



# MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES March 28, 2022

#### Attendees:

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

## **ACTION ITEMS**

This meeting was streamed electronically.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Doug Smith

#### Calendar Items:

The next Commission meetings will be held Monday, April 11 and 25, 2022. April 25 will be a department head meeting.

## **Discussion Items:**

Meeting with Stakeholders in Madison County: Shawn would like to communicate to the two mayors and the schools within the county regarding the rise in property taxes and to ask them to try to keep our budgets as trim as possible. Shawn will draft a letter to the two cities and the school districts regarding and ask to Kim to edit.

Todd would like to schedule a meeting with P & Z and the Fire District regarding Thornton area.

City/County Joint Meeting will be at 12:00 pm on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. County will be the host with a lunch provided.

## **Contracts/Documents:**

id acceptance for Scale House at Solid Waste. The contract has not been received. The item will be moved to the next meeting.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign the contract at \$70.00 per hour with Trent Grant for public defense. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #478 for the destruction of old financial and payroll records from Clerk's Office. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #479 for the destruction of old indigent records from Clerk's Office. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall move to sign the supplemental agreement to proceed forward on the West Side Frontage Rd. from Thornton to Rainbow Lake. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign the agreement authorizing Horrock's Engineers to provide professional services for the West Side Frontage Rd. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Amended MOU with the City of Rexburg for broadband. Todd Smith, City of Rexburg IT reported the county had begun work on broadband expansion into the county. To combine resources, the entities have formed a broadband oversight committee. Am MOU was signed last meeting but the committee has reviewed it line by line and have brought back small changes.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to rescind the former MOU approved March 14th. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall then made a motion to approve the MOU dated March 28, 2022. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Contract with TO Engineers. After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to sign the contract with TO Engineers for the seal coat for the airport runway Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed. The total cost will be \$62, 199.42. Majority will be picked up by FFA. The remainder to be shared by the city and county equally.

### **Routine Matters:**

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the claims presented by the Clerk. The General Fund total claim amounts were \$ 71,958.43. The grand total of claims was \$480,938.19. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Commissioners meeting minutes of March 14, 2022. Commissioner Todd 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 andvoting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Bucky Westfall and Richard Co-owners of Clover Enterprise Fleet Management: Presented how the Fleet management lease with Enterprise works with the county. He showed a graph of the county's current leased vehicles, purchase price, what has been paid on them, and what the resale value is today. Commissioner Todd Smith asked for a historical graph. Commission Mendenhall will follow up with Jared and Enterprise.

**Public Comment:** Brooks Oldham wanted to speak to the commissioners about new speed limits in Hibbard. The speed survey showed the public was driving 10-15 mph over the speed limit. He would like to encourage the commissioners to lower the speed limit to the original. He would like to have the speed limit enforced but recognizes the size of the county. He also proposed speed cameras be placed in this area.

Chairman Todd Smith recognized Senator Doug Ricks attending Commissioner's Meeting and thanked him for his service.

Jared Arnold, Madison County General Services brought a proposal for fifteen cameras to be placed around the outside of the courthouse. Total cost would be about \$43,000, but it can it be done in phases. A safety analysis was done by supreme court. There are no cameras outside the courthouse currently. He is asking for the money to make the upgrades. Commissioners advised Jared to discuss this with

Cameron and Kim to see if there are Covid funds available. In the future, he would like to talk about better security for judges and clerks entering the building.

#### **Bradley Petersen, Floodplain Discussion:**

Bradley submitted a plan for the East Setback Levee and Pathway. He has met with the Sugar Salem Superintendent, Chester Bradshaw concerning the area near the schools in Sugar City. Bradley is ready to look into the funding but he has an estimate of \$25.000. Land acquisition would be minimal. He feels it could be built within the right of way. Forsgren Engineering has the data and would make the current model the best practices and cost estimates.

Bradley would like to hire Rumsey Engineering to review and evaluate the diversions near Teton City. Fremont-Madison Irrigation District (FMID) owns the diversions. He feels these projects are affordable and can be done quickly. He would like to move quickly on the diversion reviews so they can be reviewed

during peak spring runoff. He is requesting moving forward with the proposal to study diversions. The cost would be split 3 ways, county and two cities.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve our cost share of the study that would be \$8,282.66. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

## Gary Armstrong, P & Z matters:

Appeal of Rachel Whoolery, property within the City of Rexburg impact area. The City denied her application and she has appealed the decision. The appeal will require the formation of an appeals committee consisting of two persons representing the county and two from the city. Gary was advised to get people from the P & Z commission. The county needs to appoint someone to the City planning and zoning who lives within the impact area.

**Findings of Facts for Chase Staker, Conditional Use Permit:** This was tabled by the Planning and Zoning commission and will be revisited by them.

**Western Skies Estates Final Plat:** This parcel is located at approximately 4200 S 3500 W. It is 28.6 acres being divided into 14 lots. Planning and Zoning approved with no restrictions They were pleased the developer is building a bridge over the canal allowing access into River Rock Estates, making three entrances for future development as the code requires.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the application materials submitted by Nathan Thompson for the final plat of the Western Skies Subdivisions. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

**Texas Siding Business Park**: This is an application to subdivide 25.2 acres into 7 commercial lots. It is zoned commercial. The only concern is the lack of sufficient fire suppression for commercial development in this area of the county. Grizzly Way will not be accepted into the county road system until they put a cul-de-sac turnaround. It will remain a private road as noted on the plat. The owner broke off this parcel

from a larger parcel, but if he wants to develop the remainder of his property, he would be required to make the entire property into a subdivision.

After review and discussion Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the application submitted by Jerome Bowen for the Texas Siding Business Park Development. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Gary asked the Commissioners to authorize him hiring an intern for the summer to help bridge the gap while Melissa is out on maturity leave. He has money in the budget to pay him. The total cost would be about \$3,000. He would be considered part-time seasonal, working under 20 hours a week.

Fee Update discussion: Gary is getting more information and is seeking legal counsel.

**Sonnie Haws: Bid Opening for a loader:** 

Bids were open for the 914 loader. Bids are as follows:

Western States \$150,822.55

Honan Equipment \$172,3225.83 Lease Arnold Machinery \$157,901 Lease

**Kandee Boice** is informing the Commissioners that 4H has received an NRA Grant to put in an archery range. She has talked to the Range and they have given her space. She needs about 40 yards to be leveled out. There is a berm already in place. They are using \$2,500 to make the improvements. They already have an archery program and the equipment needed. Road and Bridge is currently doing work on the range. She was hoping they could do this also. Commissioners are good with that if Road and Bridge are.

Kandee also received a grant for the appliances to be installed at Veterans Hall. It will be between \$3500 -\$5000.00. Commissioners previously approved \$7000. This must be completed by May for the grant.

She requested a vehicle for their office to manage. She was told to talk to Jared.

Paul Weeks wanted to address the Commissioners about the Hibbard speed limit. After all the discussion and speed studies, he is requesting a policy be made to county code to match the results of the traffic studies, to eliminate bad feelings. It should just be done by Code so there wouldn't be contention with the community. It cost \$12,000 to do the Hibbard study according to Cindy. He called Bonneville and Jefferson and found they have a committee for speed studies. He said it cost them about \$30,000 a year.

These are done every 5 years, so the data is always current. This Hibbard speed limit study is the first study done in our county. The County is required to update the Transportation Plan every 20 years. Charging a fee to the developers could go into the pot to help offset the cost. Commissioners will visit with Gary. Road and Bridge will be doing a study next year. He would like this to go into our policy.

Commissioner Smith would like to charge so much per lot. He is asking for a reconsideration of the current study and asks for a revote. Legal council said Commissioners do not need to revisit if they used their best judgement.

**Shawn Boice, Madison County Assessor** presented the following properties for approval by the Commissioners for Ag Exempt Status: After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith moved to allow ag exemptions for A-1 Dome. The building lot on the property excluded leaves 8.22 acres that will be farmed this year. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Dan Johnson's property is only 2.16 acres. Shawn feels it is too small to meet the income requirement of \$ 1000 if it is five acres or less. He suggests he prove he can make the \$1000 then he would qualify next

year. Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to deny this until he can establish the property would produce the \$1000 income requirement for acreage less than 5 acres. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded, and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Eysser property is 22 acres, Aaron Hancock will be farming it this year. It is currently in hay. It is congruent to the Hancock's 11 acres. Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve ag exempt status to Eysser and Hancock properties. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Nick Rammell: After they take out for the house, it will be four acres so it is at the threshold to have to have \$1000 income from the property.

Commissioner Mendenhall moved to approve ag exempt status for the Rammell property. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Doug Smith moved to approve ag exempt status to Powell, Sleight, Riley, Thomason, Garrett, Lerwill, and Prime Investments. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Four Paws, asking for full exemption status.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to grant full exempt status. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Westover Ranch is a 501(c)3. 11.4 acres, rent facility. Denied last year because they were receiving income from it. They have submitted tax info to prove they are not making an income off the property.

If the corporation were to be dissolved the property would be donated to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The family will never make money off this property because it can't be sold. Currently

it meets code 63-602(C). After review and discussion, Commissioner Doug Smith made a motion to approve the Westover Ranch Association Inc tax exempt status, Commissioner Mendenhall seconded. The motion passed.

## **Department Head Meetings:**

**Drug Court:** Ryan Brown, Drug Court Administrator reported 18 people in treatment court and 10 more in Teton county. Covid has made the court behind in hearing and ordering people to the program. There are some rule changes coming down the pipe. There will be a Tri-County meeting will be in July. He is saving up for the replacement of a car and maintenance.

**IT:** Paul Sorensen, IT Director discussed with the commissioners the broadband expansion. The committee talked about is getting proposals ready so when money come available they can be one of the first to apply. There are multiple ways to apply for the money.

Paul would like to hire an outside company to manage the County website. It is getting more and more difficult to keep it up to date and secure. Estimates are about \$1800/year.

**Veterans Officer:** Ron Naeglin.is working 2 days in the office and more at home. They have also done house calls for those unable to leave their home. They are servicing close to 1000 veterans, by helping them to apply for pensions or healthcare.

**John Hall / Neighbors: Thornton area fire system.** He is requesting fire protection. Local landowners are willing to contribute to the installation of a deep well and a fire station. It will take some time.

Corey Child, Fire Chief reported, the Fire District is recommending any property owner go to a fire engineer and get recommendation of how to apply the code the best they can, then they will consider those recommendations.

Jason Riley, feels that the fire code has not been enforced and now they are requiring the water storage. They are frustrated because they bought land and didn't know that these requirements would be enforced. Other business in the area, do not have fire suppression.

Commissioner Mendenhall feels the committee should contact the landowner who has property on the market to knock off the price to have a well dug and the work with the Fire District to get a fire station built. Gary is writing a proposal to make a fire development in the Thornton area. Gary will take the lead to find a temporary solution.

#### Sheriff's Office, Review and sign Off Duty Employment Contract:

EIRMC would like to hire off-duty police officers. As Sheriff Henry read through the agreement and had some issues. He spoke with Troy who had the same issues. They are having ICRMP review the contract. This will be tabled for now.

Review and sign: Bart reported that a cloud-based server is more expensive than a server-based system. They are using about 70% of the current storage. They received a quote from Dell \$55,466.00, but they did not budget for this. In fifteen years, the Sheriff's Office has gone from 16 terabytes to 50 terabytes. The Justice fund software budget has only used 16% thus far. It will be used. They also have money left in the IT budget. Bart wondered if Covid funds could be used. Sheriff Henry considers this infrastructure. Covid funds can be used for infrastructure. This is a 30-day quote. They hope to have an answer soon.

## Two Grant Contracts with Idaho State Police for plate readers

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign the grant award from the Idaho State Police for a new plate reader on north bound Hwy 20 grant. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign the Idaho State Police grant award for a plate reader also on HWY 33 East Grant. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Executive Session Idaho Code §74-206(1) (b) employee matters only, Ann Marie Sorensen, Indigent Clerk. Commissioner Todd Smith yes, Commissioner Mendenhall yes, Commissioner Doug Smith yes.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to adjourn at 4:55 pm. Commissioner Doug Smith seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:55p.m.

## Approved:

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

Attest:

Kim Muir, County Clerk