

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
October 14, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM in the Custer County Commissioners Room by Vice Chairman Commissioner Will Naillon. Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Commissioner Corgatelli was unable to attend due to medical appointments.

Commissioner Vaden moved to amend the agenda and put Clerk at 8:00 AM. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed.

Clerk: County Clerk Lura Baker provided information from the City of Stanley on their plans to annex the property where the workforce housing will be erected. The Board of Commissioners have also received a letter from the City of Stanley about this plan. Clerk Baker explained the state statute that needs to be followed.

Commissioner Vaden moved to go into executive session at 8:25 AM for legal under 74-206(1)(f). Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Those attending were Commissioner Vaden, Commissioner Naillon, Brandon Jones, Clerk Baker and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. No decisions were made and the meeting returned to regular session at 8:28 AM.

Road & Bridge: Commissioner Naillon shared information that the DEQ Compliance Officer, John Schroder will be coming to tour the Custer County solid waste transfer sites on Friday, October 17th. He will begin his tour at the Mackay site, then move to Challis and finally the Stanley site. Road & Bridge Supervisor Brandon presented his planned purchases of a new Cat backhoe at a cost of \$148,371.35 and the snow wing attachment for the new road grader at a cost of \$22,693.00. These purchases were planned during the 2025 season but needed to wait for the new fiscal year for payment. Commissioner Vaden moved to approve the above listed purchases as well as the purchase of a 2500 pickup truck at a cost no to exceed \$55,000.00 by the Road and Bridge Department. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Brandon then reviewed the recent department purchase of a mobile sign trailer and how well it has worked. He has funds left in the 2025 budget that could purchase another mobile sign trailer, so there is driver notification at both ends of their construction jobs. After discussion Commissioner Vaden moved to approved the purchase of a mobile message trailer at a cost of \$19,226.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Discussion then moved to Stephens Road and what is involved in maintaining that section of road.

Solid Waste: Brandon reported the new signage needed at the Stanley Rural Drop Box site is currently being printed and will be installed as soon as it is received. The overhead doors on the Stanley solid waste building still need to be adjusted, and he will get the job set up. Wendell Gohn/Blue Mountain Refuse attended to discuss the Lemhi County tipping fee stance. Commissioner Vaden and Commissioner Naillon have attempted to discuss some easing of the tipping cost for Custer County to no avail. All attending voiced the need for a future Custer County Solid Waste Plan. Additional equipment and personnel need to be addressed. Wendell felt a compactor was one of the first needs, while Commissioner Naillon felt it might be a building at the Challis Transfer Site. A list of Lemhi Co. solid waste fees was found listed on Facebook, and Commissioner Naillon will contact Lemhi Co. and verify their accuracy. Commissioner Vaden has looked into solid waste trailers and the high costs involved.

Stephens Road: Gem Mercer attended along with other resident of Stephens Road. Commissioner Naillon recused himself from any decisions or directions about this road, as he lives along Stephens Road. Gem expressed her concern about the rough road conditions, and understands that adequate funding is the main roadblock to changes. Questions were asked about the speed limit signs (handled by the Sheriff's Department) and when the last traffic count was done on this section of road? The Road & Bridge Dept. handles the traffic counts, and Brandon has seen a 60% increase in traffic on ALL Custer County roads. Commissioner Naillon asked what the plan is for this road? Road Supt. Brandon Jones verified that it is a "public road" and any vehicle within the weight limits and traveling at or below the speed limit is legally allowed to utilize the route. Comment was made on the 35 MPH signs that have been along the route for years, that are now knocked down. Brandon will look into getting them back up. Those present felt that "excessive speed" is the main cause of the wash boarding and dust. The best solution of "pavement" is cost prohibitive. Many do not want it paved, as that will speed traffic up even more. Gem stated her concern about small rural counties being unable to get funding assistance. Brandon went over the history of LHTAC grants that Custer County Road & Bridge work with each year. A suggestion was made to try the big city camera-ticket process to slow the traffic down to the speed limit. This would eliminate having a Deputy tied up patrolling the route. The Board of Commissioners offered to speak to the Sheriff about high speeds on Stephens Road.

NRAC: Chairman Jim Hawkins presented an opportunity for the Board of Commissions to weigh in on a wording changed in the IOGA rules. The word "Co-ordination" needs to be utilized in place of "collaboration". NRAC member Louise Stark has been the lead on this issue. Commissioner Vaden made a motion that a letter be written by NRAC to the IOGA Board in support of the Co-ordination wording". Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed.

Certificate of Residency: Upon review; Commissioner Vaden moved to approve the Certificate of Residency received from G. Beck. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed.

Credit Card Applications: Commissioner Vaden moved to approve the use of County credit card for the purchase of 4 chairs for the Prosecutors Office/Court Annex building at a cost of \$423.96. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Vaden then moved to approve the user of the CC credit card for payment of lodging fees for Deputy training at a cost of \$1,259.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Vaden then moved to approve the card use for the Sheriff's Department to pay for @ \$39.99 for the initial cost then \$29.99 per month thereafter.

The Board of Commissioners recessed the meeting to go into South Custer Ambulance at 10:40 and returned to regular session at 10:42.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer attended and spoke to the Board about compensation payments between departments. She is very concerned about being able to retain quality employees when the wages are not what they should be. Clerk Baker expressed her opinion on why employees stay in elected positions, and it is not always the money. Commissioner Naillon agreed that the compensation conversation needs to be held by the entire Board of Commissioners.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica Clemenhausen and Lynsey Harris attended and presented the Stanley Annex Proposal. After some details were questioned, Commissioner Naillon called Mayor Steve Botti to get more information. Mr. Botti informed the Board that the Stanley City Area of Impact was already completed through the courts. The details will be verified before proceeding.

P&Z has received a road name request from Charlie Thompson with Aspen Bench Lane and Aspen Gulch as his first two choices. Commissioner Vaden made a motion to approve the name request with the first choice of "Aspen Bench Lane" that is within the Aspen Gulch Subdivision. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed.

Jessica then informed the Board about a lighting complaint that she has received. She read the ordinance and presented the evidence photos that she received. The Board verified that this was the only complaint she has received in this area, and suggested she do some further research before responding.

Jessica then presented the final draft of the Custer County Comprehensive Plan from Tom Coates. Each Board member received a copy for their review. Clerk Baker reminded everyone of some zoning changes that need to be included in the plan before it is finalized.

Clerk: Commissioner Vaden moved to go into executive session at 11:22 AM for legal under 74-206(1)(f). Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Those attending were Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Clerk Lura Baker, and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. No decisions were made and the meeting returned to regular session at 11:23 AM. IT issues were then discussed and the need for Custer County to move from a server to a cloud system. Commissioner Naillon asked if Jonathan would come and do a presentation on the benefits, problems and costs of making such a change. The Court Annex is still not completed. The pews for audience seating have been installed, but the office desks are not on site yet. Clerk Baker gave the Board copies of the proposed ADA Transition Plan for review before the next meeting.

Commissioner Vaden moved to go into executive session at 11:40 AM for personnel under 74-206(1)(a). Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Those attending were Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Clerk Lura Baker, and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. No decisions were made and the meeting returned to regular session at 11:45 AM

Commissioner Vaden made a motion to approve the minutes of the 9/22/2025 Commissioners meeting as presented. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it carried. Commissioner Vaden then moved to approve the minutes of the 8/27/2025 Budget Hearing. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Vaden moved to approve the minutes of the 10/6/2025 Special meeting and public hearing for the Upper Big Lost River Ground Water District. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. The application for Federal Surplus Property Program was reviewed and updated. Commissioner Vaden moved to approved the new application and signatures. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Tina will get the required signatures before sending the application in.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 and reconvened at 1:30 PM. Attending were Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Clerk Lura Baker and Secretary Tina Hawkins.

Agencies: Ryan Hilton with the Idaho Fish & Game attended. He reported that the general deer and elk seasons are open and activity at check stations are somewhat slower than last year. They have checked in some very big Bighorn Rams so far this year. The big game counts for Mountain Goats and Bighorn sheep will begin this fall/winter. They will also be doing a mountain valley survey on deer with helicopters in January & February. This will include the Lemhi Valley, Pahsimeroi Valley, Lost River Valley, Little Lost River Valley and Sawtooth Valley. The Pronghorn Antelope counts are way up in the Sawtooth Valley from the past, so there will possibly be more tags coming in that area. Sage grouse season will close on Oct, 31st. The steelhead runs are looking to be about two weeks later than last year, probably due to the warmer temperatures. Commissioner Naillon inquired about the negotiated rule making process.

Sheriff: Chief Deputy Mike Newmeyer, Lt. Justin Mitchell and Deputy Bryden Brewer attended. Mike provided the monthly report to the Board. There are two inmates out of county currently. The Law Enforcement Contracts have been completed with Challis, Mackay and Stanley. Commissioner Vaden moved to go into executive session at 2:05

PM for personnel under 74-206(1)(a). Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Those attending were Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Mike Newmeyer, Justin Mitchell, Brydon Brewer, and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. No decisions were made and the meeting returned to regular session at 2:07 PM. The credit cards application was approved for use on the lodging for the training scheduled for Deputy Brewer. The Virtual Academy was then discussed. It is a POST accredited and approved program and all Sheriff Dept. employees will have access to utilize the trainings. The dispatchers could use their down time to get needed training. Commissioner Naillon brought up the original plan presented that Levi would be doing trainings for the department. This Academy has annual access fees of \$1,725.00. This works out to \$69.00 per user. The deputies attempt to make Wednesday their "training" day. The White Cloud Comm. radio upgrade cost breakdown was then reviewed. The original quote was for \$119,653.00 and a possible 1 or 2% increase. Currently the cost is \$143,847.00, which is a 20% increase. A phone call was placed to Eric at White Cloud Communications to get his explanation for the increase. Eric stated "a lot more gateways were required than originally thought". Commissioner Vaden inquired about what a "gateway" was? A gateway is a unit that takes random radio signals and integrates them into your dispatch system. Such as what a rural fire department might use, or a remote EMS provider. Commissioner Vaden moved to increase the payment to White Cloud Communications for the dispatch console to a total of \$143,847.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed.

The Stanley deputy housing units were then discussed. Mike understands that the upstairs heaters in one of the cabins are not working. The stackable washer and dryer that are in one unit were originally purchased by Deputy Mike Newmeyer. Would the county consider purchasing them? The Board agreed to consider the offer.

Emergency Services: Lisa Benson attended with her monthly report and brought her official badge to view. She is still struggling with her computer and can't get it to work. The board told her to get with the County IT person and get it fixed. The upcoming IOEM (Idaho Office of Emergency Management) Conference in Moscow was discussed. The Commissioners meeting on Monday Oct. 27th will directly interfere with the conference that begins on Tuesday. With Commissioner Corgatelli out on medical leave, his attendance at the Monday meeting is mandatory or the meeting must be cancelled.

Claims: Commissioner Vaden moved that the following FY2025 claims be approved in the amount of \$725,045.36. This includes one addition for Will Naillon of \$2,450.47. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	61,799.25
Road & Bridge	575,727.15
Battleground Mosq.	794.82
Election Fund	19,383.60
District Court	100.00
Rodeo Grounds	22.18
Health District	12,959.25
Revaluation	12,268.52
Solid Waste	5,000.79
Weeds	107.19

Waterways	120.23
Em. Comm.	370.73
Auditors Trust	<u>36,391.65</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$725,045.36</u>

Commissioner Vaden then moved that the FY2026 Claims be approved in the amount of \$75,289.47. This will include the payments for Road & Bridge and LRED approved in the meeting.

Current Expense	50,926.79
Road & Bridge	22,508.73
District Court	215.89
Rodeo Grounds	82.43
Revaluation	325.00
Weeds	54.11
Waterways	388.00
Em. Comm.	<u>788.52</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$75,289.47</u>

The meeting was recessed to go back into South Custer Ambulance for claims at 3:57 PM. Returned to regular session at 3:58 PM. Commissioner Vaden moved to approve a contribution to Lost River Economic Development in the amount of \$6,000.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion carried. Commissioner Vaden then moved to approve the bid amount received from Tucker Flaten for fuels and fire mitigation in the amount of \$59,640.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed.

Discussion was then held on a possible dedication of the new Custer County Court Annex Building by the local Masons. It was agreed that such a dedication would be fine. Secretary Hawkins will contact the local Mason representative Doug Hammond with the approval.

With no further business before the Board of Commissioner the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.



Will Naillon, Vice Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:

Lura H. Baker, Clerk