



**Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2021**

Attendees:

Todd Smith, Commissioner (Chairman)
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Douglas Smith, Commissioner
Troy Evans, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Kim Muir, County Clerk

ACTION ITEMS

This meeting was streamed electronically.

Calendar Items:

The next Commission meeting will be held Monday, April 12, 2021. Commissioner Smith will be out of town.

Discussion Items:

COVID-19 discussion and update

Commissioner Mendenhall reports mutant Covid cases are beginning to show up in our District. Numbers are varying, but currently 30 per 10,000. Many are asking why the mask mandate was removed when it should still be on. Health orders would not stop gatherings. Vaccinations are opened to those 16 and over. The District is holding its own and doing well. The hospital is still fine on their numbers. There are a lot of rumors going around, but the hospitals do not receive funding for Covid patients. Funeral costs for Covid related deaths can be reimbursed through the Federal Government, but coroner's report that death certificates will not be changed so they can receive funding. This is illegal and will not be done.

Department Head meeting agenda

Possible topics include: Harassment training, county vehicle use, direction and a checklist for terminating employee, reiterated to supervisors that for new hires Insurance starts the first of the month. Following 60 days of employment, budget and 5-year capital improvement plans.

Covid Funds. This matter was discussed below under Federal Covid Funding.

Discuss GovQA

This matter was presented at the last Commission meeting. Commissioners state other departments really don't have an interest, but the Sheriff's Office can move forward. Cameron will add this to the Covid funding, as it limits traffic coming into the office to use. Budgeting will be discussed at a meeting tomorrow. There was discussion of whether to purchase the software for just the Sheriff's Office or for other county departments use.

Fair Board budget adjustment

Funds for the Fairgrounds are needed for fair expenses.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to increase the Fair Board budget by \$12,000 to cover fair expenses. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Sugar-Salem Cemetery improvement

Citizens are upset that there are letters going out asking for donations. The cemetery is doing everything they can to come up with funding. The county may offer some assistance after they have done all they can do.

Golf Board improvements

Commissioner Smith reported on the replacement of the deck at Teton Lakes Golf Course. There is research into a cement or wood decking. David Decker, with the county, will lead the construction of this project. The ADA restrooms requirements were discussed and changing the restrooms. Restroom improvements will be added to a future budget.

Contracts/Documents:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign and approve the Notification of Hearing for the budget, setting the public hearing for September 7, 2021. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to sign and approve the Quitclaim deed for Hatfield and Weber at the Hibbard round about property and the Bear Crest Limited LLC property on the South side of the county. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed. These will be recorded and delivered to the property owners.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign and approve the Public Defense contract with Jim Archibald. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Routine Matters:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Commissioners meeting minutes of March 22, 2021. Commissioner Doug 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. The General Fund total claim amounts were \$46,361.92. The grand total of claims was \$486,397.95. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign and approve the certificates of residency for: Suzette Lacy, Savannah Lacy, Emma Lacy, Eliza Haberle, Taten Myers, but denied the certificate for Jamie Shakespeare. Commissioner Doug 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 Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation by Troy Evans

Public Comment: Shane Rubush would like to have us put out to the public that we welcome comment on specific issues when they are on the agenda. He suggests this be indicated somewhere prominent on the webpage. Shane Ruebush had a public comment on density. Commissioners say that public input has an effect.

Executive Session:

Commissioner Chairman, Todd Smith made a motion to go into Executive Session at 10:27 a.m. Idaho Code §74-206(1)(b) employee matters and (c) to acquire an interest in real property. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Commissioner Todd Smith – yes, Commissioner Mendenhall – yes, Commissioner Doug Smith - yes. The motion passed. Commissioner Todd Smith returned to open session at 11:08 a.m.

Assessor's Office, Ag exemptions:

Aaron Lerwill's application was denied at the last meeting for an agricultural exemption. He asked for a review of that decision.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to deny the request for Ag exemption for 1.78 acres of Ag Aaron Lerwill. The Ag property needs to be 2 acres. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Susan Hyde purchased a small home and moved it. It was placed in her driveway. The City said they would give her a permit and then changed their mind. The City of Rexburg said they were going to charge her for hook-ups and it would cost her \$60,000 for excavation, foundation and utilities. Shawn clarified this is an asset on leased property. She did pay the first half of taxes. She has sold the tiny home and it is being moved out of county. She is asking for ½ of the taxes to be credited. Shawn is asking for the full amount being returned as it was never occupied.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the tax cancellation for Susan Hyde for the last half of taxes \$222.45. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the tax exemptions for BYU-I. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to deny the tax exemption for Upper Valley Community Health (3 parcels) and to ask them to come and report the portion of their business that is charitable, since they are new to the community. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the tax exemption for Shumway Academy. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the tax exemption for Four Paws (2 parcels). Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Gary Purse, Hibbard speed limit:

Gary discussed the current speed limit in Hibbard. He has ridden around Hibbard on his bike, has nearly been hit several times and has had many animals killed. He currently lives on 3000 North with no stoppage to slow traffic down. He wants to start the conversation on the density in Hibbard as well as the speed limit to 35 mph. Cindy, at Road and Bridge was listening on Zoom and will put road monitors on the roadway. Electronic reader boards were also discussed as speed deterrents, as well as blinking speed limit signs.

Rudey Ballard, insurance review: Kendall was present with Rudy Kendall showed a Power Point presentation explaining the importance of regular dental checkups and the effects of periodontal disease. He also mentioned the life insurance and disability benefit and showed totals paid by the county and the contractual adjustments made for a 5-month period. Prescription drug total charges and the difference between generic and name brand were discussed. Rudey's office is here to help and educate the public.

Jared Arnold, discussion on locks and keys: Steve, with Ark Security was also present.

Jared presented a quote to replace the locks on the courthouse doors. Jared was given approval to move forward.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve replacing the locks on the doors in the courthouse. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Darbi Pozenel, CD Site Certification with Department of Environmental Quality, new scales:

Darby reports Solid Waste received \$174,000 from salvaged metal. Darbi would like to pay for two new vehicles from these funds as well as Construction and Demolition site approval through DEQ. She said we could get another 30-50 years on this site if we used the property south of the current site for dead animals and metal. This would require laying an asphalt or concrete pad to place the metal on. Rocky mountain gave a bid and she would estimate the cost to be \$50,000 – 75,000 to comply for many years. DEQ and District 7 are working well with us and helping us meet requirements. Darbi would like to have this done by fall. There is currently a ground water monitoring plan in place, but they would need one more well.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to grant approval to move forward with the site certification. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Darbi presented estimates on replacing the scales and asked if we want to upgrade the scales including an axle weight scale, as we are growing exponentially. This would also make the wait time shorter, especially when weekends are so busy. This scale would be for county trucks only and would cut down on traffic crossing in front of our trucks. She would like to do covered concrete scales. The estimates presented are without the scale house.

Commissioner Todd Smith made a motion to authorize getting bids and moving forward on the in and out scales and visiting with the architect to get a drawing on the scale house. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Federal COVID funding discussion:

Commissioners determined the best use of Federal Covid funding for the present time it to wait and see if and when we receive it and save it for a large future project.

Cameron Stanford also discussed this with the Commissioners. There were several projects discussed and the decision to move forward with several and saving remaining funding for insurance increases. Funding for Solid Waste will be considered for funding as waste tonnage has increased substantially.

There being no further business Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 p.m. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Approved:

Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Douglas Smith, Commissioner

Attest:
Kim Muir, County Clerk