

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
March 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM in the Custer County Commissioners Room by Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioner Will Naillon, Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer.

**Weeds:** Brett Plummer advised that he really didn't have much for the Commissioners to review. Discussed cost of Herbicide for the upcoming season and the fact that he has some product left over from last year. New tank is ready to be used. Ted will come on April 7<sup>th</sup> and Linda Zollinger will be assisting with weed free inspections for the year and will be attending the recertification with Plummer next week. Commissioner Naillon asked Plummer about BLM and Forest Service contracts and the logistics of funding for handling all projects for both entities, resulting in conversation regarding this possibility and several different scenarios.

**Road & Bridge:** Supervisor Brandon Jones advised that they have gotten one of the trucks back up and running, still have a plow that is down. Wanting to start some of the early grading as soon as next week and will start on out on Hot Springs. Will start submitting invoices for the supplies they will be needing. Will have three water trucks functional by next week for these projects. Feels that equipment is in good shape to start this season. At the end of March will be doing a zipping project out on Chilly Flats area for Lost River Road Department. Still working on the Snow Removal Policy that he will submit to the Commissioners, has been doing some research on other County policies. Will be purchasing culvert for this year and will be submitting an invoice from TV Pipe out of Idaho Falls. Would like to discuss current Personnel.

Commissioner Naillon made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 8:26 AM. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and the roll call vote was Corgatelli/Aye, Vaden/Aye, Naillon/Aye. Attending were Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 8:34 AM.

Will be having discussions regarding the upcoming bridge projects, which he will need to have a Commissioner join in on. Commissioner Vaden will be going to a conference with Jones this week regarding products. Commissioner Naillon advised that the SRS funding does not look promising under the current Administration, Jones advised that the schedule A road projects will be the first to be cut when the funding is reduced.

North Custer Rodeo Grounds would like to have a pit dug by the R&B department for burning. Jones advised that he would be willing to have his employees trained by having the pit dug and debris burned in the pit, the R&B will monitor the burning and cover the pit when finished. Will

burn their own debris pile at the same time. Commissioners agreed that this would be a beneficial project for both entities.

**Commissioner Report:** Commissioner Naillon gave a report regarding he and Commissioner Vaden's meetings in Washington DC with the Idaho Representatives. They had in depth conversations regarding the Federal PILT funds and the fact that the funding will still be available but there will not be a revision in the qualifications for receiving these funds.

Commissioner Vaden advised that he had received an email from IAC regarding State funding cuts that are currently being reviewed for highway districts and State Highways. Currently new highway districts cannot be created, only existing highway districts will be recognized. Discussion regarding Federal contracts and funding.

Commissioner Naillon gave a review of the NACO conference. Commissioner Naillon has chosen to be a member of the Public Lands Committee, Commissioner Vaden has not chosen a Committee to join as of yet. Commissioner Naillon discussed his disappointment with discussions with entities such as the US Forest Service representatives, however there were positives with the direction that the Department of Agriculture would like to be going. Discussions with the BLM were quite positive in regards to land utilization and relationships with the local governments. Commissioners discussed some of the programs that they would like to pursue further under the new Administration, such as logging and grazing in Custer County.

Commissioner Naillon advised that he felt that attending the NACO conference was extremely valuable due to the contacts made and opportunity for communication with committees and entities, to which Commissioner Vaden agreed.

Discussion regarding the County's Natural Resource Plan being separate from our County Land Use Plan, Commissioner Vaden will be in touch with a representative of the Wyoming Association of Counties on how to go about separating those two Plans for the County.

**Clerk:** Clerk Lura Baker gave the Commissioners an example of an Access Agreement for Title Company access to the recorded instrument downloads in the County computer drive. Baker would like the Commissioners to review this agreement and consider a similar type of arrangement for Custer County and the title companies that access our uploaded information.

Courthouse and Grounds bids are up for renewal, would like to advertise for bids until March 24<sup>th</sup>, then Commissioners would open bids at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Commissioner Naillon asked what the stipulations are for being able to bid, Clerk Baker advised that there is an insurance requirement. Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia will look into insurance limits for being eligible to bid.

**Treasurer:** Allicyn Latimer advised that the Money Market and CD accounts through Wells Fargo will need to be moved as Wells Fargo will no longer be handling these types of Municipal

Funds. Will be able to leave the CD's until maturity and then will have to move them. Commissioner Naillon and Commissioner Vaden had information regarding an investment opportunity through NACO, Commissioner Vaden will get Latimer the information to review. Treasurer Latimer advised that currently at 60% collected on current taxes. Latimer gave an update on the Court Annex progression and a concern regarding some of the invoicing, she will be addressing this concern.

**Prosecutor:** Justin Oleson gave an update on the Property Tax Exemption Appeal with Confluence Institute, Inc has been dismissed. It was felt that the ruling on this Appeal through the Supreme Court would result in case study that would not benefit either entity.

**NRAC:** Jim Hawkins advised that he feels the Sage Grouse EIS is still not sufficient and would like to see if Mary Darling or Margaret Byfield could pursue delivering the concern letter to the new BLM Director, John Remie and new Department of the Interior Director. Discussion regarding the meeting with Commissioners and Heather DeGeest with the Salmon/Challis Forest scheduled for tomorrow at the Forest Service conference room. Commissioners discussed with Hawkins the need for a Natural Resource Plan separate from the County Land Use Plan. The NRAC Committee would like to be given another project to begin working on. Discussion regarding the impact on the County from the recent BLM and Forest Service department cuts.

**Coroner:** Chad Workman brought information regarding a vehicle that was found by Salmon River Motors, however it does not fit within the current budget requirement as it is a new vehicle. Commissioner Naillon advised that he will still have an individual he knows look into a more feasible vehicle. Discussion regarding the type of bed cover that will be needed and avenues for obtaining this equipment. Also reviewed the possibility of purchasing a Van with a separation wall between the cab and back, Workman will look into this option as well.

Workman gave the Commissioners information for non-law enforcement badges, as he would need five (5) badges for himself and four (4) deputy coroners. Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve the purchase of five (5) badges from Galls, at the cost of 147.20 per badge, seconded by Commissioner Vaden, motion passed unanimously.

Workman reviewed several options that he had found for a cell phone for the Coroners Department. Commissioners reviewed the information and discussed the options for phones and plans. Also discussed the fact that his office phone has not been actually working since July of 2023 and there needs to be a reimbursement for this lack of service through Custer Telephone for that period of time. Commissioner Vaden made a motion to approve the purchase Samsung A35 phone valued at \$400.00 with a monthly device fee of \$16.67 and a single line basis plan of \$50.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Claims:** Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve claims through 03/07/2025 in the amount of \$256,393.76 with no additions. Motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden, motion passed.

Current Expense	\$ 28,920.79
Road & Bridge	\$ 79,178.24
Battleground Mosquito Abat	\$ 1,000.00
District Court	\$ 451.63
Rodeo Grounds	\$ 98.90
Revaluation	\$ 400.00
Solid Waste	\$ 2,298.19
Tort	\$ 34,647.96
Emergency Comm	\$ 339.33
Weeds	\$ 1,091.81
LATCF	<u>\$ 107,966.91</u>

**TOTAL** **\$256,393.76**

The meeting was recessed at 11:07 AM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve claims through 03/07/2025 in amount of \$1641.34, motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden, motion passed unanimously. Minutes for the 02/10/2025 and 02/26/2025 were reviewed. Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the minutes for the 02/10/2025 and 02/26/2025 meetings, Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Reconvened to the regular meeting at 11:10 AM.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve minutes for the regular Commissioner Meeting held Monday, February 26, 2025, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaden. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve minutes for the Policy Workshop Special Commissioner Meeting held Wednesday, February 12, 2025, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaden. Motion passed unanimously.

**Ballard Insurance Group:** Representative from Ballard Insurance Group did not attend.

**North Custer Rodeo:** Myla Naillon advised that there are some items at the Rodeo Grounds that she is trying to find ownership for, there is a hog scale and a hay rake, she has reached out to County Agent Baker to see if the hog scale belongs to the 4H program. Commissioners agreed that if ownership is not established, it would be fine to have those items removed. Deputy Clerk Hawkins advised Naillon that there are replacement light bulbs for the arena lights in the basement of the Courthouse and that the Rodeo Committee can come and get them when needed.

Deputy Clerk Hawkins advised that correspondence had been received from the Salmon-Challis National Forest requesting support in regards to the Freeman Gold Exploration Project and the Deep Rabbit Fuel Break project, Commissioners requested that Deputy Clerk Hawkins draft letters in support for both topics, to be signed at the next meeting.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to amend the agenda to read that the afternoon items will be reviewed as time permits rather than at specific time slots, motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden, motion passed.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 11:47 PM and reconvened again at 1:30 PM. Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia and Deputy Clerk Hawkins in attendance.

#### **Federal Agencies:**

Dave Hilliard (BLM) – Asked if the current list of AUMs was sent to Commissioner Naillon per request, he will complete this request as Commissioner Naillon advised he had not yet received the list. Range management is scheduling meetings for permittees East Fork boat ramp is under review, in the study stage and have included the Tribes to assist in determining the best location. Lost three (3) probational employees for the local BLM office. As far as deferred resignations, no employees took that offered option. Update on the new building in regards to Planning and Zoning, they have never had to do this and are still going to go ahead with building with ground breaking set for fall of 2025. Now with the current Government Administration, the footprint is changing and as they are currently in a temporary location and there is current scrutiny on government leasing, they still feel that a new building is their best option and that if they are not able to complete this then they won't have a location at all in Challis. Commissioner Naillon advised that he would need to have the research that was completed prior to choosing this location, the studies for each of the other locations that were not selected (the 19 acres off of Valley St behind the Forest Service complex, Strand's property off of Blue Mountain Rd, the wild horse corral location on upper Hot Springs Rd) that affected this project location selection. He feels that if the community were to understand the reasons that the other locations did not work, they may be more accepting of the south Hwy 93 location selected. Going to complete a wild horse round up this fall, reducing herd from around 230 to around 185. Commissioner Naillon asked all agencies if they had a report regarding the 2477 roads, basically a report through their GIS on the types of roads regardless of status, Commissioner Naillon explained what made a road a 2477 status road. Hilliard advised that he would look into this.

Ryan Hilton (Fish & Game) – Blue Mountain Pond – They have identified some funding to be able to remove silt and replace the outlet structure. So far, a good steelhead spring season. Beginning proposals – had planned to take 36B out of Salmon zone because of declining Elk populations but after comments have decided to keep the Salmon Zone will be staying the same as it has been. Have a new Elk plan that will go through 2030. No changes in 36 zone, have increased cow elk hunts in 36A. Pahsimeroi – Lemhi A tag proposal to change to private ground only but they have decided not to make any changes and will stay within 1 mile of private property. Steelhead counts are approximately once a week and numbers are looking good. Nonresident tag draw for 2026 will be a draw rather than an over the counter tag sales, but will need to work through some of the bugs. There are depredation payments on grizzly

and wolf kills, will be paid out on confirmed kills and then paid out on probable kills. Also, a bill to appoint a committee of 3 who would review evidence on kill scenes to determine confirmed and probable kills from grizzly and wolf kills. Outfitter allocations, three bills currently being reviewed at the State level and most likely will not pass but may appear again in the future.

Chris Waverick (Salmon-Challis FS) – 2000 employees terminated agency wide, not supposed to disclose the local numbers. Still going to try and keep campgrounds open and keep everything moving as smoothly as possible. Commissioner Naillon asked about getting a list of permitted and active AUM's, which Waverick advised he would get to the Commissioners. Discussion regarding how to effectively communication with one another.

Kirk Flannigan (SNRA) – Are going to plow open Mormon Bend and Salmon River Campground for the steelhead season, prior to the concessionaires coming on in May. Several employees did take the volunteer by out and are no longer with the SNRA. Currently running at a 50% staff, do not have anyone in the front offices, range or weeds department, all trail and invasive species departments have been reduced. Commissioner Naillon asked about the rehabilitation efforts from the Wapiti Fire, Flannigan advised that most of the rehab has been completed from that fire. Commissioner Naillon asked about erosion control from the Wapiti Fire, Flannigan advised that the worst for this type of damage was on the Grand Jean side. Will be opening the road into Redfish Lake early. AOI meetings started today, are going to try and get some virtual fencing through grants with NRCS, has worked well for one permittee that has already started using this type of fencing for grazing. Commissioner Naillon asked Flannigan if he could get him a list of the AUMs in the SNRA. Outfitter & Guide "open season" for new permits, Stanley Traks is a new permittee for snow machining. Going to be able to obtain some disaster relieve funding for the Wapiti fire for repair. Commissioner Naillon asked about the prospect of obtaining firewood in the area that was damaged in the Wapiti Fire.

**Custer Soil & Water Conversation District:** Karma Bragg introduced Lori Ringel and Stephanie Barnes with High Country RC&D (Resource Conservation & Development) – Lori gave a fact sheet of the purpose of High Country RC&D and report of the project within the past year that they have assisted with. Their guiding board is comprised of 11 county commissioners. Now have a grant administrator in Butte, which is Stephanie Barnes. They handle Resource and Conservation Grants of different sizes, just need to ask Karma's office if we have a grant that we would like to pursue and she can relay the requests. Barnes had worked for the Butte Soil & Water District for 6 months and then went to the High County RC&D as a grant manager.

**Custer County Sheriff:** Sheriff Maydole came before the Commissioners. Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the Sam's Club Membership for the Custer County Sheriff's office, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon and motion passed. Brief discussion regarding the Chief Deputy salary, however this would need to be discussed under Executive Session which was not on the agenda and will have to wait until the next meeting. Clerk Baker attended the meeting to bring the information on the FY25 Idaho Parks & Rec Grant for Waterways, discussion regarding the Waterways program and this grant. Commissioner Naillon made

motion to approve the Recreational Boating Safety (RBS) Funds Grant application, motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden, motion passed.

Sheriff Maydole would like to table the MOU proposal with the Salmon Police Department at this time.

Sheriff Maydole brought the current agreement between the County, North Custer Hospital District and the North Custer Ambulance Service for the Commissioners to review.

Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the current agreement with North Custer Hospital District and North Custer Ambulance Service contract that is currently in force, Naillon seconded and motion passed.

Sheriff Maydole provided the Commissioners his monthly report for review. Commissioners reviewed this information and asked the Sheriff questions regarding current status of inmates, vehicles and employees.

Commissioner Naillon recessed the regular meeting at 3:10 PM for a brief reprieve. Commissioner reconvened the meeting at 3:20 PM.

**Emergency Management:** Lisa Benson and Clerk Baker gave an update of the progress of the Mackay Reservoir project. Discussion regarding guidelines for contractor selection and the roles of the County and the Big Lost River Irrigation District through the current CFR.

Norm with TUSA would like to meet with the Commissioners regarding emergency communications, discussion regarding the importance of including JD Bennetts with Custer Telephone.

Sawtooth Valley Wildland Fire Collaborative will be invited to the April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, as it will be held in Stanley.

**Planning & Zoning:** Jessica Clemenhausen advised that the Commissioners need to review the Requests for Reconsideration that have been submitted. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to accept the Request of Reconsideration submitted on the conditional use permit to construct an R.V. Park on a parcel zoned Transitional Agriculture, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the motion passed. Commissioner Corgatelli made motion to deny the Requests for Reconsideration submitted on the conditional use permit to extract sand, gravel and road fill from a parcel zoned Residential, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon and the motion passed. Clemenhausen to advise these parties today as it is the last date to respond.

Clemenhausen advised the Commissioners that there is a property owner that would like to have a plat amendment on a subdivision revision. After discussion, Commissioners agreed that Clemenhausen should review this with the P&Z board for their thoughts on the issue.

Confirmed the luncheon meeting with the P&Z Board for Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Discussion regarding the agenda for this meeting.

**Probation:** Aletia Straub-Workman presented a report for the Commissioners to review regarding her current probation case load. Workman has been working on the Misdemeanor Probation Policy for the County and will keep the Commissioners updated. Will have to complete a Juvenile Probation Policy in the near future as well. Would like to attend a training in Boise scheduled for July.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:18 PM.

  
Randy Corgatelli, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner Chairman

Attest:   
Lura H. Baker, Clerk

