

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
December 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioners Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Road & Bridge: Brandon has reviewed the Schedule A road maintenance agreement with SNRA and found an error in the roads listed. He has contacted SNRA and it has been corrected, but he needs Board signatures on the amendment. The proposed work on the Iron Creek Road will be in a separate agreement in 2023. Brandon has also met with the Challis FS and they aren't finished with their end of the Schedule A paperwork. It is expected right after January 1st. The new water truck needs a tank, and Brandon has gotten costs from Diesel Depot. The epoxy lined steel tank would cost around \$25,500.00 and a stainless-steel tank would cost \$47,000.00. Either tank can be used for applying mag-chloride. A regular steel tank would work fine for water, but the mag-chloride would rust it out within 2 or 3 years. The necessary pump system will be an additional \$10,000.00. The Board asked if he could talk to other road departments about their experiences with using the different types of tanks, and Brandon agreed. A Free-Use Permit for the BLM gravel pit on the Pahsimeroi/Cross County Ditch site needs Board signature. The R&B needs to crush 30,000 ton of road materials for the area roads. The Summit gravel pit stockpile will be refilled next year. Commissioner Corgatelli moved the Free Use Permit Application be signed, Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Brandon then presented the 10-year BLM Rip-Rap Permit for 20,000 ton from the East Fork pit. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the 10-year BLM Rip-Rap Permit be approved and signed. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried. A horse was caught in the Bear Creek cattleguard. They were able to cut the cattleguard and release the horse unharmed, but the cattle guard needs repairs. Brandon will be going to repair it right after this meeting. The Annual Road & Street Finance Report has been reviewed. Paragon Consulting assisted R&B with the report. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the 2022 Annual Road & Street Report, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Signed copies of the MOU with JUB/Garden Creek Project were provided to the Board by Clerk Lura Baker and Brandon.

Commissioner Smith moved that the annual contribution for the Custer Soil & Water Conservation District of \$4,000.00 be approved and paid. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Weeds: Brett is planning to place the White ¾ ton Ford weed truck on the federal surplus site when the weather moderates. He has renewed his Applicators license for the coming year, getting 32 credits but only needing 15 for renewal. He is backing away from the State cost share program due to the everchanging requirements and the huge paperwork load just for the application. Each time he gets the application ready, they move the requirement bar. Brett reported on the work his department has done on leafy spurge in the Mackay area. Much of the problem area population is working hard on spurge control. The cost for all herbicides is rising quickly. It will take \$45,000 to purchase the same amount of chemicals that \$30,000 bought last year. He is almost finished with the year end billing for the USFS/ Salmon-Challis RD. Their payment will cover the UTV/side by side purchase. He has agreed to be part of the UAFA/Burnt Creek Project, with matching work value. Brett is now working on mapping, and learning the program as he goes. Lemhi County uses a "E-Z Mapping Program" which seems much more user friendly. He is researching just which program to invest in for Custer County. He has ordered steps for the new trucks, as they are so high it's hard to get in them. Their tank system is mounted on a skid and is quite easy to install. Brett is planning to attend the drone presentations at the Annual Weed meeting in Boise. He is looking at a drone that can haul 16 gallons of product, or #119 pounds. The overall cost of drones is coming down due to the popularity and versatility of the newer models.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer, Treasurer provided her monthly report to everyone. She went over the County investments and all changes that she has made due to the increasing interest rates.

Assessor: Jacquell Bruno let the Board know that the Pro-Val system rolled two accounts over that are tax exempt. Commissioner Smith moved that the S. Custer Historical Society properties have tax cancellations approved in the amount of \$218.80. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Corgatelli moved to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(d) for Consultation at 9:40 AM Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, Assessor Jacquell Bruno and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 9:55 AM.

NRAC: Chairman Jim Hawkins attended. Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(i) for Risk Management at 10:02 AM, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Jim Hawkins, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 10:30 AM. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that a letter of proposal for Sage Grouse "Threat Management" be sent to the BLM State Office / Sage Grouse NEPA with assistance from Darling Geomatics. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jim then inquired about the Salmon/Challis Forest Plan Revision progress. If they are meeting, why aren't the Commissioners at the table? He also inquired about the Management Plan being written for the JM-JP Wilderness areas, and why the County Commissioner are not being involved. The co-ordination process allows for input and involvement "during" the writing of the plans.

Clerk: Lura explained the Jail Commissary Audit that is required by Statute #20-618, and had Deputy Clerk Tamara Giampedraglia present her efforts. Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(d) for Exempt Records at 10:50 AM. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, Deputy Clerks Tamara Giampedraglia and Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 11:11 AM.

Prosecutor: Justin Oleson attended and reviewed the new contract for Drew Pendlebury/Conflict Public Defender. The changes were noted and approved. Justin also discussed the closure of the ISP P.O.S.T. Academy and the lack of available training for new sheriff's deputies. Past years POST training has cost Custer County about \$18,000 per deputy.

Emergency Manager: Levi Maydole reported that he has been in contact with Norm Folger/TUSA and the recent snow storm has closed Galena Summit. The scheduled meeting was been moved to 9:00 AM Tuesday.

The meeting was recessed for a lunch break and reconvened at 1:30 PM. Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, Lans Stavast/Lost River RD, Heath Perrine/Challis RD, Mary D'Aversa/BLM, and Josh Travers/BLM attended. Sebastian Artreches a high school 'government' student also attended the meeting.

Federal Agencies: Lans Stavast attended on behalf of Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River Ranger who is attending a training. The Ranger District is finishing up scoping for the Castle Creek range improvement project. The Range department has not had to send out any non-compliance letters, but did send 2 letters of notification. They are looking for a better grazing year with the normal winter snows. They are hiring a new Range Specialist in February. The Mt. Borah trailhead project is still moving ahead, with implementation to begin in 2024. The gravel pile that was donated by Idaho State Transportation is disappearing quickly. Commissioner Smith reminded Lans that the Lost River Ranger Dist. needs to put in a request to ITD for the amount of gravel that they will need, so it can be held.

Heath Perrine/Challis Dist. Ranger reported that Clayton Collins/Middle Fork Ranger will be leaving Challis for a new job on the Umatilla National Forest, as Staff Officer. David Morris/Forestry is retiring in April, so he has two positions to fill. The Bayhorse forest project is going out for objection in April, then small NEPA is next. Up coming projects include the Cabin/Cash Creek road reroute in Squaw Creek; the Keystone allotment boundary fence along the BLM Garden Creek border; the Pistol Creek water diversion in the backcountry; and a rebuild of the Loon Creek hot springs in the backcountry "if" time allows. One holdover project from 2022 is the Ramey Creek Road reroute that can now be completed because the survey is completed. Ongoing timber projects were Big A and Squaw Creek/Kinnikinnick. The Copper Mountain road reroute is a fish project near Cape Horn. It will involve about a mile of new road. A new crossing is needed on Winnemucca Creek, perhaps a bridge. Commissioner Butts inquired if the Challis Creek/Lodgepole Creek ford could be put back into a pipe, as it should also be eligible for funding from the Fish Mitigation funds. Heath would like to replace the bridge above Mosquito Flats to re-open access for timber and recreation. The Spruce trees with root balls are still being hauled from the Big A timber sale, and the Annie Rooney timber sale is not completed yet.

BLM - Mary D'Aversa and Josh Travers attended and the proposed Bayhorse Bridge projects was discussed. Commissioner Butts began with the history of the recent attempt to keep the bridge access open. The current bridge is nearing the end of its useful life and reviewed the fact other similar bridges on the Salmon River have been closed. I.e: Sweeny Bridge near Ellis. Commissioner Butts relayed the wishes of adjoining landowner (Gary Peterson), that any new bridge not be located in his front yard, and Mr. Petersons offer of gifting private property for a new bridge location.

Mary reviewed the BLM stance of being very careful not to over promise. Brandon explained the need for agency support to facilitate the Grant Application. Mary then listed the two problems the BLM sees. 1) NEPA approval is not guaranteed, 2) campground changes and conflicts. Commissioner Butts went over the only alternate route, along the back side of the river and the drawbacks involved. 1) Winter road closures (a spring ices the road) 2) A dangerous and difficult turn off of Highway 75 at the concrete bridge, 3) Over five miles of back tracking to go from campground back to the concrete bridge and then along the river. Commissioner Smith went over the letter the County received from the Challis Field Office, that does not show support of the project. Josh responded that he understood the County wanted a "list of concerns", and that was what his letter addressed. Brandon/R&B Supt. explained that he is also required to do the NEPA process on the highway section. Mary felt it should be a joint NEPA Project and share the load. She stated that it could be a "Win - Win" for the Public, the BLM, the Peterson family, and Custer County. All the many details can be worked out before the final plans are submitted. The BLM agreed to send a general support letter for the Bayhorse Bridge Project. Mary then brought the Sweeny Bridge ownership forward. The BLM is trying to establish ownership and would appreciate any information on the Sweeny bridge that can be found.

The BLM has still not decided upon a location for the Challis Field Office, and are talking with the USFS about a cooperative site. The flood lights that are mounted on the BLM horse corrals have been turned off, due to public concerns and opinion. The trapping of wild/feral horses along Highway 75 was then discussed, in the interest of public safety.

Sheriff: Chief Deputy Crissi Gilchrist attended. There are currently 3 inmates in jail, as one was released this AM. Clerk Lura provided copies of the Stanley Law Enforcement Contract for review by the Board. All corrections have been approved by Sheriff Lumpkin. Commissioner Smith moved that the Stanley Law Enforcement Contract be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. The USFS/SNRA Financial Agreement Modification for \$980.00 was then reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved that it be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. Clerk Lura relayed that Stanly Mayor Botti is questioning the new E-911 system. Commissioner Butts updated everyone on the Military Division that oversees the remote repeater site annual rent.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica attended and provided copies of the letters that she has received concerning the CUP for a building in the Iron Creek subdivision. She also updated the Board on the letter she received from Konnex Mines attorney. Prosecutor Oleson attended the meeting to field any questions.

Indigent: Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(d) for Indigent at 3:28 PM Commissioner Corgatelli 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 3:32 PM. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the payoff offer be accepted for Cat #06-07, Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the aye vote was unanimous.

Clerk: The final copy of the Public Defender Contract with Manuel Murdock was completed and signed. A Certificate of Residency was reviewed for Sarah Rowell, Stanley, Idaho. Commissioner Butts moved that the certificate be approved, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. The Conflict Public Defender contract with Drew Pendlebury was reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved that the contract be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. The MOU with Power County for a Technology Service Agreement was reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved that it be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Sheriff's Department Chief Dispatcher Kathy Rodgers has requested the use of the Custer Co. Credit Card for license renewals at the Sheriff's office. The total amount should be \$180.00. Commissioner Corgatelli moved the credit card use be approved, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. A request to name the "Pioneer Glacier" in the Pioneer Mountains has been received. Commissioner Smith moved that the request be rejected, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Yates Real Estate Services has put in a bid for janitor work at the courthouse. They will clean 3 times per week, at a cost of \$80.00 per visit. They will provide their own cleaning equipment and products and the county will provide the toilet paper and paper towels. Mr. Holmes will be the regular janitor, but Karen Yates will be the backup janitor if he is unable to be here. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that they be hired, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. The Lost River Economic Development request for annual support in the amount of \$5,000 was reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved that \$5,000.00 be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. The invoice received by Co. Road & Bridge from Idaho Communications LLC for repairs on the Grouse Peak repeater site will be forwarded to the USFS. The repair was triggered by USFS work on the site. Clerk Lura Baker will send it on to Ranger, Heath Perrine. The Propane tank rental agreement for the two 500 gal tanks located at the old firehall were looked over. The Board of Commissioners approved paying the \$10.00 annual rent fees and requesting a copy of the original rental agreement.

University of Idaho Extension Service/Custer Co. Fair Board: Jake Zollinger/Fair Board Chairman reported on the County Fair and reviewed the 2022 plans. There were projects planned that didn't get completed, such as replacing the hog pens inside the Hog Barn and replacing the Shade Cloth over the arena. It is a huge job to get the shade cloth put up, and it only fits one way. Jodi McAfee and Trent Van Luven are helping the Fair Board by searching for grants, and they want to get the Budget process started this year. At the November Fair Board meeting Josh Hale was asked if his attendance of meetings could improve. If not, he was asked to step aside and let someone else take the job. Jake requested a current list of the terms of appointment of the board members. Mike Bruno is stepping aside as a Fair Board member after this year. The Fair Board has been hauling the fence panels from N. Custer Rodeo Assn. for use during their rodeo and team penning's. The Fair Board would like to purchase their own when possible. Commissioner Smith brought up the Lambson Road situation, and requested that the "gate" not be disturbed.

Sarah Baker/Extension Educator provided her report. The Know Your Government registrations are currently open. The Market Animal Sale Committee is in need of more office help, and has gotten a few complaints. They do work hard to please their buyers. Sarah is now the Idaho BQA Assistant Coordinator, and teaches BQA classes. Bryce Jones is making plans to teach permittees range land monitoring. She has also had John La Vell/ISDA offer to do mentoring for permittees.

The MOU between Custer County and the U of I has been a work in progress. The Board discussed the carry over and the county share. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the FY2023 MOU be paid in the amount of \$40,000.00. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

Doug Burgess/Burgess Engineering attended and Commissioner Butts introduced him to all present.

Claims: Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the following claims be approved and paid with total additions of \$17,795.53, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	77,730.88
Road & Bridge	22,786.89
District Court	13,096.96
Rodeo Grounds	80.10
Jr. College Tuition	500.00
Revaluation	143.99
Solid Waste	100.00
Weeds	243.39
Emg. Communications	3,006.22
Auditors Trust	499.00
Cent. ID Transportation	12,600.00
Odyssey Court Trust	<u>10,592.66</u>
TOTAL	141,440.09

The meeting was recessed at 5:00 PM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. The meeting was reconvened at 5:10 PM.

Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins explained the current situation on the Pitney Bowes postage machine. The Board requested the Reserve account be utilized rather than the Purchase Power account. Commissioner Smith moved that the seed money amount to be put in the postage reserve account be \$4,000.00 and the accounts used be double checked with Clerk Lura Baker. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.



Attest:

Lura H. Baker, Clerk

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner