



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

**Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
December 6, 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.

Pledge of Allegiance: By all

Invocation: By Commissioner Smith

Public Comment: No one was present to offer comment.

Calendar Items: The next Commission meeting will be held Monday, December 13th, 2021 and will include a work meeting with LHTAC, Horrock's Engineering., City of Rexburg and Road & Bridge from 12:00-2:00 p.m.

The next Department Head meeting will be January 24 , 2022.

Contracts/Document:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve and sign the County Vessel Report. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the Idaho Department of Lands Use Agreement for Snowmobile Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to table Ordinance #447 Requiring Waste Created in Madison County be disposed at Madison County Transfer Station and hold a public hearing on this matter. Commissioner Doug Smith Seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #473 to destroy old records in the Prosecutors Office. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Routine Matters:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the claims presented by the Clerk. The General Fund total claim amounts were \$166,269.17. The grand total of claims was \$732,215.27. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Commissioners meeting minutes of November 22, 2021. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Certificates of Residency: None.

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.

Public Hearing, DMV fee change, review and sign: Ordinance #451.

Commissioner Todd Smith made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 9:58 a.m. to consider potential modifications to the Madison County Department of Motor Vehicles Department Fee Schedule. It is proposed that the Madison County DMV fee schedule be modified to reflect the fees for vehicle transactions be increased from \$4 to \$6. There were no conflicts of interest. The hearing was properly noticed and no written letters were received. The fee has not increased since 2007. There was no one present to speak in the neutral position, for or against. The State is rerouting all registrations and basic transactions to the internet. This will take funds away from the county. The Assessor's Office receives \$4 per title and is what they spend the most time processing. This would increase the fee to \$6 which will create about \$50,000 per year including the loss of fees for vehicle registrations. This is an administrative fee and by no means a tax. Debbie Johnson will be retiring December 31 and Shawn will not be rehiring for this position. The public hearing was closed at 10:04 a.m.

Commissioner Mendenhall stated the number of automobiles currently on the street shows the administration fees should be increased. This brings us in line with neighboring Counties.

Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the DMV fee increase to \$6 for title processing. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the modification to the Madison County DMV Department Fee Schedule and approve Ordinance #451. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Tax cancellation Classic Foods:

Classic Foods is the former Wendy's on North 2nd East, owned by the Ricks Family. He knew the restaurant was going to close and had Shawn give an estimate on the personal property, but the estimation was not adequate. Shawn suggests we excuse the personal property tax as most of the personal property was removed and the remainder is not being used. The total credit is \$321.21

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the tax cancellation for Classic Foods in the amount of \$321.21. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Public Hearing to Establish Building Department fee, review and sign Ordinance #450:

Commissioner made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 10:08 a.m. to consider potential modifications to the Madison County Planning and Zoning Department Fee Schedule. A copy of the change is attached hereto. There was no one present to speak in the neutral position, for, or against. There were no conflicts of interest. The hearing was properly noticed and no written letters were received. The Department has seen an increase in the public bringing in plans and the department spending time to approve and then the resident will change their mind and decide not to proceed. The change would include a \$500 non-refundable deposit in the permit fee. This would not raise the fee for a building permit. The City of Rexburg is currently charging the fee. The public hearing was closed at 10:15 a.m.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the fee changes. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the modification to the Madison County Planning and Zoning Department Fee Schedule and to sign Ordinance #450. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Public Hearing, Planning and Zoning fee changes, review and sign Ordinance #452:

Commissioner made a motion to open the Public Hearing at 10:15 a.m. to consider potential modifications to the Madison County Planning and Zoning Fee Schedule to reflect a fee change for the Department. Some fees on the current schedule have not been applicable and will be and others updated. The schedule is attached. There were no conflicts of interest. The hearing was properly noticed and no written letters were received. There was no one present to speak for, neutral or against. This will clean up the fee schedule and make it more understandable to the public. Anything requiring a public hearing will be increased to \$600.

The public hearing was closed at 10:20 a.m.

Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion that the P & Z fee schedule be accepted. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the fee changes and deletions. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve modification to the Madison County Building Department Fee Schedule and approve Ordinance #452. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Robert Kohler, ARPA Funding:

Robert presented information to show he has thoroughly looked into the ARPA funding the Commissioners asked him to review. Every line item was reviewed. Robert comments that it would behoove us to make sure the local school districts go after one of the funding options. He will contact the

schools to let them know. Also, there are some opportunities for the hospitals and Robert will reach out to them as well. He did not find where any of the funding would apply to first responders. Robert would like to pursue funding for the Ambulance and first responders from the county to build up and support their infrastructure.

Ambulance prices are set to increase January 1, 2021 by \$16,000 for two. We would make the agreement now and fund with the remaining ARPA funding. Commissioners agreed to move forward with this. Troyse also is asking for permission to surplus two 2009 ambulances. Jefferson expressed interest, but there are problems with the suspension issues each of them. Options will be explored and reported at a future commissioner meeting.

Paul Sorensen, Broadband feasibility:

Sid Boswell with Wide Open Networks from Bozeman was with Paul to give an update. The company is out of Virginia. A feasibility study is nearly complete to build a broadband network. They been working to build-out a network and prepare cost estimates. This project would provide a complete fiber network to approximately 60% of the county outside of Rexburg City limits. The County will not be an ISP. ISPs will use this network to sell internet services and pay the County for access. We would partner with Rexburg and possibly other counties to create a regional network. A cost estimate was created that include 4 redundant rings with 8 laterals for a total of 57 miles of distribution and access fiber.

The cost estimate was \$8,080,851 and includes water and railroad crossings. Customers coming on line would buy in to the system. A 10-year proforma presented. Connection fee options were shown, one with a \$150 connection fee or no connection fee. It would take 3 years to build out the entire project followed by modest growth to expand the network over the remaining 7 years. Both cases generate a profit which can be used to expand the network. The next step is to review the proforma and decide on a fee or no fee option and then get a build study as quickly as we feel comfortable.

Madison Memorial Hospital:

Rachel Gonzalez and Troy Christensen were present. Troy presented a graph showing Hospital annual net income. The net benefit has been good overall. Outpatient services saw a larger increase over the inpatient. The pay scale has had to increase to stay competitive in the market. Rachel reports the hospital currently has 63 positions open which is 8% of their total staff. They are looking for ways to protect cash flow and keep protecting the overall investment. MMH delivers a lot of babies and the Medicaid cuts will have a big impact on them. Pediatric mental health is becoming a need in the near future. Behavioral health needs have become very significant to the region. Employee assistance programs were discussed.

Executive Session: Idaho Code §74-206(1)(b) employee matters, (c) to discuss an interest in real property and (d) exempt records, Ann Marie Sorensen, Indigent Clerk: Chairman Todd Smith made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:08 a.m. Idaho Code §74-206(1)(b) employee matters, Troy Evans, Jared Arnold, AnnMarie Sorensen. 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 p.m.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve signing closed CAT assignments, (9) and to sign an Approval on Case No. N2022001. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Angie Moffat, Tax cancellation:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to cancel taxes on the 26 properties listed on the sheet attached. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Todd Smith made a motion to cancel the remaining 2021 tax for the pro-rated portion owned by Madison County purchased from Philip Parkinson Farms. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to cancel the taxes for a mobile home that was moved out of the county in the amount of \$220.16. Commissioner Todd Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Chairman Mendenhall made a motion to adjourn at 1:20 p.m. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Approved:

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

Attest:
Kim Muir, County Clerk