

MEETING MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ONEIDA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The meeting was opened. Commissioner Christophersen lead the Pledge of Allegiance and offered a prayer. All commissioners were in attendance.

Commissioner Lewis called for a review of the agenda.

The consent agenda consisting of the claims for payment and meeting minutes for April 8th, April 12th, and April 13th, was addressed.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

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

Soil and Water District – Board member Lloyd Briggs asked the commissioners to consider the continued financial support for the Soil and Water district. His funding request was for \$15,000.00 dollars in FY2022. The commissioners were hesitant to approve funding this early in the budget process but thought that a letter of intent pending available funding would be ok to sign.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to sign a letter of support for a \$15,000.00 dollar donation to the Oneida Soil and Water District, pending available funding, in the FY2022 fiscal year.

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

Guard Rail bid – All Rail was awarded the bid to replace a section of guard rail for the road department. Their bid was based on information provided to them however when they arrived on site it was discovered that the project was slightly different than expected. The difference amounted to two openings in the guard rail for land access. These openings reduced the amount of guard rail needed but it also increased the need for four special end posts. Two for each opening. The final cost of the project was increased to \$53,800.00. A total increase of \$4,600.00 dollars overall.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve the additional cost of the guard rail installation for a total expense of \$53,800.00 dollars.

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

Assessor Atkinson asked the commissioners to consider paying full benefits for one of her employees for a three-month period while she works part time due to schooling desires. The three months would include the months of May, July and August and the employee would be working 20 hours per week. The part time status would be temporary however because of insurance rules it would be impossible to remove and then reinstate some one's insurance for these reasons. The clerk advised against making a decision that could set precedence for other employees to make the same request. One consideration was that the employee could pay half

of the cost of the benefits and the county cover the other half due to her still working half of the hours needed for benefits eligibility.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to approve three months of benefits for a deputy assessor while working part time for the months of May, July and August 2021, contingent on the employee paying 50% of the cost for benefits.

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

A contract with the Department of Agriculture and law enforcement is due for renewal. The contract allows for deputies to assist with the boat check station. The hard copy was not available for review however it was stated that no changes were made from the previous year.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the contract for law enforcement assistance at the boat check station pending County Attorney review to determine if the contract was unmodified from last year.

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

Building inspector Mick Udy asked the commissioners to consider purchasing a Jet Pack to help provide better internet services when he is out in the county. Having better internet would allow him to update the IWORq system in real time. The cost would be \$99.99 for startup and \$39.99 monthly thereafter.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to approve the purchase of the Jet Pack for the building inspector.

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

Mick asked the commissioners to consider allowing him to drive a company vehicle home. He lives in Utah and stated that when traveling to work he has had to stop and inspect construction sites in the south part of the county. By having a company vehicle, it would eliminate the need to either track the mileage in his personal vehicle or drive to the office to obtain the county truck before backtracking to the site of the inspection.

The clerk suggested that the IRS laws may consider this as a taxable benefit and suggested that the attorney be consulted in the matter.

Commissioner Eliason asked that the topic be tabled.

Commissioner Lewis stated that the building inspector was hired under the same terms as the previous inspector which amounted to a set wage of \$26,400 per year with benefits. He further stated that with the increase of construction in the county that the current inspector was now working more hours and he felt that the wage should be increased. A wage study for this position, in several Idaho Counties, showed an average wage of \$19.31. It was further estimated that with the current revenues from building permits and the anticipated revenues for permits to be sold in the coming months that this wage could be supported.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve a wage increase to \$19.31 per hour for the building inspector effective immediately.

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

Commissioner Lewis questioned the amount of compensation time that the building inspector has been accruing. He suggested that an exemption be granted to this position whereby increasing his allowed accruals from 50 hours to 150 hours. The commissioner recognized the need for the hours to be worked but expressed a desire for the inspector to be able to use the time during the slower times during the year when inspections decrease. Mick thought that the comp hours would decrease with the change to his full time status of 40 hours per week and asked that the commissioners hold off on making any changes until the end of the fiscal year.

Part time planning and zoning help – The request was made to allow Rhonda Neal to continue helping Mick with the planning and zoning. They have several public hearings for subdivisions and changed to the development code in the coming months plus the increase for building inspections.

Commissioner Eliason made the motion to extend the part time help for planning and zoning through the end of the fiscal year.

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

Rhonda Neal presented bids for pest control at the events center and for the trees behind the grandstand at the fairgrounds. Commissioner Eliason suggested including the fair board in these decisions as their input would be valuable.

Kami Willie met with the board to request a wage increase for swimming pool managers. Two of the four employees have held this position for 27 years and a third employee for 14 years. They currently make around \$11.00 dollars per hour and she asked the commissioners to consider a raise to \$13.00 for the three persons and a lesser increase for the newer fourth manager. The revenue and expenses were reviewed and commissioners Lewis stated the any change would need to be covered by the current budget.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve up to \$13.00 dollars per hour for the pool managers, \$7.50 for life guards and \$7.25 per hour for swim instructors.

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

Weed Department- The Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) is demanding repayment of grant money spent in Oneida County through the Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) due to their claims that violations of the grant reporting were found. The amount requested is \$18,546.00. The ISDA further said that all funding to counties in the CWMA will be held until the money is refunded. The commissioners did not want to impede the funds to other counties and thought it best to repay the money.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to refund the \$18,546.00 to the ISDA to avoid any delay in future funding for the CWMA counties.

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

Treasure Love suggested that the commissioner speak with the Soil and Water district in Bannock county regarding the CWMA issue prior to sending the payment.

Commissioner Christophersen made the motion to withhold payment until he could investigate with Bannock Soil and Water District.

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

The commissioners have discussed the creation of a multi county board of guardians. The counties of Bear Lake, Caribou and Franklin are interested in this joint venture however the commissioners need to make an official decision to move forward and support the efforts.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to support the creation of a four-county board of guardians.

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

Commissioner Lewis explained the process for reviewing and bidding for the elevator project at the court house. He further stated that it would be best to include someone familiar with contracts and the bidding process. Local citizen Blake Love offered to help at no charge however it was thought that the county would be better served if Blake was paid for his services as it could amount to several hours.

Commissioner Lewis made the motion to approve up to \$1,000.00 dollars to hire Blake Love as a bid document consultant at the rate of \$50.00 dollars per hour to assist in the elevator construction project.

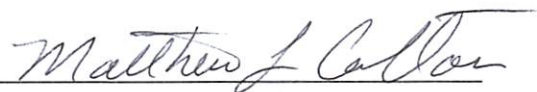
Commissioner Christophersen seconded. All commissioners approved and the motion carried.

The commissioners postponed the ordinance review for this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.



Bill Lewis, Chairman



Matthew L. Colton, Clerk