

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



**Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2020**

Attendees:

Jon Weber, Commissioner (Chairman), was excused
Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Troy Evans, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Kim Muir, County Clerk.
Commissioner Elect, Douglas Smith

Pledge of Allegiance by all
Invocation by Commissioner Elect Doug Smith

ACTION ITEMS

Public Comment: There was no one present wishing to comment.

Calendar Items:

The next Commission Meeting will also be a Public Hearing and Budget hearing September 3, 2020.

Discussion Items:

COVID-19 discussion and update:

COVID cases in Madison County are at 27 currently. Commissioner Mendenhall explained there is concern as to what will happen when the BYU-I college students return in September. Eastern Idaho Public Health is considering a change in if you cannot socially distance 6 feet, the orange level would move to a regional basis, which would increase the number to 50 cases per 10,000 before moving to the next level. The need for an exit strategy is being discussed. There are approximately 65 beds in the regional hospitals for COVID but only about 20 are in use for a variety of different medical issues.

FY 2020-2021 Budget Discussion regarding L2 Submission:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to increase the HRA by \$500 annually per employee. This will be re-evaluated annually and its continuance will depend on county budgetary restrictions. The motion also included the county increasing its match up to 2% on the PERSI 401(k) for all employees, and up to a 2% match on the 457 State of Idaho Deferred Compensation Plan through Nationwide, for all employees. The HRA will be applicable January 1, and match of the two retirement programs will begin October 1, 2020. The costs for the HRA fund will come out of the insurance trust. The county will get the word out on these three changes to all employees and encourage them to participate. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

The Commissioners discussed the Governor's Public Safety funding being offered to counties. The decision was made to opt in and take part in the funding. This includes not taking the 3% growth offered to counties. These funds will lower the levy rates which will be reflected on property taxes to county residents for this tax year only.

Discussion ensued regarding inclusion of funding for the Development Company seed money for the development of an entrepreneurial center, in conjunction with College of Eastern Idaho to offer more vo

tech type classes. Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve funding to the Development Company towards entrepreneurial and education \$5,000. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Review & Appoint Fair Board member:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to sign and approve the appointment of Natalie Munns to the Fair Board. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Contracts/Documents:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign and approve Indigent Defense Financial Assistance Agreement. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign and approve Resolution #450 to destroy old indigent files. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Routine Matters:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Commission meeting minutes of August 10, 2020. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the claims presented by the Clerk--General Fund total \$33,241.73. Grand total of claims \$361,846.50. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Certificates of Residency for Pei-Shin Baxter; Evelyn L Grigsby; Braden George Hartle; Miguel A Ibanez; Anita Camille Kunz; Whitney L McNeill; Cameron J Webster; and Amanda P Wilde. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Personnel Actions :

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the personnel actions. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Executive Session:

Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:20 a.m. Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d) exempt records, Ann Marie Sorensen, Indigent Clerk. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Commissioner Smith – yes, Commissioner Mendenhall - yes. The motion passed. Commissioner Smith returned the County Commissioner meeting to open session at 9:45.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve signing Approval's on Case No.'s 2020010 and 2020008. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Shannon- Fair Report:

The 2020 fair overall went well this year. The budget was cut from \$50,000 to \$30,000. Gates sales increased as well as figure 8 races, and the bounce houses. Sponsorships were down slightly. The 4-H entries and livestock sale went well. There were less food vendors, but income was about the same. Jr. rodeo had fewer entry fees, but all were well attended.

Public Hearing, Thornton Townsite:

Commissioner Smith made a motion to open the public hearing at 10:05 a.m. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

In attendance were Mr. and Mrs. Sarmiento, Mr. and Mrs. Moss and those listed below.

Bradley Petersen, with Planning and Zoning stated that all notices were properly posted for the public Hearing. No conflict was declared by the Commissioners. Bradley showed on the map the original Thornton Townsite and pointed out the Sarmiento's property. Just as in other local townsites, no one knew there were right of ways in this area. There is a fence line that has been there since the early 90s and it was assumed they were the property lines. Sarmiento's thought they owned the property until planning to build a home.

Kevin with Thompson Engineering read from original 1917 plat: Original owners in 1917 have sold and conveyed the same or parts thereof and neglected to file a plat. The owners were notified by mail and asked to file for a plat, but the owners failed to do so. The county is still dealing with the aftermath of this.

Oscar Sarmiento spoke in favor of and would like to see this matter cleared up and be able move forward.

There was no one else wishing to speak. Commissioner Smith asked Bradley if he had heard from the neighbors to the south. Bradley stated he had not heard anything from them. Commissioner Smith said usually when we vacate an easement we give one-half to each property owner. In this case, we are using the existing fence line which would give the Sarmiento's the full easement.

The Public Hearing was closed at 10:20 a.m.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign and approve vacating this property to the Sarmiento's and clean up the property lines. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed. An ordinance and deed will be prepared on this matter for a later Commissioner meeting.

Shawn Boice—DMV Staff/ part time employee:

Shawn would like a part-time employee at DMV. Employees are currently maxed out on PTO hours and they need one more to offset vacation and sick time. This would mean a total of 5½ positions at DMV. He has one employee possibly retiring in the next year. DMV will be taking back Park and Rec licensing in the next few months. Last June, sales were \$180,00, this June it is \$275,000 without Parks and Rec and numbers are still increasing. The Commissioners see the need to keep a good level of service to keep wait times to a minimum and revenues are increasing. Adding additional funds for another DMV worker to keep up with increasing population numbers is needed. Commissioners gave Shawn permission to hire an additional part-time employee.

Hyrum Erickson/Joe Sammerill Contracts for jail and U.S. Marshall:

Hyrum sent an email introducing Mr. Sammerill to the Commissioners. Hyrum gave a list of negotiated agencies Joe has worked with. Joe was once a federal government attorney, who now works privately to negotiate federal jail rates. He has negotiated federal jail hold per diem rates. He now only represents local governments. The County's agreement was last negotiated in April, 2009. He has looked at the Madison County budget and feel they can raise the daily rate for federal holds from \$57 to \$87. Commissioner Mendenhall notices that we are the first venture in the west for Mr. Sammerill, and asked if there is a reason Madison has been selected as one of the first for him.

The Commissioners also discussed this matter with Bart Quail from the Sheriff's Office who was present. Bart stated through the Sheriff's organization in the state, the Sheriff's Office is in the process of negotiating their own rate increases, and does not see the need of hiring a contractor to assist on the matter. The county would save money by doing it themselves.

The Commissioners will defer this matter to the Sheriff's office. If the Sheriff's Office needs assistance, Mr. Sammerill may be a good source for them to utilize. If not, the Sheriff's Office can negotiate this by themselves.

There being no further business Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 p.m. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Approved:

Jon O. Weber, Commission Chairman
Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner

Attest: Kim Muir, Clerk