

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
February 23, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Commissioners Steve Smith attended via phone connection.

The Board discussed the new bills that are before the Idaho State Legislature. Clerk Lura Baker asked for a date for the Wilson Lane Planning & Zoning hearing. There will be a BOE Training session on April 5th with the ID State Tax Commission. The BOE application has an April 15th deadline. Recent changes in personnel at the Sheriff's Office were discussed. Levi Maydole has been hired back on at the Custer Co. Sheriff's office. The Challis Medical Center is currently working on an addition with another emergency room and some more exam rooms. The need to replace the county van was discussed. The used vehicle market will be checked to find a suitable replacement. Discussion moved to the understood \$500 threshold for Department heads before they are required to come to the Board of Commissioners. The dollar amount was talked over and the need for total agreement. Any web-site attacks are very serious and time sensitive. Commissioner Butts has received information from a Mackay resident about a newly proposed gold mine in the Navarre drainage. A mining company known as ExGen has patented several thousand acres in the Barton Flat area. This citizen understood that the USFS is working on their Plan of Operation #2. The meeting was recessed at 9:00 AM for travel to Mackay City Hall.

The meeting reconvened at 10:10 AM in the Mackay City Hall meeting room. Chairman Butts, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attended from Challis. Lin Hintze, Bob Bagley, Mike Evans and Rick Davis attended from Mackay. The submitted claims list was reviewed as well as the minutes from the 2/14/22 meeting. A correction was noted on page 2, that Commissioner Smith was "planning to attend" the Dist. #34 Water Meeting. Updates on the Custer County/Butte County boundary description were shared. The board agreed that the matter would be clarified when the next tax notices are sent out.

LRED: Bob Bagley introduced Mike Evans, the new Executive Director for Lost River Economic Development and gave him the floor. Mike thanked the Board for coming to the Mackay area for a meeting. He reviewed LRED's search for opportunities and funding. They are looking into the ARPA Tourism Grant to enable them to enhance and develop more points of interest on the Scenic Byways project. He has worked with the Community Hospital Corporation in Idaho Falls to get office equipment and a conference table and chairs. They plan to hold community meetings and offer small business development information. Bob updated the Board on "resume assistance classes" that Mike has been offering. Mike has applied for a \$20,000 Rural Development Grant to get a formal Comprehensive Economic Plan published. Mike then provided a current project list including stakeholder outreach and community development. LRED would like to utilize some of the County ARPA funds for these projects. Chairman Butts then gave the Custer County list of projects these funds could be utilized for. 1) Courthouse elevator 2) Replace the old jail 3) New Courtroom facility 4) Bayhorse Bridge project. Custer County Treasurer, Allicyn Latimer has attended ARPA webinars with Chairman Butts, and they suggest a "review committee" to sift each project application before they come before the Commissioners. The USFS and the ID Dept. of Lands also have ARPA funds to allocate out for local projects. Board members agreed that the county needs someone to write grant applications for projects like the Bayhorse Bridge. It was also agreed a review committee should be set up for project application review and verification fieldwork. The Commissioners have a meeting scheduled for April 12th with the USFS, ID Dept of Lands, BLM, DEQ and Governor's Office. A solid list of projects is needed for this meeting. The feasibility study that was done by the U of I for the Bio-fuels project was then reviewed. The production anchor for such a project was then discussed, as well as road blocks that could be encountered. Limited new employee housing was the first problem to arise in the discussion. Mike inquired about being invited to attend this agency meeting and the Board was unsure how to respond. Rick Davis also expressed his interest in attending also. Mike then asked if he could be included on the Commissioners agenda monthly? The board welcomed his interest. Bob Bagley suggested some ATV promotions for the North Custer areas, which brought the "Rally in the Pines" group into the conversation. All present are aware of the past history of this group.

Sheriff: Chief Deputy Levi Maydole attended the meeting and the Board of Commissioners welcomed him back. Chairman Butts updated Levi on pending county projects. The old firehall building has great possibilities for the Emergency Services office, Search & Rescue office, and Sheriff Impound Area. He also reviewed the need to bring the courthouse into ADA compliance, as well as board efforts to get a new jail. Levi shared his dire need for Deputy housing in the Mackay area. The new deputy will begin work on April 15th and if no housing is located will need to travel back to Challis at night. The replacement for the sheriff's office trailer needs to be ordered, and Chairman Butts shared the floor plan drawing with Levi.

Claims: Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid with one addition for Computer Arts Inc. of \$2,999.23 Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	6,584.73
Road & Bridge	2,154.64
Election Fund	192.71
District Court	3,144.00
Auditors Trust	42,195.17
Odyssey Court Trust	<u>6,930.45</u>
TOTAL	61,201.69

The commissioners meeting was recessed to go into South Custer Ambulance Board at 11:50. The meeting reconvened at 11:55 PM. Commissioner Smith moved that the minutes from the 2/14/22 meeting be approved with the correction noted on page 2. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was then recessed to return to Commissioners room in Challis at 12:19 PM.

The meeting was reconvened at 2:15 PM in the Commissioners Room in Challis. Present were Chairman Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. Chairman Butts was contacted by Margaret Byfield of American Stewards of Liberty about the Stop 30 X 30 Summit scheduled in Lincoln, Nebraska on April 22, 2022. She would like Commissioner Butts to be her opening speaker. Clerk Lura Baker delivered a printed copy of the American Stewards letter to the meeting. The spending threshold limit for department heads was then discussed. The amount of \$750.00 was agreed upon and Clerk Lura Baker will get a Resolution stating such prepared for the next regular meeting. Conversation on ADA compliance led into discussing the need for a "grant writer" to get funding for county infrastructure projects. Commissioner Smith wrote up the wording for an ad in the local newspapers. Some calls were attempted but were unsuccessful.

Homeland Security: Mike Graham attended and reported citizens request for fire-wise "fire protection" for her 5-acre property in the Stanley area. Chairman Butts remembers doing fire-wise projects in the Leslie area in the past. The funds in the Title III budget were reviewed, and Mike needs to work with Clerk Lura Baker on protocol from past jobs. This request is in the Elk Mountain area that is filled with thick lodgepole pine trees. Commissioner Butts gave Mike a heads up on similar needs in the Casino Creek area. Chairman Butts asked Mike about the status of the new Challis Fire Hall building. Mike is aware of them working on it, but to date nothing is deemed completed. Mike reported on picking up the Grouse Peak generator in Missoula. It is currently stored at the R&B shop. He plans to take it to his home for long term storage where he will get the "remote accessibility" equipment installed. Mike has a few more reports to complete to finish up expending the SHSP Grant funds. He is working with Ray Condon and feels the TUSA Co. time line doesn't line up with job site accessibility in our climate. He has asked other companies for proposals also. He would like to see the entire county in compliance when the project is done.

Indigent: Commissioner Smith moved to go into executive session at 4:34 PM for Indigent under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d), the motion was 2nd by Commissioner Corgatelli and the roll call yes vote was unanimous. Those attending this session were Clerk Lura Baker, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session. Upon return to regular session at 4:39 PM Commissioner Smith made a motion for #22-02 – Denial / due to non-compliance, and #22-03 / non-compliance – lien release. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Corgatelli and the aye votes were unanimous.

Clerk Lura Baker provided copies of the updated Custer County Personnel Policy for the Board to review. She also updated the Board on the new legislative bill concerning home exemptions, that is in committee. She then delivered the Sheriff's Office Personnel policy for review and laid out her plan to notify employees with a Memo explaining the return date and time. Those present were requested to sign their acknowledgement page.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:

Lura H. Baker, Clerk