

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
November 14, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Commissioners Steve Smith, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, R&B Supervisor Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Clerk Lura Baker attended via phone connection. Karma Bragg Custer Soil and Water Conservation District also attended.

Weeds: Brett reported that the Natural Resource Day at the schools went well. He was amazed at how well all the little kids behaved. He is getting pressure from ISDA to provide a cost share program for Custer County. Lemhi Weed Supt. "Sherray" is helping Brett with the 200+ page application and what is required. Commissioner Smith inquired about Butte County's cost share program. Brett is not aware that they have one. He will get the older white Ford pickup on the Federal Surplus site by the next meeting.

Road & Bridge: Karma is working on the wetland mitigation for the Garden Creek Road project. She needs to get additional signatures due to the timing of the 404 Permit. The planting that was planned for this fall will be done in the spring, as they had problems getting the plants. The CSWCD Open House went well and had a good attendance, as did the Natural Resource Day event. Karma asked to be on the agenda for the next meeting for BPA/USBWP (Upper Salmon Basin Water Project). Brandon provided information on the Snow Plow Agreement request he has from Jeremy Waite to plow snow off his mine access road. The standard agreement was reviewed and the amount of the required bond was discussed. Commissioner Smith moved that the Bond amount be set at \$3,000.00 and the authorization be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Brandon reported that the Phase II FLAP Grant application for Garden Cr. Road was not successful. A meeting about the Bayhorse Bridge is set for Monday, November 21st at 11:00 AM at the BLM Bayhorse Campground. Those invited to attend are Custer Co. Commissioners, Road & Bridge Dept., BLM, ID Fish & Game, ID Transportation Dept., LHTAC, and the ID Dept. of Parks and Recreation. Commissioner Butts and Brandon have already met with Gary Peterson on the bridge project and know his wishes. Brandon is wanting to get this application in while the county match percentage is still 0. Brandon will be meeting with Howard Cutler also. Brandon then reported that the scrap metal pile at the Road & Bridge shop is ready to be shipped. The local scales are not in service right now so could be a problem. He has received the Schedule A Road Maintenance Agreement from the SNRA for signature. They are wanting to add the Stanley Lake Road to the agreement. It has been chip sealed this past year and will not be a problem. There are still major problems with the Iron Cr. road maintenance. The SNRA understands that it needs better quality road materials hauled in, and want to make a contract with Custer Co. R&B to get enough good quality road materials hauled in to fix the first 1/3 of the Iron Cr. road. Brandon figures it will take about 2 weeks to get the job done. Custer Counties share of the job will be approximately \$30,000 worth of match in the equipment and manpower. The Board agreed that the job needs to be done and approved Brandon to continue with repair plans with the SNRA. The hydraulic plow bid for the 2008 International Paystar 4X4 plow truck came in at \$11,375.00. He has other mechanical plow bids coming also. The 4x4 truck is too tall for a dump truck, so they will use it as a sander and a water truck. The scissor lift bed that has been removed will be traded toward the 4000-gal steel water tank that is needed. Brandon is working with Levi on purchasing of the Conex storage trailers, and Levi has the prices. The Road & Bridge needs to purchase two radios for their trucks. One is for the new Paystar truck and the other is a replacement. Funding options were discussed, and the Board agreed that the radios are necessary. Commissioner Smith inquired about any further progress on the roller that was wrecked? Brandon has not been updated, but understands that CAT has a new roller in stock to replace it if it is totaled. The Idaho 2022 Local Transportation Convention in Coeur d'Alene is the 15, 16 and 17th of November, and Brandon and Ryan will be attending. They will be returning on Friday.

Commissioner Corgatelli moved to go into executive session at 9:10 AM for Legal under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f), the motion was 2nd by Commissioner Smith and the roll call yes vote was unanimous. Attending this session were Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli and Commissioner Smith, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. Clerk Lura Baker attended via phone. No decisions were made during this session. Upon return to regular session at 9:25 AM.

Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the Public Defender Contract with Trevor Castleton be approved and signed. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

The letter of invitation to participate in the Sage Grouse Mitigation process was reviewed and the Board decided that Custer County should request the assistance of Mary Darling at Darling Geomatics.

Firewise: Bids have been received from Brad Tucker and are quite high for work in the Iron Creek Subdivision area. The SRS funds will be coming to the county in the spring. Acquisition of wood splitters for the community wood programs were also discussed.

Gem Plan nominations are open. Commissioner Smith moved that Greg Shenton be nominated, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer attended and reported on the difficulties she had trying to get monies transferred in the Wells Fargo banking system. She finally resorted to personally driving the deposit to Salmon. She is now looking into moving the accounts to a more workable bank.

Election Canvass: November 8th election Poll books and tally books were brought to the meeting by Kristen Walker and Tanae McAfee. The Board members looked over the books and Kristen fielded their questions. They were set aside for the 10:45 appointment.

Challis Trails Update: Gabriella Lukins and Josh Travers, BLM Field Manager attended. Jolie Turek was unable to attend. Gabby introduced herself, she is the Outdoor Recreation Planner at the BLM office. She reviewed the Trails Collaborative group and all groups that are members. They provide trail-based opportunities and a new trail system to connect the Challis municipal area to the State and Federal trail networks. Their #1 Project is the Challis Foothills Trail. They are building single track type trails, as well as ATV trails. They have installed three new informational kiosks this year. They will be hosting a High School Mountain Bike Race this coming year. Currently the BLM has 20 miles of trails and the City of Challis has 10 miles of trails in the area. The monthly meeting is held at the BLM office and the next one is Jan. 10th – 9:00 AM. Josh attended in support of Gabby and to hear the Commissioners comments.

The Board then continued and completed the canvass process. Commissioner Smith moved that the November 8th 2022 election canvass be approved as given. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

Matt Balderree/INL: Matt introduced himself and explained he works in unmanned aircraft systems, or drones mainly with the Department of Defense. He is required to get a COA (Certificate of Authorization) when he utilizes his drones, and he is needing one for the area around the Mackay reservoir and the Mackay Airport. Flights will be from 50' to ground level, and the drones fly from 45 to 70 mph. They have up to a 100-pound payload and do photo work as well as send radio signals. They would like to set up operations at the Mackay airport, as they need 1000 foot of airstrip to lift off and land. They will work two to four times a year, for a week at a time. The drone flight plans would go out from the airport to the reservoir within a specific altitude. Matt expressed his willingness to be transparent and informative for the public. The Board expressed their appreciation of his information.

The meeting was recessed at 12:00 for lunch. The meeting reconvened at 1:30 with Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attending.

AGENCIES: Attending were Josh Travers/BLM, Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River RD, Heath Perrine/Challis RD and Clayton Collins/Middle Fork RD.

Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger District: Heath Perrine reported the controlled burns are all finished for this season. They burnt 250 acres on Grouse Peak and it turned out good. He offered a spring time tour of the burned area for the Board of Commissioners. They have also burned most of the slash piles along Highway 21, but were snowed out of the Bonanza slash pile burning plans. The forest wide fuels reduction plan has been signed by Chuck Mark. It will be done with prescribed burns and thinning projects. The South Zone timber sales for this year were

4,209.88. The Mill Creek and Eight Mile sales are still open. They have a new Silva-culturist on staff, Arron Pierson. The re-route of the Ramey Cr. road is still on track. They are working with the Trails Group on two projects. Grouse Peak is being looked at for recreational trails that can be accessed from the Challis Hot Springs area, and Big Hill is being reviewed for bike trails as well as winter trails. USFS Law Enforcement Officer Carl Stocker has retired, so they have no LEO at this time. Commissioner Butts inquired about the Wilderness Charter being written for the two newest wilderness areas, and asked why the Commissioners have not been included in the process through coordination? Heath will be sure they get included.

Middle Fork Ranger District: Clayton Collins reported that the grazing season is about wrapped up. One citation was issued on the Garden Creek allotment. They are working with the ISDA on a MOU on range monitoring protocols. This will enable permittees to submit their own monitoring figures, as well as the BLM and USFS in a consistent method.

Lost River Ranger District: Jonathan reported that his allotment surveys are about complete and they did pretty well, having only minor issues. He informed the Board about the Castle Creek Pipeline Project. They are now working on water rights with the ID Dept of Water Resources. The USFS will complete the NEPA process for the project. Board discussion was held on USFS procurement of Idaho water rights. Jonathan reported that the Mount Bora trailhead project is still moving slowly forward, and more work will be done this spring. The log containing metal bars and spikes that was blocking a public trail, has been removed by his personnel. The Board thanked him for his action on the matter.

BLM: Josh Travers thanked the Board of Commissioners for their attention to the local system of recreational trails. The aerial spray treatment of 860 acres for cheatgrass was completed, as well as 600 acres that were burned and will be reseeded in the Big Creek area in the Pahsimeroi Valley. They are opening permits for Outfitters and Guide opportunities. They will no longer require individual EA's, but will use a blanket Environmental Assessment. The BLM has begun their seasonal hiring early this year. They are looking at the upcoming work load and doing some long-term planning.

Sheriff: Stu attended and delivered his monthly report. The POST Academy that was scheduled for January has been cancelled, which will affect his department. This will require sending two new deputies to the May POST Academy to keep up with certifications.

The comments for the Castle Creek Pipeline project were written up by Commissioner Smith. Upon review the Board approved the letter, and it will be put on letterhead and signed by Chairman Butts tomorrow for mailing. The scope of work paperwork for the Sheriff Office annex and the Court annex was then reviewed. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the minutes of the 10/26/22 Commissioners meeting be approved with one typo correction on page 3. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. The Snow Plowing Agreement Proposal for the courthouse was reviewed and discussed. Commissioner Smith has some questions about the pricing and would like some clarification. Commissioner Smith made a motion to hire Mike Pierson to plow the snow if pricing can be clarified. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica inquired about the wording for the P&Z signage they requested to be placed at the county borders. Wording of "Certificates required to build" was decided upon. The signs will be placed on Highway 93, 21, and 75 as well as on Morgan Creek, Summit Creek and Trail Creek. Jessica will get the cost estimate. She has the cease and desist letter ready to send to the Konnex Mine in Mackay, as suggested by Prosecutor Justin Oleson. The Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law and Order for the US Calcium conditional use permit were reviewed. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that they be approved, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. Jessica asked the Board if she could use a vacation day for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and also vacation days for the three days following Christmas, the 27, 28 & 29th. The Board approved her use of vacation.

Commissioner Smith moved that Lisa O'Brien be contacted about taking the Conflict Public Defender position, pending negotiation with Clerk Lura Baker on financial reimbursements and hourly rates. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Chairman Butts called Randy Ivie/S. Custer Ambulance about the recurring AirGas bottle rent charges. After discussing the pro's and con's of renting bottles or owning bottles, it was agreed that Commissioner Butts would contact AirGas and purchase the bottles that South Custer Ambulance uses.

Jessica Clemenhausen returned with copies of the letter she will be sending to the Konnex Mine, once it is cleared by Prosecutor Justin Oleson. She will follow his instructions on getting it sent out properly. The meeting was recessed at 3:50 to go into S. Custer Ambulance. The meeting reconvened at 4:10

Claims:

Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid for FY 2023 with additions of BLM/DOI \$25.00, Personal Sportswear \$166.50, IACRC \$600.00, NACO \$450.00 and Negotiation Services \$14,250.00. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Current Expense	75,478.07
Road & Bridge	206,158.45
Election Fund	755.77
District Court	346.47
Court	8,415.11
Rodeo Grounds	711.82
Indigent	3,282.00
Revaluation	9,423.54
Solid Waste	6,860.12
Weeds	2,547.51
Waterways	9.10
Emergency Communications	6,019.69
<u>Auditors Trust</u>	<u>299.50</u>
TOTAL	320,307.15

Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid for FY 2022. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

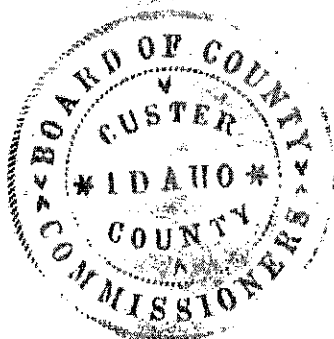
Current Expense / Computer Arts Inc.	\$3,244.50
Road & Bridge / Triumph Tree & Timber	\$1,600.00

The Sheriff's Office propane tank rent fee from Salmon River Propane will be looked into before payment is made.

Assessor: Jacquell Bruno and Prosecutor Justin Oleson attended. Information was exchanged on the upcoming appeals to keep everyone in the loop.

Emergency Management: Levi reviewed the IOEM letter, and will be connecting with Julie to get through the form requirements. He provided a printout of the status of the SHSP Grants that Custer County has. He has gotten 3 quotes from Williams Storage for Conex trailers. The better the condition, the higher the cost. Commissioner Smith moved to approve Emergency Managements purchase a Conex for \$6,300.00. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Smith then moved to approve the Road & Bridge purchase of two Conex units at a cost of \$6,300.00 each. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion was approved. Levi would like to put the storage trailer at the Mackay Solid Waste site. He will contact the City of Mackay and the waste site manager. The Konexus Agreement was then reviewed and signatures affixed. Levi has gotten the new tires put on the big portable generator and it is parked at the Mackay firehall. Levi is still trying to get the Grouse Peak service contract signed, awaiting Cory Arneson's action. Chairman Butts would really like to get the Grouse Peak generator checked over and tested before winter sets in. Levi reported that the 2022 BRIC Grant is in front of FEMA and are 75% complete. The McMillian Information needs to be put into the new form, and he needs a letter from Custer County of support and acceptance. Levi is working with Kevin Whitcomb/BLRID to get support letters from his region. The next meeting with TUSA and Norm Folgers is scheduled for December 13th, 2022.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.



Attest:

Lura H. Baker
Lura H. Baker, Clerk

Wayne F. Butts

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner