



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

**Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2023**

Attendees:

**Todd Smith, Commissioner Chairman
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Dustin Parkinson, Commissioner
Troy Evans, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Kim Muir, County Clerk**

ACTION ITEMS

This meeting was streamed electronically.

Pledge of Allegiance: All

Invocation: Commissioner Smith

Calendar Discussion:

- Next Commission Meetings: July 10 and 24, 2023
- Department Head Meeting: July 10, 2023
- District #6 meeting, Beaver Dick Park: July 13, 2023

Discussion Items:

Snowmobile: Appoint New Board Member

This matter was moved to August. Ryan McBride was in to visit with the Commissioners. Designating a parking lot area was discussed. Commissioner Smith will visit with the Eastern Idaho Regional Solid Waste District.

Upper Valley Board of Guardians: Appoint Representative

This matter was discussed. Commissioner Smith will discuss it further with a name that was presented.

Fair Board:

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

Teton River Mitigation Committee: Appoint four Committee Members

The committee will establish the rules and regulations for water use with those that own the water. All precautions will be taken to prevent leakage, but the County will have no liability. This is for flood mitigation and to use in a useful, beneficial way.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the appointment of Brent Barrus, Donald Day, Mike Huskinson and Cade Crapo to the Teton River Mitigation Committee. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Use of Social Media:

Any employees using social media should be careful of conversations they engage in. The pros and cons of a Madison County Facebook page was discussed. Paul Sorensen was present to discuss the matter. This is ongoing.

Access to property on 3000 and Update on Moody Road:

This is at 3000 N and Highway 20. Removal of the ditch is in the preparation stage. The project is in the Road and Bridge budget for the year. The Moody Road will be moved to straighten the intersection. We will get estimates and get the project moving forward. The City of Rexburg owns a small portion of the easement.

Approve and Sign Letter Regarding Broadband:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve signing the letter to the City of Rexburg regarding broadband reimbursement. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commission Meeting Changes:

The last meeting in September will be the 22nd vs. the 25th as Commissioners will be in Boise the last week of September. Commissioner Mendenhall will be gone October 10th; therefore, this Commission meeting will be held Wednesday, October 11th.

Contracts/Documents:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the LHTAC Local Agreement Children Pedestrian Safety Program. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve Ordinance #467 to Update Golf and Airport Fees at the Jointly Owned Entities with the City of Rexburg. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve changing Ordinance #468 to correctly state ordinance number #471 DMV/Solid Waste Fee Changes. The prior number was already used. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve Resolution #498 To Destroy Old Documents for the Indigent Department. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Assigned Funds Statement for ARPA and Covid funding. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the SRS Election Form. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Routine Matters:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the claims presented by the Clerk. The grand total of claims was \$759,579.74. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2023. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 30, 2023. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the minutes of June 2, 2023. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the minutes of June 12, 2023. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Certificates of Residencies as presented by the Clerk for Alex Treaster, Sierra Pinnock, Jasmine Fregoso, Danielle Munns and Madison Hardiman. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Personnel Actions:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the Personnel Actions. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Public Comment: None.

Executive Session: Chairman Todd Smith made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:13 a.m. Idaho Code §74-206(1)(b) employee matters and (f) pending litigation issues. A roll call vote

was taken as follows: Commissioner Todd Smith – yes, Commissioner Mendenhall – yes Commissioner Dustin Parkinson – yes. The motion passed. Commissioner Todd Smith returned to open session at 9:46 a.m.

Jess Tanner: Mental Health Court Treatment Contract

Jess Tanner explained the contract to include stabilization of mental health throughout the region and will be taking on mental health. She has included restructuring within her budget for the upcoming year. She is hiring employees and preparing for the changes to begin July 1, 2023.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the contract for D7 Treatment program and Department of Health and Welfare. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Planning and Zoning:

Final Plat Approval for Wolf Meadows Subdivision-AHG Capital LLC/Mike Hicks:

The application is for the development of approximately 69 acres into 34, with lot sizes ranging from 1.55 to 1.88 acres. Accounting for roads, the entire development allows for 34 lots, though the sizes may be less than 2 acres. The property is zoned Trans. Ag. The lots will be serviced with private well and septic system. Additionally, a pressurized irrigation water system will provide irrigation water to each lot. This is the poster child of how P&Z would like to see subdivisions go. They have met all water/irrigation requirements with canal companies needed. The project is West of the High School in Rexburg.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve the Final Plat of Wolf Meadows Subdivision from AHG Capital LLC/Mike Hicks. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Zone Change Findings of Fact for James Palmer & Monica Koons:

The property is located at 1181 North 2583 West. The applicant's land is currently zoned Trans Ag. It is adjacent to land that is zoned Residential. The Comprehensive Plan identifies the area as Rural Cluster. Residential is an allowed zone for Rural Cluster Areas. The intent is at some point in the future to allow 1-acre lots. Concerns from adjacent property owners. Ownerships have changed and easements need to be formalized.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Zone Change Findings of Fact for James Palmer & Monica Koons. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Review and sign: Ordinance #472 Zone Change from Trans. Ag to Residential for James Palmer & Monika Koons.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve Ordinance #472 Zone Change from Trans. Ag to Residential for James Palmer & Monika Koons. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Gary reported the need and importance to formalize the steering committee meetings for the comprehensive plan and they will put up a booth at the County fair to solicit help.

Executive Session: Chairman Todd Smith made a motion to re-enter into Executive Session as a follow up from this morning at 10:18 a.m. Idaho Code §74-206(1)(b) employee matters and (f) pending litigation issues. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Commissioner Todd Smith – yes, Commissioner Mendenhall – yes Commissioner Dustin Parkinson – yes. The motion passed. Commissioner Todd Smith returned to open session at 10:33 a.m.

Ballard Insurance, Finalize Renewal and other Insurance Options:

The vision and dental plans are staying the same with no increase. For the medical plan – the group had some high claims the first part of the year. In the past few months, our loss ratio has come down and Kendall and Rudy would like to see it decrease further. The rate cap for the premium is at a 9% increase and that is where we will stay for the upcoming year.

The employee contribution was discussed. The contribution was placed at 17% last year. The family rate would be \$350 per month from employees which is a \$30 per month increase.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Medical Insurance Renewal with Select Health effective through 9/30/2024. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

The EZCareMD benefit is available to all employees. There is a better plan option available. There is a better range of doctors with language services. Better benefit with better options. The wait time is the same. This would enhance our mental health benefit. Lyric Health would be the provider. Commissioner Smith would like to get a use report for the past year from EZCareMD.

Road Easements, Kerry & Emily Morgan, Brandon Robson:

A lot was sold and the neighbor built a shop and a lean-to on the easement and are currently divorcing. The Morgan's and Robson's would like clarity to get a road in the easement that has been encroached on and would like to get the matter resolved. Options were discussed. Easements need to be vacated. A letter will need to be drafted to Mr. Anderson to give ½ of the road to Mr. Anderson and the other half to the Morgan's. Access to the Robson property will need to be figured out, but they need to get power in. Cindy from Road and Bridge made the following comments: Madison County has an agreement with all utilities to use County right of way.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to sign a letter to make a corrective easement to Mr. Neil Anderson. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to recess Commission Meeting in order to enter Board of Equalization. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to open Board of Equalization. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous

Board of Equalization, for Dorian Development, Inc.:

The BOE was opened at 11:36 a.m. Those present were sworn in: Shawn Boice.

A map was shown indicating the property which is 20.9 acres. A few years ago, there was platting and a lot of transition going on. The values were shifting quite drastically. The Dorian property went to \$1 mill in 2022 and the Dorian's are after filing for an application to do an Ag exemption. Shawn has circulated pictures. Lynn Munns has gone in and planted a 3-way grain. It grows to 2 to 3 feet and it is used for cow feed. This is one that the Assessor has never dealt with. The statute indicates if it is actively devoted to Ag there should be an exemption granted or a reduced value. Currently valued at \$1 mil. Dorian admits Shawn is correct and they have dropped the ball. They would like to get it shifted as they watch the market switch. They are asking for a reduction in value. Commissioner Mendenhall asks if in past years it has actively been devoted to Ag and 1/3 of the property is not usable.

Commissioners discussed the options they have including the site improvement exemption.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the site improvement exemption for Dorion Development, Inc., and drop the value down 75% which will stay in place until one lot sales. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to recess Board of Equalization meeting at 11:50 a.m. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed and Commission meeting resumed.

Robert Kohler, Report Spring flooding, Update Fuels Reduction:

Robert reports that for the first time in four years, we had sheet flooding in a few places. One is on Barney Dairy Road and another on the Moody Highway. It is currently an abandoned canal. There was a severe rain storm in May and the Emergency Operation Center was activated using ½ of the system. Volunteers were called in and sand bags were filled and some placed in downtown Rexburg. It was a great learning time and many people responded as needed. The sand bags are at the end of their life as they are breaking apart. We will budget to replace them.

They have done riverbank and dike inspections. There was a log jam in the slough and Road and Bridge was there and had it cleared within 24 hours. The rivers have peaked and are on their way down.

They have received a grant for Twin Bridges Park for \$120,000 for fuel reduction. They have made improvements for fire control by removing trees and have removed safety issues. There is a small pot of money left. There are piles of brush and Gary Wilcox will bring in a chipper and the Parks budget will cover this cost up to \$10,000. Commissioners are very happy with the work that has been done.

Paul Sorensen and Bradley Petersen:

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to amend the agenda to consider arrangements for funding a grant with Fibercom that is being applied for. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and the voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Paul and Bradley were in asking for a cash match for the grant asking for Broadband expansion. There is a potential to start using our funds to get going during the better weather and then repay when the grant comes in. \$500,000 was agreed as a minimum as a cash match. Commissioner Parkinson made a motion to approve a cash match of \$500,000 to fund the grant. Partnering with a private company is a concern. This will be an open network and many of these concerns can be covered in the formation of the partnership.

Review Personnel and Vehicle Policy and Discuss County Vehicles:

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the review of personnel policy and vehicle policy at 1:30 p.m. rather than at 2:45 p.m. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Commissioner Mendenhall discussed vehicles currently in the County fleet and the possibility of each department paying for and maintaining their own vehicle. The fleet cars were discussed and assigned to a department. This will be part of the budget discussions on Wednesday and Thursday this week.

The Employee Handbook will be distributed to Department Heads to review and be accepted by employees. Commissioners will review and report any further items that need consideration.

Lunch Break

Cameron Arial, Capital Improvement Planning:

Christine Stoll was present to discuss Comprehensive Plan and Capital Improvement Planning. Cameron Arial joined online. The County will need to analyze and inventory our current real estate assets. Christine explained the phased approach to the project, as well as ways to engage and inform the public at each stage. The time frame for this project would be one year. The County would create their own internal plan. The costs will be dependent on the services we choose. A \$12,000 retainer would be given and then estimates to complete would be provided. There is a lot of technical expertise involved in a project like this. Valley County is in the process of developing their Capital Improvement Plan. Cameron and Christine will send the master Services Agreement to consider.

Dana Izatt, FY2022 Madison County Audit: This matter will be on a future agenda.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn at 3:14 p.m. Commissioner Parkinson seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed

Approved:

Todd Smith, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Dustin Parkinson, Commissioner

Attest:

Kim Muir, County Clerk