

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
March 11, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker, Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia, R&B Superintendent Brandon Jones, Weed Superintendent Brett Plummer, Will Naillon, Pete Schuldt and Mike Carroll in attendance.

**Weed Dept:** Brett Plummer brought in three (3) bids for a new vehicle, was difficult to get bids. Mountain Home Auto Ranch and Peterson Auto. This will be a roadside vehicle, funds are from a BLM grant. Discussion regarding the bids presented. Commissioner Zollinger made motion to accept the bid from Peterson Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram in the amount of \$82,185.00, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Plummer advised that he has a spray system that will be ready by the end of April that he will need to go and pick up, will review that information when the time gets closer. Ted will be coming back on around the same time. Has bids in for products, looks to be substantially more this year.

**Road & Bridge:** Brandon Jones introduced Pete Schuldt and Mike Carroll who have been invited to speak about the Forest Service Schedule A's, specifically the Yankee Fork contract and FLAP Grant. Jones gave a map that has been provided by Trout Unlimited for a portion of the Yankee Fork Road. This section of the road is currently owned by the Forest Service, but will be acquired by the County in the future. Discussion on this proposal, Jones advised that this would be a pretty substantial project, discussion regarding the funding to complete the project. Schuldt and Carroll advised that there would be a lot of details that would need to be worked through. Commissioner Smith asked Chairman Corgatelli if the Commissioners would entertain a letter stating that the County is not in support of this project, Corgatelli in agreeance, the biggest points that they want to address are safety, time, cost and land movement, also not certain of the ownership as Simplot has patented mining claims in that area.

Pete Schuldt gave a presentation regarding the Cooperative Road Maintenance agreements (Schedule A). Agreement to maintain at the lowest cost that meets the need, this is not always at a quality that the public would like to see. The County does do a better quality job than asked. The Forest Service does not specify how often the maintenance is to be completed. This is a "no funds agreement", which can be upgraded when a large project as needed and planned. The only way of payment is for road mileage, which is collected through gas tax through the State. Discussion regarding FRT Easements that the Forest Service uses to maintain certain specified roads.

Commissioner Smith advised that there is a citizen on Yankee Fork that has requested that the County assist in plowing the road past the Yankee Fork Dredge in the winter. Jones advised that the County has assisted at the end of the season but that due to the 2477 statute, we are not able to do more than they have done. Jones advised that this is a road that the County has not opened or plowed. He stated that the County does not want to have people stuck on this road, but the County is also not responsible for this road, it is over a mile past where the County stops plowing. Permitting is allowable to private citizens to plow the road on their own to their homes, the County has in the past gone in and cut the edges back so that private citizens are able to continue their efforts.

Commissioner Smith advised that the citizens should be invited to the first April meeting to come and discuss the issue with the Commissioners. Commissioner asked that Peter Schuldt be present at that meeting to help explain Schedule A contracts with these citizens.

Commissioner Zollinger addressed the Pahsimeroi Road, near the Donkey Hills area, Jones advised and Schuldt agreed, that this is not a Forest Service road, is more BLM with only a small portion of Forest Service. More research is needed on this road for discussion.

Mike Carroll attended the meeting to present information regarding the FLAP Grant. Jones advised that Commissioner Butts had been the Commissioner that represented R&B with Brandon to attend meetings regarding these types of Grants. Commissioner Chairman Corgatelli advised that he would step into that position and he would attend the meetings. Carroll gave an update regarding the FLAP Grant funding that will be used for the Custer Motorway project. Prices have increased since the beginning and the project has been revised to prioritize only the most critical parts of the project. The majority of the work for this project can be completed by the USFS. Carroll provided a handout of this project for review. Discussion on project budget, grant amount and financial match. Carroll advised that the match has been met and further financials are being sought. Will be getting out and marking the turn arounds and then work with the Heritage Foundation, as this route is historical. Schuldt and Carroll excused themselves from the meeting.

Jones brought up the ownership and contracts for roads such as up Yellowjacket and Donkey Hills area. He advised that once the County takes ownership of a road, there is an expectation of work to be completed. This could be at a greater expense for the County and would need to be addressed by the County Prosecutor for review.

Jones advised that the Mayor in Stanley contacted him regarding a portion of road to the airport that they need assistance with. He explained the assistance needed and that the County has assisted in the past. Commissioners advised Brandon to go ahead and help the City of Stanley with this road.

Jones went over the 2024 Road and Bridge Project Plan. He went through all projects that are planned for the 2024 season, to include (but not limited to):

- Capping Custer Road (to be determined)
- Chipping East Fork Road (Scheduled for July 22 to 26)
- Chipping Garden Creek – new section (Scheduled for August 26 to 29)
- Slurry seal Rod & Gun Club Loop Rd (to be determined)
- Asphalt Maintenance – repair potholes and edges on numerous county roads
- Dirt Road Maintenance – all county dirt roads
- Dirt Road Treatments – MAG on numerous county dirt roads
- Morgan Creek Rd – blasting rock
- Signs, Bridges (3 on Squaw Creek, Squaw Creek over Salmon River rehab, Bayhorse Bridge over Salmon River planning), Culverts, Cattle Guards
- Guard Rail – replacement and repair on Yankee Fork
- Traffic Counts - Study on Donkey Hills Road, other misc roads
- Training of employees – Road Scholar course

Jones advised that he had quotes for Satellite phones through DayWireless at \$1295.00 per phone for 100 minutes shared between two lines– total \$2720.00 then \$130.00 per month. Satellitephone.com

would be \$1399.00 per phone then two-line 100 minute \$186.00 per month. Commissioner Smith made motion to accept the bid through DayWireless in the amount of \$2720.00 for two phones and then \$130.00 per month for 100 minutes shared. Commissioner Zollinger seconded, motion passed.

**Clerk:** Clerk Baker gave a review of the breakdown of the refunded tax for the NUG to DryCreek Hydro, going back to 2019. Not sure how to collect from two of the taxing districts. Discussion regarding the USFS/County RAC wood program reporting, new representative that Clerk Baker will be working with is Erin Pehrson with the USFS for the permitting. Report has been completed and sent in.

**Treasurer:** Allicyn Latimer brought down the Treasurer's report for the Commissioners to review, has not been balanced with the Clerk Auditors information.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel and Legal at 10:07 AM, Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 10:30 AM.

**NRAC:** Jim Hawkins came to give report. Advised that he had reviewed the contract sent by Mary Darling, asked Commissioners if there was another zoom meeting scheduled with Mary. Commissioner Smith advised that he would have Mary Darling provide the power point that she had shared as her presentation at the special meeting, along with the meeting minutes – he will send out to the other counties and get feedback as to when the next meeting should be. Discussion regarding the Grizzly Bear reintroduction plan, Hawkins gave information on previous plans, public review and future timelines. This reintroduction plan is going to affect twelve (12) Idaho Counties and approximately fourteen (14) Montana Counties. Will Naillon advised that it may be beneficial to work with the IGBC – Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee – in regards to this newly proposed plan. Jim Fredricks in Boise is the Chairman of the IF&G and also director of the IGBC. Commissioners agreed possibly to reach out to neighboring Montana counties/agencies to see if they would like to join in with opposing this reintroduction.

**BOE:** Commissioner Corgatelli recessed the Commissioner meeting to go into Board of Equalization at 10:48 AM. Commissioner Chairman Corgatelli recessed BOE and reconvened the regular Commissioner Meeting at 11:00 AM.

**Assessor:** Jacquell Bruno advised that there has not been an answer from the BTA on the appeal for the Confluence Institute, will be looking into this. Currently there is a legislature proposal (HB 562) which would place the burden of proof back on the Assessor rather than on the property owner, will be watching this proposal closely. Discussion regarding the vacant trailers sitting at the Junction Trailer Park, letters have gone out regarding titles.

**Prosecuting Attorney:** Commissioner Corgatelli asked Oleson regarding the County's policies for use of county vehicles. Discussion ensued regarding the use of County vehicles, operators and passengers.

**Elections:** Kristen Walker, Elections Director, advised that the Round Valley 1 and 2 precincts need to be moved from the American Legion building to the CEDA building. Commissioner Corgatelli asked what reasons there are for moving the location. Walker cited that the CEDA building is more ADA compliant,

there is back up power, parking and room for voters. Commissioner Smith made a motion to move the RV1 and RV2 polling places to the CEDA location from the American Legion, Zollinger seconded and motion passed.

**Clerk:** Discussion regarding the corrected wording in Resolution No. 2024-01, amending Planning and Zoning Fees Schedule. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-01 to have the "inspector" wording to be removed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Zollinger and motion passed.

**Clerk:** Idaho Woolgrowers would like to re-nominate Mr. Gary Chamberlain as director to the District #5 Board. Commissioner Smith made a motion to support the re-nomination of Gary Chamberlain to the Idaho Woolgrowers District #5 Animal Damage Control Board, as a director. Commissioner Zollinger seconded this motion and the motion passed. Clerk Baker will submit a letter of support from the Commissioners.

BLM Challis Field Office is requesting scoping comments on a proposed project to modify a transportation designation to the existing route, Bayhorse Connector, in collaboration with the Idaho Dept of Parks and Recreation. The Commissioners advised that they would like to discuss this topic further during the Agencies portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Zollinger had contacted Moj Broadie and Jessie Fulmer in regards to the USDA Middle Big Lost Watershed Plan – Environmental Assessment invitation to be a cooperative agency. Commissioner Smith advised that he would support writing a letter to state that the Commissioners would like to be a cooperative agency

The meeting recessed at 12:00 PM for lunch. Meeting reconvened at 1:30 PM, those in attendance: Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia, John Runkle, Lance Stavis, Kirk Flanigan, Josh Travers

**Agencies:** Lance Stavis from Lost River, have a learning session at CEDA for Custer and Lemhi Counties with Forest Staff. Lost River restoration projects this year at Mammoth Canyon and also at Red Rock.

Kirk Flanigan, for hiring they are going more permanent and hiring more permanent positions. Will also be hiring some seasonal help that will onboard in May. Full time Range positions are vacant, and they have that listing posted. Have a temporary Ranger that is filling the position until filled. No change to permitting for range this year, will be doing range improvements in the Stanley area. Have met with the Sawtooth Valley Rural Fire Dept last week, will be holding a May 23 meeting at Community Center in Stanley to talk about FireWise. Want to be doing a thinning project in Iron creek, Crooked Creek, etc. Sheriff housing, is progressing, they had wanted to know size and color, Kirk advised that the County should be confident in being able to start building this summer. Advised that if there are any changes to the outside size, structure, etc need to let them know so that it is in the permitting. Commissioner Smith advised Kirk that there will be a Solid Waste meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March if he would like to attend, he would like a reminder sent to him. Rafting and fishing days were increased after study was completed. Wolverine was listed in December 2023, now waiting to see what that will mean for fall/winter outfitter and guides. Currently in their open season permitting period for outfitters and guides for renewing permits. Meeting coming up last week of April for continuing efforts to re-open the East Fork Road, hoping to secure a land exchange and put the road on the east end of the property and then put in a bridge over the west pass creek.

Josh Travers shared that the commenting period for Outfitters and Guides has been wrapped up – sorting through those comments currently to see if adjustments need to be made. Boat ramps were all opened up two weeks ago, the Challis Bridge was the worst. Bayhorse road looking at doing a DNA on the travel management plan to address increasing the width from 50” to full size vehicles, Commissioners advised that they would be in support of increasing the width of this trail to increase it. Commissioner Smith questioned the mule deer winter range portion of this support request, Josh advised that the F&G did not request this portion in writing but the F&G had requested that if the trail were to be widened to a larger vehicle, they would like to have seasonal closures for wildlife preservation. The riparian areas are within the Salmon Watershed areas, Commissioner Corgatelli would like to have a map brought to the next meeting. Challis Field office has had 10 vacancies, second attempt to fill a realty position and starting to work on candidate selection. Finishing up on a Geologist position that they feel they may have filled. Lack of housing has been a major issue in hiring the position that they have vacant.

Staff from Congressman Simpson’s Office, Senator Risch’s Office, Senator Crapo’s Office:

- Charly Roselund the Congressman Simpsons Office
- Kyle Wilson from Senator Risch’s Office
- Kathryn Hitch from Senator Crapo’s Office

Gave several brief updates from each office. Congressman Simpson’s office update for the Community Project Funding for the Mackay Dam, next minibus of appropriations would include this project and they will keep us updated.

Commissioners gave a list of items that they would like to have taken back to the Offices. Negative impacts through enlisting of wolverines, reintroduction of grizzly bears, Carbon Footprint plan (non-harvest of old growth forests), sage grouse enlistments.

**Sheriff:** Pickups will be finished when the equipment is received, then they will be able to install in the new trucks and strip the old vehicles. Just hired a new Deputy to fill the vacancy in Stanley, Dave Walls, experience in law enforcement from Nevada. Commissioner Smith asked if the Sheriff thought it would be beneficial to have guards attached to the fronts of patrol vehicles, discussion ensued and Clerk Baker will contact ICRMP to get their view on whether or not it would be acceptable to place these on the vehicles. Accident procedures addressed regarding testing after an incident and confirmed that after an incident, there needs to be drug/alcohol testing completed. The policy for passengers in vehicles is under review and will be addressed further in the future. ILETs program is still not in operation, Jonathan in IT is ordering a switch for the network and will install when it comes in.

Motion made by Commissioner Zollinger to approve board meeting minutes from 02/28/2024, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

Motion made by Commissioner Zollinger to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting on 02/20/2024 for Idaho Counties, Seconded by Commissioner Smith, motion passed.

**Claims:** The claims were then reviewed and discussed. Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims from 03/08/2024 be approved and paid. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	16,388.53
Road & Bridge	20,717.17
Election Fund	26.54

District Court	2,474.99
County Fair	15,000.00
Rodeo Grounds	182.96
Revaluation	1,349.51
Solid Waste	2,198.19
Tort	29,844.10
Weeds	1,810.19
Emergency Communications	<u>1,201.09</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 91,193.27</b>

**Planning & Zoning:** Jessica Clemenhagen, Rich & Valerie Tillotson, Josh Erickson from Lost River Surveying, Assessor Jacquiel Bruno and Prosecutor Oleson were in attendance for this session. Assessor Bruno presented a survey map that was completed by Lost River Surveying for Rich and Valerie Tillotson. The survey was for a lot split request by the Tillotson's. Per Assessor Bruno, the survey is in error, as it does not match up to the Meets & Bounds from Idaho Code for the County Lines. Prosecutor Oleson brought out a map from 1940 of the Custer County and Butte County boundaries. This was reviewed by the Commissioners, Rich Tillotson, Oleson and Erickson. Erickson produced several additional maps for review that he had used in production of the survey for the Tillotson's. Oleson brought up the fact that through a previous issue, the Commissioners had agreed not to follow the water/river/creek line, but to follow the published boundary line. Tillotson advised that he would just like to use the same original line, as the river just cuts constantly and you cannot follow this as it changes continuously. Jessica advised that the problem that the Assessor and she have is that the Tillotson's and the Christensen's have a right to use and to sell their properties, so this has to be fixed so that both property owners can use their land. Further discussion between Oleson and Erickson continued. Jessica brought up the Custer County Greenwood map and the county lines, creek and river channel were reviewed as a group on the large screen. Assessor Bruno advised that this information and the legal descriptions have been sent to the State Mapper for review, they have not gotten back to her as of yet. Chairman Corgatelli had to take control of the meeting. He turned the floor over to Mr. Tillotson who advised that he felt that Erickson had tried to do what he felt was right from the information that he was given, but he would like to stay with the correct county line and correct the deeds to include the corrected information. Commissioner Smith advised that the Commissioners do not have the authority to change the county line, only legislation can change county lines. It was decided that the county lines would not be changed, the boundaries would be taken from the state code directive and that a new survey would be completed.

**Emergency Management:** Since 2009, there have been discussions in regards to a Search and Rescue building. Commissioner Smith advised that when they were out reviewing the property for the Sheriff's housing and storage, they did not have input in regards to the S&R. Gary Gadwa advised that they have been raising funds to be able to put toward a building for the Search & Rescue that they could house the command vehicle. Gadwa advised that he is also concerned about the building that the Commissioners are planning on putting on the property for the office is not going to meet spec for Stanley winters. They are looking at having some space behind the garage part for a meeting area and gear, would prefer a 20'x 40' on a concrete pad with a 12' wide door, 14' eave. Discussion ensued concerning a location and rescue operations. Commissioner Smith requested a drawn out plan to be submitted to the Commissioners so that they can add this to the current plan and present it to Flanigan. It was agreed

upon that a plan needs to be made in writing, Commissioner Smith advised that he would contact Kirk Flanigan and discuss a plan for a 40'x40' with a solid concrete flooring.

Maydole gave an update on the individual first aid kits, the armor that has been received.

Zollinger Made a motion to approve the extension on the 2021 SHSP Grant Fund which would extend from April 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1 2024, Smith seconded and the motion passed.

Lost River Search and Rescue are in need of hand-held radios that Levi would like to submit the paperwork on and would need to have a go ahead from the Commissioner's to pursue these at a value of under \$5000.

Sat down with TUSA and discussed the Radio Communications Upgrades, he has gotten contacts and has reviewed the equipment which is sorely lacking.

Have received several questions back from FEMA in regards to the FEMA BRIC Grant for the Mackay Dam, which have been answered. Will need to publish an item regarding the flood plane and then all of what they have asked will be completed.

Deputy Levi Mitchell, the Stanley Deputy, advised that he does not have internet service in Stanley. Would like to have wifi so that he could work from the Stanley area instead of having to drive to the Challis office. Clerk Baker will contact MidVale and get a quote for wifi coverage for the Stanley Deputies.

**Coroner:** Chad Workman has some things that he would like to purchase and will come to the next meeting to address this. There was an email sent from Bannock County inviting the Commissioners and Coroner for a meeting regarding the Forensic Pathology Subscription Model Contracts and the Forensic Pathology facility.

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



  
Randy Corgatelli, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:



Lura H. Baker, Clerk