



**Madison County
Commissioner Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2020**

Attendees:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Commissioner Mendenhall

ACTION ITEMS

Public Comment: There was no public comment. This meeting was streamed live online for those wishing to attend remotely.

Calendar Discussion: The next Commission meeting will be May 26, 2020. This is Tuesday after Memorial Day at 9:00 a.m.

Discussion of High School Rodeo and Fairground use May 21 – 23, 2020. Jerri Rackow with Health District was on telephonically and recommends large gatherings do not happen. Jerri is not approving. The Commissioners discussed if they allow for this, it would be important that the rodeo group have a plan. Protocols need to be in place, as well as social distancing and those present wear a mask. Idaho is in Stage 2 at this point with gatherings of 10 permitted. The Commissioners get in touch with Evan and will get a copy of his plan and make sure everyone adheres to the plan.

There was discussion for a Planning and Zoning Board replacement. This position will replace Matt Hartline, who was publicly thanked for his service. This will be reconsidered at a future meeting.

Commissioners would like to hold a Department Head meeting June 8.

Contracts/Documents:

After review and discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #446 to Abandon and Vacate Certain Public Right-of-Ways. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed. Commissioner Weber recused himself from voting on this matter. The next step on this matter is to set a public hearing.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the Retail Alcoholic Beverage License for Solairus Food Services dba Redd's Grill. Commissioner Weber seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the: FY2021 Indigent Defense Financial Assistance Grant. 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 for April 27, 2020. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the claims presented by the Clerk. The general fund total was \$94,193.22. The grand total of claims was \$795,542.11. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

After review and discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Certificates of Residency for Carly Blaylock, Kole Bauer and Leslie Harker. There was no certificate provided for Ross McInlay. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous except as to Ross McInlay. The Ross McInlay certificate will be further researched by the Clerk's office.

Personnel Actions :

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

Bonnie Moore, GIS announcement:

Bonnie Moore announced that she is retiring as of July 1, 2020. The Commissioners thanked her for her service to the County. Bonnie has appreciated her work with the County. Commissioners will stay in touch with Bonnie.

Geri Rackow, Review Eastern Idaho Public Health 2021 Budget:

Geri commented that she appreciates Brent Mendenhall's service on the EIPH Board. Jerri presented her budget request for 2021. Travel reductions and total year budget is at 3 ½% reduction. EIPH receives a portion of their funding from the State and there was a 2% reduction in this funding for 2021 and this could be further reduced. The request from counties will remain at level funding for FY 2021 from counties. Employee benefits have been reduced. Operating expenses are holding steady with no increase. Jerri was thanked for her work. The public hearing for EIPH will be held June 18, 2020.

Executive Session, Idaho Code § 74-206(1)(d), Indigent Claims: Ann Marie Sorensen, Indigent Clerk.

Commissioner Weber made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:31 a.m. Commissioner Mendenhall seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Commissioner Weber – yes, Commissioner Smith-yes, Commissioner Mendenhall - yes. The motion passed.

Commissioner Weber returned the County Commissioner meeting to open session at 9:45 a.m. After review and discussion, Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve signing a Lien Release on Case No's 2020011 and 2020012 and an Approval on Case No. 2020008. Cat Assignments were made for Case No. 2019010 and 2019011. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Tipping Fee Charges:

Darby Pozenel, as well as Keith Davidson and Matt Nielsen from the City of Rexburg were present for this discussion. This discussion was around increased county tipping fee rates for garbage.

Darby explained that garbage has increased dramatically with other counties hauling to our county as well as increased students at BYU-I. Costs need to be covered. In the last two years there have been two more employees hired and a new truck and trailer were needed to handle the additional tonnage. Trailer life is about five years and they have used the current trailer for ten years. Matt and Keith commented their concern is the significant jump in rates equates to 33% for the City. Darby states that regulation with DEQ, scale replacement and the increase of dumping at the CD site have also contributed to the increase. The tipping rates have not been increased since the site opened in 1996. The City of Rexburg budget was set in September and this increase was not a consideration at that time. Darby can pull records that will show total garbage hauled by the City. Recycling was discussed. Commissioners question if the county needs to reconsider charges to the big haulers. Fees have been set, but the Commissioners can reconsider. Charging additional for out of county residents was discussed, but this will be hard to police. There are no cameras set up on the scale to view license plates. Darby will review what a graduated fee schedule for big haulers would be. Darby, Keith and Matt will review the numbers and come up with a plan.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to put a hold the new solid waste fee that was passed previously by the County Commissioners until a plan can be worked out. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. The motion passed.

Jay Fluckiger, Hardship Application:

Mr. and Mrs. Fluckiger and Angie Moffat were present in this matter. The Fluckiger's had opened an Air B & B and the market has stopped with the pandemic. They have lost 44% of their income and their circuit breaker will be impacted also. A discussion was had regarding treating them like a business. Discussions were had to hold the 2019 taxes, but work with him on payment plan. Current valuations don't permit tax relief, but the County can work with him.

Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to deny the 2nd half of 2019 request. He can come to BOE or discuss this issue with Shawn on the Assessment for 2020. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. Angie will send the notice.

Nathan Williams, Property taxes for 2020 taxes for Pinnacle Apartments:

Nathan and his wife Linda joined the meeting telephonically. They are requesting relief for the last half of 2019 on a delayed payment or a payment plan, and a reassessment for 2020. Commissioner Smith suggests the Williams take the assessed value matter to the Board of Equalization. Nathan reports his revenues are down drastically. If the school cancels Fall classes, it will be very tough for them. The Commissioners suggested they call Angie to request a hardship application. No further actions were taken.

Melissa Vanslochteren/ Bradley Petersen, Muni-Code – self publishing:

Melissa presented a hand out from Municode. Melissa would like to look into our code processes and how they can be improved. She would like to upload new resolutions and ordinances directly to Muni-Code which would save the County money. The updated comprehensive plan will cost significantly if we don't do this automated system. She feels that going through Municode will be much more efficient. Commissioner Mendenhall asks if there is any errors and omissions liability. Melissa feels that mistakes can be caught and fixed immediately.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the self-publishing contract with Muni-Code Commissioner Mendenhall seconded and voting was unanimous.

Mayor Merrill, Economic and Workforce Development; Rick Miller and ECIPDA regarding a business center:

Mayor Merrill commented they have seen some things as they have traveled around. Mayor Merrill thought we could create an incubation center where new business would be encouraged. He would like to make the ECIPDA building this opportunity to open more new businesses and charge a nominal fee. Entrepreneurial and workforce development training would be available and would be good for community development. Rick stated they would like to put this together and possibly get grants. They are wondering if the county could put about \$10,000 to this project as grant match and be able to start sooner. The City is also contributing. Further funding assistance would most likely not be required. Commissioner Weber stated he would like to see a placement program once trained. All need to work with partners in trades that are influenced more than just the individual going out on their own.

Discussion of building a relationship with businesses like the INL and EIC, to offer placement once trained, apprenticeship programs to offer stackable credentials seeking grants, and creating stimulus were discussed. The School District and other agencies will be contacted and consideration of a technical high school will be explored.

Commissioner Weber made a motion to appoint Commissioner Mendenhall as a replacement for the Economic Development Board. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous. This discussion will be ongoing.

Jared Arnold, Part time employee maintenance, Mosquito and Weed update:

Jared would like to change the mosquito department to a 2-man crew from a 4-man crew. The employees will be flying drones for application of chemical.

Weeds: No other counties do private land application for private individuals. Jared asked if we want to continue with this. Commissioners discussed competing with private business is a concern, and this is not how they wish to continue. The county does not have the equipment to continue. The County can sell chemical to private individuals at a slight mark-up. Commissioners asked Jared to take the lead on this point but to cease this practice.

Janitorial: The new DMV/Driver's Licensing will need to be cleaned as well as the Search and Rescue building in Sugar City. Jared would like to hire a new 19-hour position. Commissioner Weber made a motion to approve this position. Commissioner Smith seconded and voting was unanimous.

Roof: Women's jail replacement bids were reviewed. Jared feels that Option #2 is the best way to go. – it is a better product and would last longer. Jared was asked to get additional bids. The amount is under the publication amount.

Bradley Petersen, Floodplain discussion and decision:

Mayor's Merrill and Adams were in attendance as well as Eric Miller, Greg Schneider with GIS, Randy Johnson, and Keith Davidson.

The Commissioners and Mayors are being asked to review the floodplain maps for final recommendation to FEMA and give suggestions and make necessary changes where there are major discrepancies. Randy

Johnson stated FEMA has created a model that is not finalized yet. An aerial image was found from 2010 that FEMA is using as their calibration event. They did limited surveying in the county very close to when the peak occurred. FEMA will consider the suggestions made from those present as well as consider discrepancies noted. The second study shown on maps presented was a 25-year flood event. FEMA has used that data to extrapolate the 100-year plan and what they will model for future floodplain maps. The levies are not accredited and cannot be considered in this plan. It would be extremely expensive to certify the levies. Randy, Bradley and their group are asking for direction and areas elected officials would like to see changes made. Canals will also be part of the main focus. East Parkway Corridor was discussed and was suggested by Mayor Adams to take the corridor down Digger Drive rather than placing the corridor out in the middle of a field. A retention pond or spillway might be the answer. Mayor Merrill stated areas to focus on, and people jokingly said build the Teton dam again, but not everyone would vote for it. Most in the room would be willing to start looking at it again. It would be approached for flood control rather than irrigation.

Randy stated the Moody Bridge is an area of focus. He feels if LHTACT were to get involved, we may want to see if it makes sense to look at FEMA funds to make up the difference of making the bridge wider or higher for future flooding. Other efforts to fix a focal point of the floodplain area would be Highway 33 and where the river splits in Fremont County. The liability of removing from the NFIP was discussed and could publishing our own floodplain map. FEMA recognizes they did not get it right with this map, they are banking on the Cities and County working with them to get it right. All in the room would like to see this moved to the top.

There being no further business Commissioner Weber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 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