Abbreviated Minutes: Complete Set of Minutes Are on File in The Clerk's Office

P.O. Box 389
134 East Main Street
Rexburg, ID 83440

www.co.madison.id.us
(208) 359-6200

Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2026

Attendees:
Todd Smith, Commissioner Chairman
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Dustin Parkinson, Commissioner
Kim Muir, County Clerk
Lori Hicks, Senior Accountant
Ann Marie Sorensen, Chief Deputy Clerk

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Todd Smith opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

Contracts/Documents:

Ratify signature: Equipment Rental Agreement with Arnold Machinery.
After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to ratify the signature previously done for an equipment Agreement with Arnold Machinery. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the Jeff Lucas, Rodeo Announcer for 2027. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Dalton Morris, Rodeo Entertainer contract for 2027. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed. The second contract for 2029 cannot be signed at this time, since the county can only commit to one year.

GIS Services Discussion – Sugar City

Rexburg Mayor Jerry Merrill and Cole Hibbard were present for this discussion. Commissioner Mendenhall explained that Sugar City had expressed interest in participating in Madison County's GIS mapping program. Those present discussed what services the City of Rexburg and County should provide to Sugar City, if any.

GIS Coordinator Cole Hibbard explained that the City and County currently maintains GIS data for Sugar City's addresses, streets, parcels, impact areas, subdivision boundaries, and other recorded property documents.

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He noted that GIS does not maintain zoning maps or comprehensive plans, as those are not recorded documents. Mr. Hibbard further explained that Sugar City has not historically recorded certain planning documents with the County, limiting what can be incorporated into the County's GIS system.

The Commissioners discussed the scope of services that could be offered to Sugar City, including maintaining zone layers, and whether participation should be based on a partnership or a fee-for-service arrangement. Mr. Hibbard noted that all GIS services provided to Madison County and the City of Rexburg involve associated costs. Those present agreed that land changes should continue to be recorded through the Clerk's Office before being added to the GIS system.

Commissioner Mendenhall suggested that any additional GIS services requested by Sugar City, such as zoning layer updates, be provided on a pay-per-use basis, consisting of a base fee plus hourly charges as work is performed. The Commissioners agreed that Sugar City should not be added as a GIS partner but could receive services through a fee-for-service agreement.

It was also noted that Sugar City currently benefits from access to high-resolution aerial imagery and annual flyover data without contributing to the associated costs.

The Commissioners directed Cole Hibbard and Commissioner Mendenhall to meet with representatives from Sugar City to discuss available GIS services and develop a cost estimate for any requested services.

Brian McKellar – Insurance Renewal Options

Brian McKellar, Nicole, and members of the APTA team participated in the meeting via Zoom to discuss health insurance renewal options.

Mr. McKellar presented several self-funded insurance options, including projected funding requirements for the reinsurance claims pool. He explained that any unused funds remaining at the end of the plan year would remain in the claims pool to help offset future costs.

Spencer joined the discussion to present a revised pricing structure for the BowTie program. He explained that employee utilization is currently approximately 30 percent and proposed changing from a flat rate of $65 per employee, per month, to a utilization-based pricing model in which the County would incur costs only when employees use Bow Tie services. He noted that if utilization were to increase significantly, pricing could return to a flat monthly rate.

Following review of the revised Bow Tie pricing, it was determined that the APTA plan remained the most cost-effective option. Commissioners acknowledged that while employees have become more familiar with the system, implementation has been challenging and service issues have occurred. They also noted that changing insurance providers would likely present similar or greater implementation challenges.

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Ann Marie expressed concerns regarding customer service and emphasized the need for improved employee support. Spencer responded that additional staff are being hired to provide more dedicated customer service and outlined several initiatives intended to improve employee access and simplify the overall experience.

The Commissioners requested that APTA provide a written summary of the proposed customer service improvements, including an implementation timeline outlining when each enhancement is expected to be completed.

The Commissioners also discussed Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) contributions. After review, the Commissioners agreed to reduce the County's HRA reimbursement to employees by 50%, recognizing that the reimbursement was originally established to offset employee deductibles, which are no longer part of the current health insurance plan. Additionally, the Commissioners agreed that employees would not be required to contribute toward the 20% increase in the County's health insurance premium costs.

Budget Finalization

Sheriff Ball, Vince Kaikamanu, Moroni Burton, and Cameron Stanford were present to review Sheriff's Office budget.

The Commissioners discussed the Sheriff's Office budget request and asked the department to identify additional reductions. It was noted that, in previous years, the Justice Fund had levied the maximum amount allowed by law, resulting in reduced funding available for other county funds. The Commissioners stated that this practice was no longer sustainable and requested adjustments to better balance the overall county budget. The Sheriff's Office identified additional reductions, and the revised figures were forwarded to the Clerk for inclusion in the proposed budget.

Following the Sheriff's Office discussion, the remaining county department budgets and proposed L-2 property tax forms were reviewed. The Commissioners directed the Clerk and Senior Accountant to incorporate the agreed-upon budget adjustments necessary to finalize a balanced budget.

Following review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the proposed fiscal year budget for publication. Commissioner Parkinson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous, and the motion carried.

Discussion Items

The Commissioners reviewed the survey related to the Twin Bridges area. It was determined that an additional meeting with the Sheriff's Office would be scheduled to clarify jurisdictional boundaries and to formally document those findings in the Commission meeting minutes.

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The Commissioners and representatives from the Sheriff's Office also toured the adjacent facility to evaluate potential future uses and discuss available options. It was noted that this will remain an ongoing discussion.

There being no further business, Commissioner Parkinson adjourned the meeting at **1:20 p.m.**

Approved: Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Dustin Parkinson, Commissioner
Attest:
Kim Muir, County Clerk