390.00 for additional work installing trim.
Commissioner Lewis seconded. Commissioners Lewis and Christophersen in favor;
Commissioner Stokes opposed. The motion carried.

Rocky Mountain Power has sent an agreement for providing power to the events center at the cost of \$10,873.00 dollars. two options were given to either pay the full cost with the intent of passing on part of the cost to anyone hooking into this line in the next five years or taking a credit of just over \$200.00 dollars. Commissioner Christophersen will research the issue to see which option is best.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve and sign the Rocky Mountain Power agreement for power to the events center.
Commissioner Lewis seconded. Commissioners Lewis and Christophersen both approved;
Commissioner Stokes denied. The motion carried.

The Joint Quarterly Treasurer/Auditor report was reviewed.
Commissioner Stokes questioned the Local Government Investment Pool earnings.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the Joint Treasurer/Auditor quarterly report.
Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

Commissioner Lewis addressed the issue of a new air conditioning unit for the prosecutor's office. A bid was received last Fall however that person is no longer in business. A new bid from Aspen Aire came in at \$6,395.00 to replace one of the two units for this building. The second unit is working good for now and there is money in the budget to replace one of them. A review of both units found that they are both old and find parts would be quite hard.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to replace the air conditioning unit at the prosecutor's office at the bid cost of \$6,395.00.
Commissioner Stokes seconded. all commissioners were in favor and the motion carried.

Court house operations – The sheriff reported that he will be open for issuing driver's licenses and concealed weapons permits on May 4th, by appointment only for county residence. The DMV will be the same however they will still encourage on line renewals. The clerk's office is still running all services for county residence by appointment only. All other departments will continue with their current work rotations for employees.

Supervisor reports –

The Treasurer reported that the LGIP investment has a year to date revenue of \$28,320.58 in interest however the rates will be going down. She further reported that she was able to request unclaimed money from the state on behalf of the county and a few of it's departments. The Assessor reported that appraisals are almost complete for the year. The previous year increased was around 12% in the county and 13% in the City. many pivot irrigation systems have been found and placed on the rolls along with several structures. It is anticipated that there will be little to no change for this year.

Probation reported they are working with ten juveniles with two of them possible candidates for the Youth Challenge program. There are five persons in drug court and a total of 33 adults with a possible of three of them being released. Six of the adults have absconded and warrants have been issued.

The Sheriff reported that calls are down in number however there is an increase in calls for domestic violence and custody battles. Phones are overloaded with persons wanting to renew driver's licenses or purchase concealed weapons permits. Only three persons in jail and Caribou County has requested that only necessary person be transported. The sheriff has been issuing tickets rather than arresting those with violations to honor Caribou's request. The in turn are only charging Oneida County for the Jail beds being used.

The Clerk reported that the courts are continuing to conduct business via technology such as zoom meetings or teleconferencing as much as possible. All persons coming to court in person must wear a mask and all court clerks must also wear a face mask when persons are in court. The May primary election is moving forward with over 25% of the registered voters requesting their ballots. Precautions are being taken in the auditor's office but all customers are being helped on an appointment basis.

The sheriff asked how long the administrative pay will be an option.

Commissioner Stokes and Christophersen were both in favor or continuation.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to extend administrative leave through May 10th, 2020. Commissioner Christophersen seconded. all commissioner approved and the motion carried.

The Prosecutor reported that he is rotating with his secretary in working at home or in the office.

The claims were reviewed for approval.

Commissioner Stokes made the motion to approve the claims for payment.

Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The meeting minutes for the last meeting were reviewed.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Lewis seconded. all commissioners approved and the motion carried.

A question was posed to the commissioners regarding the overhead doors on the east side of the events center. They have given two options for over head door colors. One of them is a powder coat but it will cost \$1,200.00 dollars extra per door for this treatment.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve up to \$2,400.00 for the powder coat on the two 12-foot overhead doors on the east entrance of the events center. Commissioner Lewis seconded. all commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The drug court has a need for a specialty court coordinator. This position was previously held by Probation officer Jill Davis. The State currently gives \$6,000.00 dollars per year for this position. The commissioners discussed the options they have for filling this position including the hiring of a separate person other than a probation officer. Commissioner Lewis discussed options of hiring a new person or utilizing an existing county employee for this job. More investigation will need to take place before a decision is made.

A "Welcome to Malad" paper is printed each year and made available to motorist passing through Oneida County. Oneida County has helped pay for this printing with a map being placed in the center of the paper. The Newspaper is seeking approval of financial support for the current year printing in the amount of \$290.00 dollars.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the financial support for the welcome to Malad brochure in the amount of \$290.00 dollars.

Commissioner Lewis seconded. Commissioners Christophersen and Lewis approved; Commissioner Stokes was against. The motion carried.

The meeting was recessed until 2:30 pm.

At 2:30 pm the Oneida Commissioners joined a call with Power County to discuss the joint public defender position. An additional expense of \$500.00 dollars will be taken from the budget to purchase software to enable the video conferencing that is needed during this time. The case load has been reduced in regards to the PDC standards. Power County would like to pursue a contrate with Oneida to house our prisoners.

The meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk