

Custer County Commissioners
Communications Workshop
Special Meeting
October 10, 2024

The Special meeting for a Communications Workshop was called to order at 1:00 PM in the Commissioners Room at the Custer County Courthouse. Attending were Chairman Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker, Gordon Vaden, Will Naillon, Emergency Services Director-Lisa Benson, Sheriff Levi Maydole and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins.

Commissioner Smith has received word that Natalie Tiechert, Fair Board Secretary is stepping down from the position. The Fair Board is aware of others that are interested in the job, and it will be discussed at the next Fair Board meeting on October 21st.

Clerk Lura Baker provided the Board Members with an explanation of FY2024 budget funds available for Communications expenses. The amount that will need to be paid upon the Execution of the Contract is \$757,236.00 which is 25% of the Total Contract cost of \$4,031,316.00. Discussion turned to finding funding for such a huge project. TUSA has suggested looking into "Government Loans" and perhaps spreading out the payments over 15-years. Lisa Benson inquired about the urgency of getting the contract signed, and how long we have to decide? Clerk Lura Baker felt that the County needs some awarded grants to pay for this project. The current PILT funds have been earmarked for other projects. The funds that are remaining in the Communications – Contracts line are \$750,000.00. Commissioner Zollinger suggested the County contact Valley County about how they funded their communications project. Commissioner Corgatelli would like to see some Grant funding in hand, before the contract is agreed to. Clerk Baker suggested that the rest of Custer County Emergency Services, such as the Fire Departments, Clinic, Ambulance's and the Search & Rescue attend and participate in finding available grant funding. This county wide communications system will benefit them also. Chairman Corgatelli suggested contacting the Steele Reese Foundation about grant funding.

Lisa Benson has found some grant possibilities with Motorola and also through FEMA/IPAWS. Commissioner Smith suggested Lexipol be contacted about funding possibilities. Lisa has agreed to contact the Ambulance, Clinic and Fire Departments. Clerk Baker suggested scheduling a public hearing to get the blessing of the taxpayers. Sheriff Levi Maydole reminded everyone of the need for a grant writer and a grant manager. Names were suggested; Trent VanLuven, Jody Waslow, and Kate Taylor.

Chairman Randy Corgatelli inquired about Star Link and if it could be utilized to fill the communication needs. Each Deputy could have a "Star Link base-station" in their vehicle. Sheriff Maydole explained that it is similar coverage, but uses a different method of connecting and will not interface with the radio system. Commissioner Zollinger inquired about the funding methods used by Clark and Blaine Counties when they did their communication systems. Possible dates available for decision making were listed as Oct. 15th- for a Grant update, Oct. 30th and Nov. 12th. Commissioner Smith agreed to contact Valley County and CHC. Clerk Lura Baker agreed to contact the EICU. Lisa agreed to contact Clark County, Blaine County, White Cloud Communications, IOEM, and the Steele Reece Foundation.

Clerk Baker needs approval of the Resolution to participate with the American Lands Council and the State of Utah in their legal action. Resolution #2024-11 Supporting Utah v. United States Legal Action was read and confirmed that the membership funds will be paid to the ALC.

Unfinished business was the un-named lake in the Copper Basin area. The Board members have talked to Jerry Jarvis, Tom Jarvis and Preston Bell. None of these long-time area residents knew of any previous name for the lake. Commissioner Smith stated that he was against the endearment names offered. Clerk Baker will contact Mr. Yavorsky and see if there are any additional name choices.

With no further business before then the Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 2:50 PM.



Lura Baker

Attest: Clerk Lura Baker

for 
Chairman, Randy Corgatelli