

OWYHEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
January 5 and 8, 2026
OWYHEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, MURPHY
OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

Present during the meeting were – Commissioner Bachman, Commissioner Holton, Commissioner Aberasturi, Clerk Barkell, Deputy Clerk King, Treasurer Dygert, Sheriff Kendrick, Chief Crawford, Sgt. Vincent, HR Director Fahey, County Staff Coordinator Desmond, PA Topmiller, representing Owyhee County Energy Committee – Martin Black, Doug Hipwell, Melissa Jayo and Sid Erwin; residents - Dale Van Es, and Ted Blackstock.

Via Zoom – P&Z Director Huff, County PA Topmiller, P&Z Director Huff, Museum Director Eriks Garsvo, Fair Board Director Crifffield, U of I Extension Educator Greenway, representing City of Grand View- Kathy Brown; representing Owyhee County Energy Committee – Andrea Owens, citizens – Michelle Meyers, Gari Gene and Alex Ernst.

Commissioner Holton motioned to approve the claims report as presented in the amount of \$164,371.11. Seconded by Commissioner Aberasturi. Motion carried.

Department	Amount
Current Expense Fund	\$ 43,331
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 39,041
District Court	\$ 12,067
Fair, Grounds and Buildings	\$ 454
Health District	\$ 9,100
Historical Society & Museum	\$ 211
Indigent and Charity	\$ 1,251
Junior College Tuition	\$ 5,950
Revaluation	\$ 314
Solid Waste	\$ 21,239
Weeds	\$ 18,000
Waterways Fund	\$ 253
Off Highway Vehicles	\$ 760
Capital Project Fund/ARPA	\$ 12,400

Commissioner Aberasturi motioned to approve the minutes from the December 22nd meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Holton. Motion carried.

Commissioner Aberasturi motioned to approve certificate of residency 25-26 to the College of Western Idaho. Seconded by Commissioner Holton. Motion carried.

Commissioner Aberasturi motioned to approve certificate of residency 25-27 to the College of Western Idaho. Seconded by Commissioner Holton. Motion carried.

Commissioner Holton motioned to approve the tax cancellation for sixteen (16) parcels (see attachment) in the amount of \$10,046.31 due to homeowner's exemptions being turned in after Abstract, in accordance with House Bill 562. Seconded by Commissioner Aberasturi. Motion carried.

Commissioner Holton motioned to approve the tax cancellation for parcel RP02N05W241820 in the amount of

\$635.77, due to homeowner mistakenly removed from the estate. Seconded by Commissioner Aberasturi. Motion carried.

At 10:00 a.m. A public hearing was held for the City of Grand View Area of Impact in accordance with Idaho Code 67-6526. City of Grand View officials have stated that no area of impact is needed at this time and no changes are recommended. No public comment was given. An Ordinance and Summary reflecting this decision will be presented at the next Owyhee County Commissioners Meeting.

At 10:30 a.m. The Commissioners met with the Owyhee County Energy Committee to discuss updating the energy section of the Comprehensive Plan. They agreed to draft a revised energy plan and present it to the Natural Resource Committee for approval and inclusion in the Comprehensive Plan. The group will meet over the next three Mondays at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom 2 to develop the updated energy section.

At 12:00 p.m. The Commissioners met with the Sheriff's office to discuss purchasing 15 new Axon body cameras for the Sheriff's department. Sheriff Kendrick discussed the status of their current body cameras and the need to purchase updated ones to prevent future possible liabilities. Prosecuting attorney Topmiller weighed in on the discussion and gave his support. The Commissioners asked Sheriff Kendrick a few questions that Kendrick would have to investigate and asked to continue the conversation later in the day.

At 12:31 p.m. Commissioner Holton made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (f) possible litigation. Commissioner Aberasturi seconded the motion. Aberasturi – aye, Holton – aye, and Bachman - aye. Motion carried. Open session was resumed at 12:35 p.m. No action taken.

At 1:00 p.m. The Commissioners met with Dale Van Es regarding the purchase of a portion of Elephant Butte, a county-owned property. After discussion and testimony from the lessee, Ted Blackstock, the Commissioners scheduled an on-site meeting for further review. Commissioner Aberasturi and Commissioner Holton will meet with Mr Van Es and Mr Blackstock at the Van Es Dairy on Thursday January 8th at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Aberasturi motioned to approve an invoice for Axon Enterprises to purchase 15 body cameras in the amount of \$71,270.66. Seconded by Commissioner Holton. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until January 8, 2026.

JANUARY 8, 2025

Present during the meeting were – Commissioner Aberasturi, Commissioner Holton, residents - Dale Van Es; Elephant Butte lessee – Ted Blackstock.

At 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Aberasturi and Commissioner Holton Met with Dale Van Es and Elephant Butte lessee - Ted Blackstock to discuss a possible sale of approximately 23 acres of county property located at Elephant Butte to Dale Van Es. No decisions were made. Discussions remain ongoing between Dale Van Es and Ted Blackstock to work toward a potential agreement.

Dated this 20th day of January, 2026

Cindy L. Bachman, Chairman

Attest: Angela Barkell, Clerk

By: _____
Deputy Clerk