

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
August 28, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, Will Naillon and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Commissioners Steve Smith attended via phone connection.

Road & Bridge Dept: Superintendent Brandon Jones reported on the chip and seal work the crew is working on again today. Corrigan Road, Garden Cr. Road and Challis Cr. Roads will all be chip sealed this week. The cattle guard jobs are almost done, with Buster Road and Bear Cr. cattleguards being held until the graders are back in the area to do the finish work. Brandon has looked into fish passage problems throughout the Custer Co. road system along with Karma Bragg/NRCS. Ten spots have been identified with possible fish passage problems. It has been suggested they be lumped together for the engineering portion of the work. Total cost for all 10 sites is estimated at \$400,000 and will have a 10% match requirement. Once the project engineering is completed, each site can be worked on as the funding permits, over a period of years. The Board suggested that perhaps the top 5 sites be looked into. Commissioner Zollinger inquired about the new gates that were to be installed with the new cattleguards. Brandon verified that they have been put in and look good. Jones then reported on the 4th bridge that was added to the LHRAC bridge replacement project in Squaw Creek. There is a matching fund requirement and LHTAC suggested swapping the match to the planning for the rehabilitation work to be done on the main bridge over the Salmon River, instead of having it on the rebuilding costs of the 4th bridge. The Board of Commissioners all agreed.

Weed Dept: Brett Plummer/Weed Supt. reported that the 2016 Dodge Ram weed truck will be taken to the dealer in Idaho Falls next week for diagnosis. He has been unable to get the truck to run properly and will haul it down to the dealership. Plummer then reported that Jarred Meyers/BLM Weed Supt. is no longer with the BLM. He and Tommy Gionette/USFS are now in charge of completing the aerial spray projects in the Pahsimeroi Valley. Commissioner Zollinger suggested that Brett make an appointment to meet with the new BLM Weed Supv. in Pocatello and make new connections. Zollinger also commented positively on the recent spray project that Brett was doing along side Highway 93. Brett then reported on the 22 hay field certifications that he has completed. There will be a few more field inspections to be done before the hay season is over. There has been some "pack-rat" issues to deal with, after some rats hitch-hiked back to the county shop on the water truck. One has been caught and the traps are still set. Commissioner Zollinger inquired if any spray work has been done along the Salmon River? Brett has not been able to get any river spray projects done as yet due to the busy season. He is scheduling another local spray day in September and hopes for another good public turnout.

Commissioners: Commissioner Smith updated the Board on the fire fighting being done in the Stanley area. He was watching the big planes drop loads of fire retardant every 10-minutes while up in the Stanley area. Commissioner Zollinger provided a report on the County Fair. The fair-board is having Lost River Electric check into the power usage during the Fair. Winterizing is now being completed along with putting things away. The new fence/gate access was grudgingly accepted by the public and contestants. It truly is much safer for the public, animals and the traffic. A bid has been asked for the concrete work for a rabbit barn, which is being moved. The hog barn also needs work and the Fair Board is looking into needed changes. Volunteers have offered to get the needed information.

The election Conex trailer still needs shelving, and Smith estimated materials will cost between \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00. Commissioner Zollinger made a motion to approve up to \$1,500.00 for materials to complete the shelves. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

Commissioner Smith has been searching for a pop machine to replace the obsolete one. Some accept credit type cards, some vend snacks as well as drinks. It was discussed if the machine should be placed in the Court House or be installed in the new Court Annex. Commissioner Zollinger made a motion to put a cap of \$2,000.00 plus the trade in value of the old machine on the purchase of a new machine. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

The letter of support for the Challis Area Health Center and N. Custer Hospital District student loan forgiveness grant was then read by Chairman Corgatelli. Commissioner Smith moved to approve and sign the letter. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. A letter received from a resident of Mackay concerning the Mosquito Abatement was reviewed. Commissioner Smith agreed to respond to the letter.

Certificate of Residency: The application received from Hohnstein was reviewed by the Board. Commissioner Zollinger moved to approve the application, Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried.

The meeting was recessed at 9:00 AM for travel to Mackay City Hall. The meeting reconvened at 10:10 AM in Mackay City Hall. Attending were Chairman Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Commissioner Steve Smith, Will Naillon, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins.

The proposed naming of the small lake south of Smiley Peak was discussed. Tom Jarvis, lifetime resident of the area was contacted via phone and he felt that Preston Bell would be the one to contact about any possible previous name. Commissioner Smith then called Preston Bell to see if the lake had been previously named. Mr. Bell agreed to look at his 1970's era map and verify if it had an old name. The Board thanked him for his assistance and will await his reply.

U of I: Marnie Spencer: She reported on her attendance at the Market Animal Sale of the Custer County Fair, which she thoroughly enjoyed. The new fiscal year Extension Office budget was then discussed and will be set at \$33,000.00 at the hearing tonight. Ms. Spencer then discussed the second round of job applications for the Custer Co. Extension Office position. She would like to see it be in office help if possible. The current location of the Custer Extension office is working well and the lease is solid. Commissioner Zollinger commented on the record amount of money collected at the Market Animal Sale as well as the number of animals sold. He also reported on basic improvements that are being done by the Fair Board. Zollinger has heard of local applicants that are interested in the Extension Office job. Commissioner Smith inquired about the former U of I guidelines concerning payment timing of sale proceeds from the Market Animal Sale? Ms. Spencer assured him that they only apply to commercial auctions. Commissioner Zollinger informed the group that a credit card payment method has been installed for the Market Animal Sale. The addition of new 4-H projects (leather working) was applauded. The Board inquired if the Extension Office/Sarah Baker could assist with the Custer Co. fall weed program by helping advertise the event? Commissioner Zollinger explained how the Lemhi Co. Fair encourages FFA and 4-H record book interviews by rewarding those that participate with a monetary prize, and how he would like this to be done in Custer County also. Marnie verified that the Board would like to see her twice a year, and agreed to come.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(f) for Legal at 10:58 AM. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Zollinger, Commissioner Corgatelli, Will Naillon and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 11:19 AM. The wording of the re-affirmation was reworked by the Board. Access for animal owners with a well-equipped escort to enable getting livestock out of harms way was included. The escort would remove the possibility of gridlock along roads because of down trees, smoke or lost drivers.

Lost River Economic Development: Mike Evans and Bob Bagley attended. Mike Evans provided his handout to those attending, and thanked them for holding a meeting in Mackay. The LRED website is now up and running at "DiscoverLostRiverValley.com". The Career Fair will be held on September 17th and he encouraged all to attend. The Konnex Mine project is making a big move forward with the new funding they have acquired. A Teams Meeting is being planned between Konnex/State of Idaho/LRED/Custer Co. Commissioners on Aug 29th at 4:00 PM. Commissioner Corgatelli and Commissioner Smith agreed to attend via computer connection. The Board discussed upcoming issues for law enforcement that include additional deputies/more wages/lack of housing that will be directly connected to the mine expansion. Possible development of the County property along the Mackay Reservoir was discussed and Mike would like to meet again with the Commissioners on this subject.

Commissioner Smith updated those in attendance on the water issues that are affecting IDWR water basin #34 the Lost River drainage. The decision made by the State of Idaho will directly affect many layers of the local economy. Agriculture land with no water becomes valueless and will cause not only the owners to be bankrupt, but will also bankrupt the agricultural counties budgets.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:19 PM. The meeting was reconvened at 1:30 PM with Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Zollinger, Commissioner Smith, Will Naillon and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attending.

After review of the minutes, Commissioner Smith moved that the 7-31-24 Commissioner Meeting Minutes be approved as written. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith then moved to approve the minutes of the 8-20-24 Emergency Meeting as presented. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it carried.

Claims: Commissioner Zollinger inquired about specific invoices that were verified and discussed. Commissioner Zollinger then moved that the following claims be approved and paid with the addition of \$627.50 in travel for Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	28,535.06
Road & Bridge	267,822.91
Battleground Mosquito	221.46
District Court	6,566.13
Fair	3,000.00
Rodeo Grounds	152.87
Revaluation	13,932.50
Solid Waste	3,297.19
Weeds	282.08
Waterways	2,075.29
PILT	3,925.63
LACTF	90,043.99
Auditors Trust	<u>244.75</u>
TOTAL	420,099.86

The meeting was recessed at 1:51 PM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. The meeting was reconvened at 1:53 PM.

The BLM scoping information on the DD Gold/Dennis Rovetto mining claim proposal was reviewed by the Board. A letter of support for this venture was requested and will be written.

Commissioner Smith outlined his plans to lay a wreath at the "Unknown Soldier Monument" in Washington D.C. while he is there attending NACO meetings. The choice of wreaths was then made. Commissioner Zollinger made a motion that Custer County pay up to \$200.00 for the wreath. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Discussion was held on the communications upgrade that Custer County is currently working on. The many issues that have been dealt with on repeater sites, as well as the remote power requirements involved.

Stanley Housing: Commissioner Smith then outlined the items at Stanley Deputy housing that need completion yet. The wood heating stove still needs to be hooked up, and upstairs handrails need to be installed. The smoke and carbon monoxide alarms have been installed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(f) for Legal at 2:19 PM Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Zollinger, Commissioner Corgatelli, Will Naillon and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 2:23 PM. Commissioner Zollinger made a motion to authorize Commissioner Smith to get HVAC bids for the needed work at the deputy housing. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

Commissioner Zollinger provided names of HVAC providers that he knew. Discussion then turned to the solid waste issues that are looming ahead and how incineration/generation could be the answer in the future. The ever-increasing weed problems that are occurring within the county were discussed and possible future mitigation methods.

The meeting was recessed at 2:55 PM for travel back to Challis. The meeting reconvened at 4:00 in the Commissioners Room at the courthouse.

Liquor License: The following list of eight Custer County business submitted their applications for a 2024/2025 Liquor License. Commissioner Smith made the motions for approval, Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motions and the motions passed unanimously. (1) R.W. Stanley Cooperative; (2) 9 Peaks Restaurant & Lounge; (3) River Park Gold Course; (4) DDL & J Inc./Lamb's Foodtown; (5) Challis Golf Course; (6) Bux's Place; (7) L7 Bar & Grill; (8) Richard L. Miller Inc./Sammy's.

Commissioner Smith delivered a check in payment of the charges that were added to his Custer County tab to cover a breakfast enjoyed by his wife at the last NACO meetings. Smith then informed the Board of his conversation with Mike Stowell/ITD on the water supply issues at the Stanley deputy housing compound. He understands that the SNRA permit for use of the property needs to be in Custer County's name before any further progress can be made toward drilling a well for the County water supply.

Great West Engineering/Travis Pyle: A zoom meeting connection was set up to meet with Travis Pyle and discuss solid waste issues. Attending were Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker, Wendell Gohn/Blue Mtn. Refuse and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. At 4:45 it was agreed that Travis would not be joining the call. Clerk Lura Baker explained the heavy workload that the Assessor's Office is currently under and how that office would not be able to do the work that Great West is requesting. The Board of Commissioners and Wendell Gohn discussed the solid waste situation in the Stanley area as well as the ramifications of Custer County garbage going into Blaine County for disposal. Wendell Gohn offered the current tipping fee being charged to Custer County by the Lemhi Co. landfill; it is at \$52.00 per ton

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.




Randy Corgatelli, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:



Lura H. Baker, Clerk