

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
January 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, and R&B Supt. Brandon Jones in attendance. Commissioner Steve Smith attended via telephone connection. The agenda was amended to include Aletia Straub-Workman/Probation at 11:30 AM.

First order of business was the discussion of Board Officers for 2022. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the officers remain the same as 2021, Chairman Wayne Butts, and Vice Chairman Randy Corgatelli. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. Committee appointments were then discussed. The Planning & Zoning Board still needs a representative from the Stanley area, and the Water Ways Committee needs additional members. Commissioner Corgatelli suggested reaching out to the River Outfitters. It was decided to keep the Board's local committee liaison assignments the same as 2021. Commissioner Smith will oversee the Fair Board, Commissioner Butts will oversee the N. Custer Rodeo Committee & S Custer Ambulance Dist., and Commissioner Corgatelli will oversee the Water Ways Committee. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion that Clerk Lura Baker remain the Custer County Risk Manager. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried.

**Road & Bridge:** Brandon Jones, Superintendent attended and reported that he has talked to Justin Oleson, Prosecutor about the Hamm roller situation. The "Lemon Law" does not apply to equipment in Idaho, only vehicles. The County still owes the repair bill for repairing this roller. Discussion was held and the payment will be included in the Claims to be approved. Brandon has learned that the JUB Public Open House for the Garden Cr. Road changes will be held in late April, due to the current Covid situation and winter travel conditions. Custer County has applied for the LHTAC Phase II – Garden Cr. Road. It will cover the costs at 100% with no match required. Brandon has scheduled an iWorq's training for Janene and himself on January 21<sup>st</sup>. They will be updating the system and tailoring it to the needs of Custer County Road & Bridge. Getting the R & B automated fuel system installed is Brandon's next agenda item. He has researched the best company to work with, and the Twin Falls, Leonard Petroleum Co. will be called. The purchase of the Dura-Patching Unit through the 308 Grant went well. Brandon is looking to purchase a replacement dump truck next year and will be contacting Kenworth and providing his bid specifications soon. He is working with Jolie and CEDA on a R&B wish list and the corresponding grant applications needed. Travis Hardy is living way up Yankee Fork and has contacted Road & Bridge about pushing the snow berms back on his section of road. Travis is plowing the access himself, but cannot push the snow berms back with his smaller plow. Brandon will contact the SNRA and keep them apprised of the situation. The Board agreed that it needed to be done.

The Board then discussed their 2021 committee assignments and all agreed that they would keep them the same.

Commissioner Butts: CEDA, Magistrate Commission, and District 7 Health.

Commissioner Corgatelli: Payroll, High Country RC&D, and ECIPDA

Commissioner Smith: RDA, County Fair Board and Lost River Economic Development.

The Custer County signature cards at Wells Fargo Bank were reviewed. Currently listed are Allicyn Latimer/Treasurer, Lura H. Baker/Clerk, Wayne F. Butts/Commission Chairman and Verla Harvey/Treasurer Chief Deputy. Commissioner Smith moved that they remain the same for 2022, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Butts has delivered the new design elements for the Sheriff's Office to Trent Roman for new drawings. It was decided to begin on County Policy updates February 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the commissioner's room. Clerk Lura Baker will provide new copies. Commissioner Smith has finished installing the shelving in the County Agent's storage shed. He kept the extra nails, and will pay Allied Builders for them. Commissioner Butts discussed the shelving needed for the Konnex unit behind the courthouse. We need to free up some of the shelves in the communications room to be able to move items. The board members all reviewed the proposed shelving. They will be purchased once the shelf width is known. The Redfish Lake Agreement still needs to be completed for boat mooring rules. An agreeable time for a Redfish Lake meeting needs to be set soon.

**Assessor:** Jacquell Bruno attended and provided a correction for one of the tax cancellations done at the last meeting. The total dollar amount is unchanged, but #B00210001175 needs to be split between Mobile Home and Land. The MH#B00210001175 will be for \$67.00, and the RP#B00210001175 will be for \$82.00. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the correction be approved and made to the 2021 tax cancellation. Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Butts reviewed the Associated Taxpayers of Idaho meeting that he attended in Boise last week. Those that attended felt that the smaller counties in Idaho need to contact their legislators and request “Truth and Transparency” like Utah has. The “Targeted Relief” and the Payment Options were then discussed. Jacquell is currently working on her new 5 Year Plan that is due in February. The Stanley area (Section 7) is scheduled for review this year. The timber exemptions and the 4 mine operations will be looked into. Jeremy Dixon/Appraiser is revamping his contract

**Treasurer:** Allicyn Latimer attended and reported that 2.5 million in tax payments (67%) have been collected to date. Chairman Butts inquired about the TVI investment, as per the Auditors request to follow the County Investment Policy. Allicyn agreed to check into these bonds and report back to the board. Chairman Butts then inquired to the Treasurer about getting a credit card with just “Custer County” as the payee. She found that a credit card must have a person’s name on it to be valid. Commissioner Smith suggested that a pre-paid credit card system could be utilized. Jolie Turek/CEDA attended the meeting and inquired about where to get a Custer County Employee ID card. She was informed that they can be gotten at the Sheriff’s office.

**CEDA/ Jolie Turek:** Chairman Butts inquired if Jolie could assist in forming a Custer County Committee that could assist the Commissioners with grant applications. The federal agencies are currently endowed with ample funds that they need to get out on the ground. The “Anchor Project” that Commissioner Butts suggested was an affordable method of heating our school buildings via the “Bio-Fuels Project”. This type of heating system is currently being used in Garden Valley and Council, Idaho schools. Possibilities of recruiting community leaders were discussed, and Jolie will contact some folks.

**NRAC:** Jim Hawkins, Chairman attended and reported that the Forest Plan Revision is starting up again. Verification that Custer County has a seat at the FPR table has been received from Mary Farnsworth, USFS Western Regional Director. Reports of the new District Ranger taking a tour with Western Watersheds through Copper Basin are circulating. The grazing allotment holder is upset and wondering why he wasn’t invited to go on the tour also. Jim reported that American Stewards/Margaret Byfield has agreed to put on a Coordination Training Session for Custer County in March or April. Jim will verify the actual date with Jolie and reserve the Community Center for the training. The recent USFS meeting that the Commissioners attended about the Bio-fuels project feasibility was then reviewed. Commissioner Butts understands that they require an “anchor project” to build upon, and he suggested heating the local school buildings. Jim requested a copy of the study and their listing of timber inventory. Commissioner Butts is getting a partial copy, and will get the information if at all possible. The NRAC still needs a copy of Faith Ryan’s range plan notes. He requested the Board of Commissioner’s send a letter of request, as he is getting no response to his requests as NRAC Chairman. The final subject needing review is progress on the Wolf Regulations by the Idaho Fish & Game. They need to be reminded that they need to “Coordinate with the County” on this subject.

**Probation:** Aletia Straub-Workman attended and reported on a situation she is facing.

**Clerk:** Lura reported on her grant efforts for the Mackay Dam. She needs to have a new SF-424 form signed by the Board. The Election Precincts for Custer County need to be established for 2022. There are currently nine (9) precincts. Challis, Round Valley I, Round Valley II, Mackay, Leslie, Battle Ground, Sunol, Clayton and Stanley. The Clayton area has grown and it will need to be changed out of a “mail ballot precinct” because there are 160 registered voters living there now. Commissioner Smith moved that the above-named election precincts be established and approved, with Clayton returning to a regular precinct. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

There has been an appeal filed on the CUP for the U.S. Calcium Mine. The LRED 2022 Contribution amount was then discussed. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that \$5,000.00 be sent to LRED, Commissioner Butts seconded

and the motion carried. Commissioner Smith abstained from the motion as he is a member of Lost River Economic Development. Lura passed on the BLM Trail Committee meeting time of January 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM in Challis. The USFS request for comments on the small NEPA projects they are currently scoping was also passed on. Mary Darling of Darling Geomatics has responded to the Boards request for assistance with the latest BLM Sage Grouse letter. Lura provided the SHSP 2018 Grant extension paperwork and collected the needed Board signature. The 2021 Financial Audit for Custer County is complete, and copies were provided to the Board members. The State Tax Commission meeting that Commissioner Butts via Zoom was then reviewed. Clerk Baker then reviewed the time-consuming process that will be involved in closing out the City of Lost River. A petition needs to be signed by the homeowners in the area, and they are mostly summer homes. The matter then goes on the ballot for a vote. Her office has been unable to dedicate the time or personnel needed for this project.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 and reconvened at 1:30 PM. Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attended. The Federal Agency representatives attending were Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River Ranger District, Heath Perrine/Challis Yankee Fork Ranger Dist., Clayton Collins/Middle Fork Ranger Dist., Dave Hilliard/BLM, and Bobbi Filbert/SNRA.

Middle Fork RD report was given by Clayton Collins. He informed the Board of the drought letter that will be sent to the grazing permit holders soon. As of 1/7/22 the local region is still under moderate drought conditions and the USFS will monitor each allotment on a case by case basis to prevent further damage. The current Range Cons are Bryce Jones/North Zone and Jessica Fisher/South Zone.

BLM report given by Dave Hilliard covered the same type of drought letter that will be sent to their permit holders. The Thompson Cr. Mine is moving into Phase 8 of their original plan of operations. The BLM office has received applications for the Range Con position and they hope to be back to full staff soon.

Challis-Yankee For RD report by Heath Perrine covered the objections and responses from the usual groups on their Bayhorse projects. Their scoping comment period has been extended for the Small NEPA projects. The Forest Plan Revision is starting up again and there will be an inhouse strategy meeting soon. Chairman Butts inquired about Custer County having their promised seat at the planning table? Heath felt it was still at the internal planning stage. They are working to improve the SNRA satellite campsites with the Great American Outdoors Act funding. They will replace picnic tables, rebuild fire rings and do general re-habilitation work. They are utilizing the BAER (Burned Area Emergency Response) Funds for Boundary Fire rehabilitation. A large amount will go for weed control and the rest for road repairs, trail work, new signs and to replace a footbridge near Seafoam. They are currently working on filling the Recreation job opening left open when Jodi Wisner transferred. The seasonal workforce is in the hiring phase right now. Commissioner Butts updated Heath on the Morgan Cr. road situation, with USFS heavy load restrictions directly affecting Challis area business' and workers. Clayton offered Britton Glenwood, SO Geologist as a resource for heavy load information needed.

Lost River RD report was provided by Jonathan LeBlanc. They are also getting ready to send out drought letters to the permit holders, with the same case by case review process. They are also working on completing the scoping for their upcoming projects.

SNRA report was given by Bobbi Filbert. Her office is working on renewing the Outfitters & Guides 10 year river permits. The NEPA is almost complete for the SREC Stanley outpost project. The permit will be issued soon and they hope to begin construction this spring. NEPA is almost complete for the remaining DSL phone lines to be installed by Mid-Vale Telephone Exchange. The installation of the new USFS footbridge at Redfish Lake is underway with completion expected this spring. Phase III is in process with tying the trail systems together and re-alignment of some roads. There is a Utilization Plan being worked on by the USFS to address overcrowding of the area. Commissioner Butts reviewed some of the methods that were used by the USFS in the past. Bobbi then reported on their district working on long term staffing issues for Fire & Fuels. The AMFO office is still empty in the Stanley area. Other staffing issues are ongoing, as well as the limited housing in Stanley. Chairman Butts raised the Redfish Lake boat mooring issues. There is currently NO agreement between the SNRA and Custer County, contrary to the article that was printed in the newspaper. Custer County has jurisdiction of the water surface. The USFS has looked at a day limit per stay, as well as additional parking space. Wayne pointed out that Alturas Lake has very little parking and or boat access. Alturas is a large lake and it needs more of both provided for the public. Heath inquired about the County feelings on campground concessionaires? Everyone agreed that overcrowding is

becoming a bigger problem each year. Clerk Lura Baker delivered the Special Use Permit for the Grouse Peak repeater site. Commissioner Smith attended via telephone connection at 2:30 PM.

**Sheriff:** Sheriff Stu Lumpkin and Chief Deputy Justin Mitchell attended. The cookstove for the Stanley housing will be installed next week, once it is delivered. This will complete the repair/remodel job. Stu reported that he has all the Deputy positions filled. Teresa is at POST completing her training. Discussion turned to getting an agreement written up to be sure new employees stay with Custer County at least 2 years once the County provides POST training, or they must reimburse the County for the training costs. Discussion was held on Water Ways deputy John Haugh for this season. Clerk Lura Baker inquired about the status of the Water Ways Grant application for this season? The Board verified that the Sheriff Office building replacement is still in process. The bid will be re-submitted and conform to the newly required procurement process.

**Planning & Zoning:** Jessica Clemenhausen attended and updated the Board on the Antelope area waste tire situation. They will be sent a “summons and complaint” through the Sheriff’s office. Jessica provided the Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law for the Butts re-zone hearing to the Board for review. Commissioner Butts excused himself from the decision process. Commissioner Smith moved that the Findings of Facts be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

The Board sent a letter to Mary Darling, Darling Geomatics enlisting her help with the latest BLM Sage Grouse issues. Their letter of acceptance was reviewed, approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the minutes of the 12/29/2021 Commissioners meeting be approved. Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion carried.

**Claims:** Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the following claims be approved and paid with the additions of \$453.37 for Allied Builders Supply, and \$4,717.00 for Honnen Equipment Co, Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	27,657.93
Road & Bridge	10,922.88
Election Fund	210.65
District Court	4,494.61
Rodeo Grounds	79.90
Indigent	4,205.00
Revaluation	1,696.00
Solid Waste	5,124.07
Weeds	384.81
Emergency Communications	1,121.57
Auditors Trust	<u>173.25</u>
TOTAL	\$ 56,070.67

The meeting was recessed for South Custer Ambulance District at 3:14 PM, and reconvened again at 3:19 PM.

Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 3:20. The motion was cancelled as dogs are not personnel. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(d) for Indigent at 3:32. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 3:45 PM.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

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Wayne F. Butts, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:

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Lura H. Baker, Clerk