

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
January 13, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM in the Custer County Commissioners Room by Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Will Naillon, Gordon Vaden, Jessica Clemenhagen and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Clerk Lura Baker provided copies of the last meeting minutes and Public Hearing minutes for review and approval. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the minutes of the 12/19/24 Public Hearing for the Appeal on the communications tower in the East Fork. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith then moved to approve the Finding of Facts for the Teton Communications Tower. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it carried. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the Finding of Facts for the Wilson Appeal. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith then moved to approve the minutes for the 12/30/2024 Commissioners Meeting as presented. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Smith moved that the minutes of the Public Hearing for the Wilson Appeal be approved. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion carried. Commissioner Smith moved that the minutes for the Public Hearing on the Huffaker Appeal be approved. Commissioner Zollinger seconded his motion and it passed. Commissioner Zollinger then moved that the minutes for the Public Hearing on the Whipple RV Park be approved as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried.

The new Court Annex building project was then discussed. Commissioner Smith made a motion that Wayne F. Butts, Allicyn Latimer, Lura Baker, Rick Forestier and Rob Dunham all be recognized for their efforts in bringing this project to competition. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed.

The Commissioners Meeting was then recessed at 8:25 AM to go into South Custer Ambulance. The meeting reconvened at 8:26 AM.

Commissioner Smith displayed his personal Commissioners Seal, and recommended to the new board members that they invest in one for themselves. He also showed them the badge that was recommended by NACO. He then handed out Certificates of Appreciation to the many people that he has worked with during his tenure as Custer County Commissioner. The P&Z Board, Weed Department, Clerk's Office, NRAC members, R&B Department. Many department leaders and his fellow Commissioners also received a personalized Thompson Bible. A special gift of an American Flag that was flown over the Idaho Capital was given to Commissioner Corgatelli in recognition of his military service in Viet Nam. Commissioner Smith was honored to have placed a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Washington D.C. on Custer Counties behalf. He provided a framed photo display of the event to be hung in the Custer County Courthouse. He reported that there have only been two known Unknown Soldier wreaths ever laid by Idahoans. He also presented a copy of the Adrian Hasett Testimony that he requested be hung next to the framed photo display in the courthouse.

Commissioner Corgatelli then presented Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Zollinger with a Certificate of Appreciation for their service to Custer County as Commissioners. Commissioner Corgatelli welcomed the newly elected Board Members, Will Naillon and Gordon Vaden to the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Zollinger shook hands with each and wished them luck.

Judge James Barrett and Prosecutor Justin Oleson attended the meeting, along with members of their staff, the Sheriff Levi Maydole and his office dispatch team. Clerk's office personnel, Mrs. Myla Naillon, Aletia Straub-Workman and Jodi Stroud.

At 8:55 AM Judge Barrett swore into service the following elected officials by reading the Oath of Office for each. William Michael Naillon/Commissioner Dist. 1, Gordon Vaden/Commissioner Dist. 3, Justin Oleson/Prosecutor and Levi Maydole/ Sheriff. The newly elected Board of Commissioner members were then seated at the table.

First order of business was to select a Chairman of the Board. Commissioner Vaden moved that Randy Corgatelli remain as Chairman of the Board. Commissioner Will Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Vaden then moved that Will Naillon become the Vice Chairman of the Board. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Committee appointments were then listed and agreed upon.

High Country RC&D	-	Will Naillon
Altura/ECIPDA	-	Will Naillon
E. ID Regional Dev.	-	Randy Corgatelli
Magistrate Comm.	-	Gordon Vaden
Dist. 7 Health Dept.	-	Gordon Vaden
Lost River Econ. Dev.	-	Gordon Vaden
Fair Board	-	Gordon Vaden
Public Lands	-	Will Naillon
N. Custer Rodeo	-	Will Naillon
Custer Econ. Dev. Assn	-	Will Naillon
E ID State Fair	-	Gordon Vaden
Ctrl. ID Transportation	-	Randy Corgatelli
Homeland Security	-	Randy Corgatelli
County Payroll	-	Randy Corgatelli
Weed Dept.	-	Will Naillon

The **Custer County Fair Board** was then reviewed. Currently the members are Chris Holt/Chairman, Dave Barnhardt/Vice Chairman, Kathy Brower, and Skyler Cutler. The FFA advisors are Alton Arnold/Challis and Trent VanLeuven/Mackay. There are vacant positions also. Jake Zollinger has volunteered to return to the Fair Board. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to approve Jake Zollinger as a member of the Custer Co. Fair Board. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Naillon then moved to confirm the other members of the Fair Board as listed above. Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion carried.

The **Waterways Board** was then discussed. It is understood that Blaine Aldous/Challis and Jim McKelvey/Mackay are still members, but Ron Butts/Challis has stepped down. All agreed that more representation is needed. Currently John Haugh-Waterways Deputy is putting in for the grant funds from Id Dept. of Parks and Recreation and plans to come back as the waterway deputy this summer.

**Planning & Zoning Board** was then reviewed. P&Z Administrator Jessica Clemenhausen listed the current members and officers. Brant Tritthart/Chairman, Dan Woolley/Vice Chairman, Jake Zollinger, Teri Pritchett, Gary Chamberlain, Brenda Dixon, and Rick Mauthe. There has been discussion that a nine-member board provide more dispersed representation for Custer County. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to confirm the board members listed above. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and it passed.

The **Natural Resource Advisory Committee** was then reviewed. NRAC Chairman Jim Hawkins attended and verified that he has around 7 active members as well as about 8 that are inactive, but will assist when contacted. The list was confirmed with a motion from Commissioner Vaden. Seconded by Commissioner Naillon and it passed.

The **N. Custer Rodeo Committee** was then discussed. It is understood that Krista Koeppen is the secretary and that the members include Kurtis Koeppen, John Spencer, Sharon Bradley, Myla Naillon and Billy Bradshaw. The Board decided to ask Krista to attend a meeting and bring the new board up to date.

**Custer County Risk Manager** position was then reviewed. Commissioner Vaden inquired about just what the job involves and Clerk Lura Baker-2024 Risk Manager explained. Commissioner Vaden then moved that Clerk Lura Baker be nominated as the 2025 Custer County Risk Manager. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed.

**Weed Department:** Custer County Weed Superintendent Brett Plummer reported to the Board. The Annual Conference for the Weed Departments and the Annual Meeting will be held Jan. 26 thru 31 in Boise. Brett is the

Vice Chairman for Region 6, and he attends quarterly meetings during the year that are held throughout the state. Brett is also still on the Custer County School Board and part of the Executive Board. He requested permission to continue in that position. The Board of Commissioners approved for him to continue those important community positions. Brett is still training with the new weed dept. drone to become proficient. He plans to get it working this summer season, and will be recruiting a young staff to get trained on the drone as well.

**Road & Bridge:** Supervisor Brandon Jones updated the Board on his positions within the state. He is currently a Chairman on the CTIC. This job enables Custer County to accumulate points toward the grant system. He is also Chairman of District #6, which requires he attend two meeting per year. The networking that is provided at these district meeting makes them very productive for the Road Departments that attend. (Lemhi Co., Custer R&B, Lost River Highway Dist., Butte Co. are all members of Dist. 6) The Board gave him their approval to continue in these positions. Brandon provided copies of the STP Rural Grant application that will be used for the Hot Springs Road Reconstruction. The Grant is for \$3 million plus and requires a 7.34% match. This project is to remove and replace 2.2 miles of asphalt on the Hot Springs Road and will take up to 5 years to complete the process. A Resolution is needed today for the application. Clerk Lura Baker agreed to get the Resolution drawn up for the Board. The 4<sup>th</sup> bridge on the Squaw Creek Road is in the planning stage, and will also have a 7.34% match requirement. Commissioner Naillon moved to continue and sign the agreement. Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion passed. Brandon will get copies back to the Clerk's office. Commissioner Naillon moved to approve Resolution #2025-01 – Hot Springs Road Project with a \$2,035,600.00 Grant and \$222,813.04 match requirement. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Naillon then verified with Brandon Jones that Custer Road & Bridge has agreed to assist with pushing back the snow berm on Morgan Cr. Summit for the folks that have received the permit from the USFS. This is traditionally a one-time action, to push back the berm with the grader wing plow. Discussion was then held on how far the County could legally go on this job. It was decided that they should stop at the county line. Brandon then brought forward the need to replace some cattleguards. They rebuild any grates that they can, but many need new bases and wings. Such work usually costs \$10,000 each. The Board approved of building a consistent plan to upgrade and repair a few county cattleguards each year. Any that cannot be rebuilt for public travel, were approved to be donated to local landowners. This rule was applied to used culverts that could not be safely used on county roads. Brandon has found a "local" supplier for cattleguards in Leadore. He is also working with the local concrete plant to build the concrete bases locally. Guard rail work and replacement is needed on Yankee Fork and Morgan Creek Roads.

**Treasurer:** Allicyn Latimer attended and reported that she has been requested to contact the company that is contracted to supply the windows and doors for the new Court Annex. They were originally scheduled to have the windows here on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. When contacted, the windows were to be here in a week, which they weren't. This time they have agreed to have the windows here in a week and the Board asked to be contacted if they weren't delivered. They will hold a special meeting to deal with the problem. Clerk Lura Baker was able to take Judge White on a walk through of the new Court Annex. He told her that it was perfect for the County. Treasurer Allicyn then provided her monthly report to the Board. Her report and the Clerk's report are checked with each other to balance before they are brought before the commissioners. The Treasurer's office has collected over \$3 million in taxes so far and the payments are still coming in.

**Claims:** Commissioner Naillon moved that the following claims be approved in the amount of \$199,620.48. including one addition for Steve Smith of \$198.00, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	93,249.54
Road & Bridge	14,060.06
Election Fund	300.00
District Court	512.10
Health Dist.	12,994.50
Revaluation	293.88
Solid Waste	300.00

Weeds	2,745.79
LACTF	73,945.50
Emg. Comm. Fund	<u>1,219.11</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>199,620.48</b>

The meeting was recessed at 11:36 AM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. The meeting was reconvened at 11:38 AM.

The Custer County Comprehensive Plan was then discussed and it was decided that a new committee needs to be seated to work on updates.

**Prosecutor:** Justin Oleson attended the meeting. He reported that there was nothing new on the Confluence Appeal as yet. They are appealing to the Supreme Court. He then outlined what the Counties cross appeal would be. The Board agreed that he should continue with the cross-appeal and augment the records with the transcript. Justin then suggested that "Star Link" could replace the high cost Communications Plan that the county is pursuing. They agreed it should be looked into.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00, and reconvened at 1:30 PM. Attending were Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Randal Anderson/BLM, Kevin Lloyd/BLM, Bart Gammett/Lost River RD, John Runkle/Challis-Yankee Fork RD, and Tina Hawkins, Deputy Clerk.

**Agencies:** Lost River Ranger Dist. – Bart Gammett updated the board on trail work that has been completed. The Long Lost Trail and Wet Creek Trails were rebuilt as possible, and 1 ½ miles of new trail was built. The Lake Cr. Trail is a loop ATV trail that goes past 5 lakes at 10,000 feet. The ID Parks & Recreation Dept. is also assisting with maintaining this trail and the ID Fish & Game keeps the lakes stocked with fish. ATV Trail work is also being done on the N. Fork of Big Creek where another bridge is slated to be put in as well as more trail widening work. Commissioner Vaden inquired about the status of the trail into Swauger Lake? The USFS proposed opening the trail to ATV's but an environmental group protested it. At this time, it is a non-motorized trail of approximately 7 miles. This is the distance from the parking area to the lake. This lake is being managed for a trophy fishery. Bart reported that the grazing programs are going well. The Mt. Borah Trailhead campground has a final plan, but they are still struggling with funding for the project. They have been doing some beaver reintroduction in Wet Creek and Little Lost Creek, with good success. The scheduled prescribed burns are ongoing from Pass Creek south. Commissioner Naillon inquired how the USFS deals with cheatgrass after a controlled burn is completed? Bart felt that the elevation was a factor and all this is between 7,000 and 8,000 feet.

Challis/Yankee Fork Ranger Dist. – John Runkle reported that his District has a good set of fire crews hired. Many are hold overs from last season. They are expecting calls from CA for fire fighting assistance. The FLAP Grant for the Custer Motorway will cover work to be done in 2026. Road repairs are needed between mile posts 20 – 26. The Historic Agreement with the Town of Custer is up for renewal. John has been moving the requests for snow plowing on along.

BLM - Dan Patten reported the new Challis Field Manager, Danielle Nance will be arriving on February 10<sup>th</sup> from Dietrich, ID. The BLM will be hiring grazing and recreational seasonal employees. The ATV skills course is being built in conjunction with the City of Challis, up by the Solid Waste Site. After an inquire, he reported that it is well away from the shooting range.

Kevin Lloyd/Horse Spec. attended to report on the feral horses. His office has discussed bait-trapping to catch the Highway 75 offenders. Earlier attempts were not successful as the horses wouldn't come in consistently. The fence needed in the area, is about 4 miles and is in very tough terrain. BLM fence projects require NEPA. The hazing that has been done doesn't accomplish much. The next helicopter gather will be in the fall, Oct. or Nov. It is planned to mark the offenders, and once caught and removed they would not be returned to the HMA. The Herd Management Area numbers should remain between 185 & 250. Currently the feral horse's number about 260.

**Sheriff:** Sheriff Levi Maydole brought information on the Challis City plan for a sidewalk between the jail and the Court Annex. He will keep them informed of the Counties building plans. The Board agreed that the old foundations need to be removed from the site for the new Sheriff's Office/Jail building. The R&B Dept. will be

contacted. Maydole reported that Jared Valdez is the new deputy that will replace Chris Harvey. The new dispatcher Jessica Keppner is in training and doing well. He then went over the uniform changes and what was needed. The new standing orders and procedures for evidence were looked over by the Board and Prosecutor. They all approved. Maydole is beginning on a Master Policy & Procedures Manual for his staff. The retirement potluck for Robert Taylor is scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup> at noon. The next trial is Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Meeting is set for Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>. The new Search & Rescue Director for Challis is Darrin Maxwell. The State reimburses Counties for their S&R expenses. Maydole is keeping records of all hours and expenses to use for future grant applications. Waterways Deputy John Haugh is working on the Parks & Rec. grant paperwork for this season's finances. Chief Deputy Ethan Kelly, Chief Dispatcher Kathy Rodgers and Chief Jailer Linda DuBiel have all attended training in Salmon. All that attended felt it was beneficial. Currently there are 7 inmates held by Custer County, three are out of county. Stanley Deputy Mike New Meyer is currently attending his P.O.S.T. training. The washer and dryer are installed and being used for jail laundry. The I.D. machine is ordered and once operational, they will be making ID Cards. Sheriff Maydole will attend the Challis City Council meeting tomorrow and the Stanley City Council meeting on Friday. Sargent Dave Walls will attend the Mackay City Council meeting. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to approve the credit card use for uniform shirts from LA Gear in the amount of \$452.88 for the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion passed.

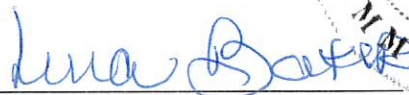
**Emergency Manager:** Director Lisa Benson attended and is set to attend the IOEM Conference in Boise. She has been contacted by David Bruce/Dale Evans Bank-Boise who want to do a presentation about loans for the County. The Star Link system was then discussed. Sheriff Maydole has used their service, but you can only talk to one person/location at a time. Commissioner Naillon felt that there were apps available for multiple links. Commissioner Vaden agreed to look into the Star Link System possibilities. Lisa then went over her report. The SHSP 2022 Grant funds will cover the new laptop for the Sheriff, and the SHSP 2023 Grant funds will be used to cover IPAWS. She then offered to connect with the Big Lost River Irrigation Dist. to keep the grant requirements moving along. The EMPG grant is not as large as last year. This covers her wages, so she is working fewer hours during the winter and will use any remaining hours during the busy summer season.

**Planning & Zoning:** Director Jessica Clemenhagen attended and provided a copy of the P&Z By-Laws for the Board. Currently the P&Z Commission has 7 members, but it has been suggested to increase that to a 9-member board. At times fielding a quorum is difficult. Corrine Jones is stepping down as a member. Commissioner Vaden made a motion that Jake Zollinger be appointed to replace Corrine on the P&Z Board. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it carried. The Comprehensive Plan needs to be updated as well as some ordinances. Commissioner Naillon felt a "committee" of citizens needs to be seated to work on the Comprehensive Plan and they will work with the P&Z Board. Jessica agreed to check with other counties as to how they do their updates. Commissioner Naillon will confer with Chairman Brant Tritthart on a time-line of how this gets accomplished. The Board asked that the difference between Recreational Vehicles and Tiny-Homes be defined as well. The Finding of Facts for the Appeals that were approved in the morning were discussed. It is understood that these cases will be going on to Judicial Review.

There is a Zoom meeting scheduled with Travis Pyle/Great West on the solid waste planning.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Attest:



Lura H. Baker, Clerk



Randy Corgatelli, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner