

Custer County  
Commissioner Proceedings  
March 9, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 8:0 AM by Acting Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioners Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith (via telephone), Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Melvin Lanier/Road & Bridge and Brett Plummer/Weed Dept. also attended.

**Road & Bridge:** Melvin re-checked the bid received from Young Automotive. The original figure didn't reflect the \$11,000.00 trade in value for the old truck. It will be an actual cost of \$23,211.00 for the 3/4-ton pickup ordered. The R & B crew is working on servicing all the equipment and they will need to get more motor oil by the barrel. They have done the snow berm removal in Yankee Fork and Morgan Cr. and the roads are drying out quickly. The Safety Grant Application for the Morgan Cr. Road didn't go through. Melvin was encouraged to apply again next year after doing a few corrections. He is getting price quotes for dust suppressant, and expects the beet type to be lower priced than the mag-chloride. Commissioner Corgatelli asked how he is doing with crew hiring. Melvin has two applications that he is planning to hire and one part time. He is still needing an experienced grader operator. He has not received the Schedule A agreement back from the USFS. Commissioner Butts made a motion to accept the new lease agreement with Summit Bank for a 2019 140M3 AWD Grader to replace the 2015 model. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith attempted to sign the agreement with e-signing but was unsuccessful. The original will be sent to Summit via snail mail. The Walk & Roll has been valued at \$12,500 and Gem County is interested in purchasing it. The Board agreed it could be sold. Commissioner Butts moved that the Board go into executive session under Title 74-201(b) for Personnel at 8:15, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 8:17. Melvin also addressed the problem of trees that have grown out into the county right-of-way. Some of the landowners have not responded, so the Road & Bridge crew will be cutting the trees back.

**Weeds:** Brett Plummer reported that he has passed his Applicators tests, but still has the Agriculture portion to take later today. He has two spray trucks serviced and ready to use. The 4-wheelers have also been gone over, serviced and are ready for work. The shop tools are being inventoried, but there isn't a very good selection. He is working with Road & Bridge to get a workable joint arrangement worked out for tool use. There will be an add for seasonal help for the Co. Weed Dept. in next weeks newspaper. Brett has one individual lined up to take the Applicators Test. Both Linda Zollinger and Brett have their licenses, but he would like to have 3 crews working by spring. There is a lot of work lining up already. The SNRA is wanting to get a joint agreement with the County signed. Brett has found some weed free hay inspections that were never billed out. He has them printed out billed now. Any work done for private landowners needs to have a MOU agreement signed before work begins. The template for the MOU was brought before the Board for approval last year, but Brett has not found a copy. The current Weed Dept. laptop computer has issues, and it will not boot up. Brett was given the go ahead to look for a suitable replacement and get back to the board with a cost. Two new Garmin GPS units have been located, as well as two Timball GPS units. He is working with Daniel Monk, the new BLM Weed Man on GPS mapping weed sites. Brett purchased the XID computer program weed identification tool to be used by his entire crew. Commissioner Butts inquired about the "leafy spurge" spraying on the Howard and Preston Cutler property up river. Matt sprayed it last year, but spurge usually takes multiple treatments to eradicate. He asked Brett to be sure and do a follow up on that weed area. Brett is meeting with the USFS and the BLM to exchange any known problem weed area locations. The board members discussed the need for office space for the Weed Dept. An office trailer that Doug Hammond has will be looked into, but no decision was made.

Commissioner Butts has received e-mail information on the county cost share of the Medicaid Expansion if the proposed legislation passes. A lengthy discussion on how the county share of the additional costs for the Dist. 7 Health Dist. will be arrived at was held. The comment letter on the Big Lost River Range Thinning Project to the Lost River Ranger Dist. – Allison Jackson was reviewed. Commissioner Butts made the motion to accept and send the comment letter. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

The comment letter to the Idaho Dept. of Lands concerning the Stanley AT&T cell tower was then reviewed and approved. Commissioner Butts moved that the letter be sent, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried. The minutes of the Feb. 26th, 2020 Board Meeting were reviewed. One correction was noted to change the road name from "Grouse Cr." to "Garden Cr." for asphalt zipping. The corrected minutes were then moved to be approved by Commissioner Butts, seconded by Commissioner Smith and the motion passed. The Board reviewed the layout of the possible jail facility. Commissioner Butts has gone over all the options with Sheriff Lumpkin.

**CEDA:** Jolie Turek attended and brought the board up to date on the 'brownfield application' that has been submitted through the Tri-County group. Lemhi Co., Custer Co. and Butte Co. have put in for a total of \$350,000. The Bailey Tire Co. location was put in for clean-up assessment by CEDA. If the assessment is agreed upon, then the actual clean-up will be done with a different grant process. The local news media 'Challis Messenger' reporter arrived at the meeting. Jolie reminded the board that her CEDA Grant renewal is coming soon, and would like to have the Counties approval. She has recently received a Gem Grant to complete the exterior parking area and landscaping at the Custer County Economic Development Center. They are also looking into a "commercial kitchen" facility due to repeated demand. Jolie then reported on the local donations of \$50,000 that have been received toward the building of new baseball fields. She plans to leverage the funds as much as possible. She is also working on a mutually beneficial agreement with the Idaho Dept. of Housing on the property across Clinic Rd. to used as an overflow parking lot, or excess camping for USFS Fire Camps.

Clerk Lura Baker set up the date for the Board to canvass the Presidential Primary vote on March 16th at 1:00 PM. Commissioner Smith has verified the terms of service with the current Custer Co. Fair Board members. They are having a meeting tonight in Mackay. Clerk Lura Baker will set up the necessary paperwork for a Drought Declaration. Commissioner Butts asked for the boards approval to give testimony at the District 7 District Health Dept. meeting. He forwarded the information to the rest of the board via e-mail. The board approved. The Board then recessed to go into the Board of Equalization.

The meeting reconvened at 9:48 AM.

**Treasurer:** Allcyn Latimer handed out her monthly report. She has found some more 'solid waste' issues that will be coming to the board as well as a double homeowner's exemption. Commissioner Butts inquired about the tax cancellation process and what information the Treasurer's office receives? The entire board stated that any errors that are run across need to be brought forward for correction within any and all departments. The 'solid waste' fund has \$362.65 in deposited taxes that have been cancelled that need to be reversed. Allcyn is proposing a credit toward the 2020 taxes for all those that were mistakenly billed twice and have already paid. She will write a letter stating the above and bring it to the board for approval before sending it out. Clerk Lura Baker will be consulted on just how to proceed with the movement of funds. The roof above the Treasurer's office has been leaking, and the warranty on the roof installation has been reviewed. The company has been contacted, and the roofing company agreed to contact the contractor on Tuesday. There has been no response from the contractor at this time. Commissioner Corgatelli did some ice removal and the leakage has stopped.

**NRAC:** Jim Hawkins attended and handed out his report. He suggested that Mary Darling be contacted to give comments on Custer Counties behalf for the latest BLM/Sage Grouse supplemental EIS documents. Commissioner Butts called Mary and she agreed to look into the EIS on our behalf, and submit comments for Custer County. Jim then asked about the "Open Range" signs that were agreed to. Both Jim and Commissioner Butts have written down mile marker numbers on the state highways. The mile markers are still needed for highway 75 toward Stanley, and Clerk Lura Baker agreed to check on them. It was then asked if we had received any response from Governor Little's office about our comments on drivers' licenses for illegal aliens. None has been received, but the legislation was tossed out. Jim felt the request for a G2G meeting with the Idaho Fish & Game should be cancelled due to the pending lawsuit concerning wolves by Mt. Borah Ranch. This led into a discussion about depredation compensation. It was decided to set up a G2G meeting with the USFS on the Forest Plan Revision in April, as the local government should be ahead of public opinions. Commissioner Butts also suggested a G2G meeting be set up with the Office of Species Conservation. A possible date of March 25th will be asked for in a letter. Commissioner Smith has talked to Scott with the OSC and has asked them to put Custer County on their mailing list. It was asked

if the \$11,000.00 refund that the Natural Resource Litigation Fund has promised to send to Custer County had been received. It has not been received yet.

Clerk Lura Baker has received a request from Summit National Bank for an electronic document-signing on the Motor Grader lease. Lura gave Chairman Smiths phone number to Summit Bank so it can be arranged. Clerk Baker has had Pauline with the Development Company request credit card payment for the ads that are needed for the Mackay Dam Grant process. Clerk Lura met with the Public Defense Commission on Monday. He commended the Custer Co. Board of Commissioners for their ability to work together for the betterment of Custer County. He requested we put a request for record retention in the Public Defenders contract, as required by Idaho statute. Lura also requested the addition of a Regional Public Defender, to assist the smaller counties with first appearances. There were some issues with our Conflict Attorney Fred Snook and his credits, as well as our Public Defender is up to the maximum on his hours.

The board then looked at some conceptual drawing of a courthouse annex plan. Commissioner Butts visited the facilities in Clark County then drew up the conceptual drawing as a place to begin. Clerk Lura Baker will get the drawing to the Court Clerks for their input also.

**Public Defense Attorney:** Dave Cannon attended and let the Board know that he is being recruited for a legislative position by Bingham County. He has Jeff Coons as an associate and would propose to have him cover the Custer County work while he was doing legislative work. The Board members agreed that this opportunity should be pursued and pending the PDC's blessing, he would keep the work schedule in Custer County also.

A request for moving a name for a mountain was received. White Mountain is the name of the subsidiary point at 9870 feet and the true summit at 10,442 feet needs to be called "White Mountain". The board agreed that this change would be acceptable and the needed paperwork will be returned. The paperwork for Summit Loan for the new motor grader is due for signature. Commissioner Butts moved that the loan agreement be accepted and signed, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried. Chairman Smith was sent the phone link numbers. Discussion then turned to the new pickup truck for the Road & Bridge. Commissioner Smith felt the upgrade needs to be done to keep the fleet in good condition. The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 then reconvened at 1:30 PM with Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Smith (via phone) and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins present.

**Agencies:** Brian Anderson – SNRA let the Board know that Laura Hardin will be their new fisheries biologist, and Curtis Mc Quen is the new facilities maintenance person. The front desk job is open, but soon to be filled. They are plowing the snow out of Mormon Bend and Salmon River campgrounds for the steelhead fishing season campers. Brian reported on the Redfish Lake MOU and that it is slowly moving forward. Commissioner Butts asked for a timely notice so the Public Hearings could be scheduled. The "purpose" needs to be stated for the meeting yet, and Commissioner Butts requested that "everyone" be included in the invitation. A tentative meeting date of June 10th was asked for but the Board felt that a date in May would be better. It was confirmed that a draft copy of the MOU will be circulated to all participants before the meeting.

Bryce Jones-Acting Challis/Yankee Fork Ranger reported the scoping for the Bayhorse fuel project is out now and the closing date will be April 6th. The Phase 2 Forest Plan Revision meetings have been set for Challis and Salmon, but a date/time needs to be set for Mackay yet. The Challis RD is hiring a Silviculturist that will be arriving March 12th. The Boundary Cr. road bridge replacement is moving ahead. They will begin plowing the road open to get to the worksite soon.

Matt Marsh/BLM Challis Field Director attended and reported that the new draft EIS will be out for review Feb. 21 to April 1. They are seeking another range management person and the application closed March 31st. The seasonal workers will be hired soon, and they will all need housing in the area. He has received questions on the use of E-bikes on BLM trails. Currently all the BLM trails are open to E-bikes. Their office has been encouraged to let any employee that feels sick (ie: corona-virus) to work remotely and stay at home. The KLIM group has been permitted in our area again.

The Board conferred on the payment for the ads for the Mackay Dam Grant. It was decided that the Development Company needs to pay for them, and Custer County will reimburse the cost. Clerk Lura Baker will provide copies of the "N Custer Rodeo Committee – Rule and Responsibilities" for the entire board. Commissioner Smith has tried three times to get through to Summit Loans, but has been unsuccessful. It was decided to send the signed contract through the regular mail. Commissioner Smith made a motion to purchase the pickup truck for the Road and Bridge Department at a cost of \$23,211.00 from Young's Auto. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Butts and it passed. Commissioner Smith moved that the White Mountain name be moved to the tallest mountain as requested, Commissioner Butts seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous ayes and the motion passed. A liquor license renewal application has been received from the Bear Bottom Inn in Mackay, Idaho. Commissioner Smith moved that it be accepted and approved, Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion passed.

**Concerned Citizens of Custer County:** Billie Mitchell attended to receive updates on the local jail situation. Commissioner Butts showed Billie the floor plan of the temporary jail option he has researched. Sheriff Stu Lumpkin also attended and explained the details he would like to have addressed. His main concern is meeting all the required jail standards, such as an ADA cell. Commissioner Butts then made a call to Michael Shuey, Vice Pres. of All Detainment Solutions Co. and the board visited about needed changes via tele-conference connection. The ADA compliance will be included, and the exit ramp will be roofed and fenced to the main exercise yard. At the calls end, Michael agreed to return to Custer County a civil-rough drawing marked Version #3 that shows existing buildings for reference. He was unable to give any rough estimate on the cost, until he knows just what we need. Billie asked about the Governor Little suggesting we become a 'welcoming place' for immigrants. She then thanked the Board for their letter to Idaho's Governor rejecting his suggestion to go against federal law and issue driver's licenses to aliens.

**Sheriff:** Sheriff Stu Lumpkin reported on his monthly calls. Sick leave donations that have been offered for Deputy were discussed. Commissioner Smith made a motion that the donations be approved pending the Clerks Office's verification, Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Smith made a motion that Custer County make the Declaration of Drought Resolution #2020-02. Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion carried.

**Claims:** The following claims were approved with additions of \$625.00 per diem for Wayne Butts, Surefire Engine \$847.93, and Idaho Military Div. \$1,051.58. all listed below as presented by a motion from Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Butts. The motion passed.

Current Expense	13,803.61
Road & Bridge	8,457.90
Election Fund	952.66
District Court	5,247.55
Rodeo Grounds	79.20
Indigent & Charity	32.90
Revaluation	136.08
Solid Waste	2,175.00
Weeds	475.68
Waterways	147.08
Emergency Communications	1,952.19
Auditors Trust	<u>719.75</u>
TOTAL	34,179.60

**Solid Waste:** Wendell attended and reported on the old heating units that are in each waste transfer site. Commissioner Butts made a motion that the heaters be updated for the bid cost of \$1,830.57. Commissioner

Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. Wendell then reviewed his contract fee and the fact that he is unable to continue to provide the services at that price. He provided a written breakdown for each waste facility and the cost to operate each. The equipment he purchased from Ron Gasman is now 12 years older and he is unable to keep it operational. He needs a dependable dozer that is newer than 1963, and a forklift for the Stanley site. The board discussed getting the list of needed equipment from Wendell and then the County purchasing what is available through Federal Surplus.

**Prosecutor:** Justin Oleson looked over the Development Company Agreement on the Mackay Dam FEMA Grant and saw no problems with it. Commissioner Corgatelli brought up the form that was developed by the Weed Department last year for private property spray applications. Justin agreed to search for the form and send it back if he located it. The comment period for the Pettit Lake Weir ends March 20th. After looking over the project it was decided that no comment was needed.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

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Steve W. Smith, Chairman

Attest:

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Lura H. Baker, Clerk