

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
April 14, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM in the Custer County Commissioners Room by Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioner Will Naillon, Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Clerk Lura Baker, Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer.

Weeds: Brett Plummer advised he had hoped to have roadside spraying done this week, herbicide orders are all in and claims have been submitted. Have had several community members already calling to come and spray. Received a call from the Friends of the SNRA Coalition and will be meeting with them tomorrow at 1:00 PM, Blaine County Weed Supervisor and two regional reps. will be attending as well. This meeting is to formulate a plan regarding spraying weeds, will be an informative meeting on the types of weeds and options for herbicide. Plummer is not sure as to whether SNRA has a weed spraying individual hired or not, will check into this at the meeting tomorrow.

Road & Bridge: Supervisor Brandon Jones advised that they have completed Stephens Road, and will be finishing Jobe Lane today. Have flagger classes this week. Has every position filled for this summer, only one without a CDL. Snow Removal Policy and Cattle Guard Policy were sent to the Commissioners for review. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to approve the Snow Removal Policy and Cattle Guard Policy as presented, motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden and the motion passed. Commissioner Naillon amended motion to include the internal Snow Removal Policy as presented, Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion passed. Discussion regarding campers and roads on Yankee Fork Road. Will be fixing holes and sweeping this week, will be completing patching soon. Will be chipping the lower end of the Pahsimeroi valley, currently prepping the road for the chip seal. Will be advertising again regarding not irrigating roadways, will also prepare an ad for social media. Will be assisting Lost River Highway District at the end of the month on a zipping project.

Commissioner Vaden made a motion to amend the agenda to move the Clerk's Review to 8:30 AM, Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed.

Clerk: Clerk Lura Baker advised that the Prosecuting Attorney prospect would be attending the Commissioner Meeting later today. Discussion regarding appointing vs contracting with the temporary Prosecuting Attorney for Custer County.

Clerk Baker passed the Solid Waste Contract out for Commissioners to review. Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the addendum to the Solid Waste Five (5) year Contract with Wendell Gohn, President of Blue Mountain Refuse, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon and the motion passed.

Commissioner Naillon is to meet with BLM regarding the Solid Waste re-location in Mackay. Discuss regarding rights of way and access to the new proposed location site. Clerk Baker will pull the legal description for the new location.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to go into executive session under I.C. 74-206(1)(d) for Indigent, at 8:35 AM, Seconded by Commissioner Vaden, the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Those present: Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Clerk Baker, Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. Commissioners recessed from executive session at 8:40 AM.

Commissioner Vaden made motion to release the Medical Indigent Lien on case # 03-07, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon, motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Naillon made a motion to go into executive session under I.C. 74-206(1)(F) for Legal at 8:41 AM, motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden, motion passed by unanimous by roll call vote. Those present: Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Clerk Baker, Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. With no decisions being made, the Commissioners recessed from executive session at 8:54 AM.

Clerk Baker advised that our Trial Court Administrator had looked into the hours that the Courts need to be open, she advised that per Idaho Code, Courthouses need to be open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, there can be no other deviation from these hours. Commissioners will think about this until next meeting.

Clerk Baker brought the Resolution 2025-02 Amended Salary Order for review by the Commissioners. Commissioner Naillon made motion to accept the amended salary order, Resolution 2025-02 as presented. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Clerk Baker advised that there is a new employee in the Clerk's Department, Emily Schwarting, she is currently in training and looks very positive.

Discussion regarding the Stanley rural drop box solid waste site, Commissioner Naillon advised that there will need to be a completed Special Use Permit and can then proceed with this plan.

Clerk Baker presented a Certificate of Residency, Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve the Certificate of Residence for G.K., Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Report: Commissioner Naillon advised that there is an individual that is interested in being a Grant Writer. Would like to discuss this with other entities in the area regarding splitting her time and cost.

Commissioners reviewed the current Credit Card requests, Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the credit card application submitted by Linda Dubiel, in the amount of \$362.00 for Jail Administrators conference, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon and the motion passed.

Conference Call: Mary Darling reviewed the summary of the Grizzly EIS, they want 280 bears in the Bitterroot. They also have a no-action alternative, which would allow bears to wander into the area with no plan for maintenance. Also have another plan called a 10J plan which would allow for management of the bears. Discussion of all plans being introduced through the Endangered Species Act and the consequences to those plans. Best plan of attack at this time would be to write a letter to the Presidents Office regarding the affects these bears will have on the area. Discussion regarding how to proceed with the reform of the Endangered Species Act regarding the reintroduction of the Grizzly. Norm James and Karen Budfallon are environmental lawyers working with the Trump Administration regarding the ESA, Commissioners agreed that they would like to write to these individuals and have Mary go ahead with pursuing communication with this administration. Commissioners asked the status of the Sage Grouse, Darling gave status of this species and the stance of the program to date. Darling will look into the status of both of these species and report back to the commissioners.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer advised that she has a plan for investing the funds that will no longer be invested at Wells Fargo. Will have some of those funds drawn out and invested into the State Pool.

Will have to take one property on tax deed as the owners have passed and there are no descendants, there is a \$75,000 lien from the State on this property but will have to work that into the process. Have a few other properties that are behind, but she is working with the property owners on remedying the past due taxes.

Discussion on the status of the Court Annex building. Update on the progress and where Forestier Construction is in regards to completion of the project.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve minutes for the regular Commissioner Special Meeting held Friday, March 28, 2025, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaden. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Commissioner Naillon made motion to approve minutes for the regular Commissioner Special Meeting held with the USFS Thursday, April 10, 2025, motion was seconded by Commissioner Vaden. Motion passed unanimously.

Claims: Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve claims through 04/11/2025 in the amount of \$438,027.86 with the addition of \$1385.81 for claim submitted by Will Naillon. Motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon, motion passed.

Current Expense	\$ 81,987.83
Road & Bridge	\$124,731.60
Election	\$ 299.99
District Court	\$ 978.85
Rodeo Grounds	\$ 198.37
Health District	\$ 12,994.50
Revaluation	\$ 1,264.55
Solid Waste	\$ 2,348.19
Weeds	\$ 48,844.07
LATCF	\$ 164,977.20
Emergency Comm	<u>\$ 788.52</u>
TOTAL	\$439,413.67

NRAC: Jim Hawkins reviewed highlights of the conference call between Commissioners and Mary Darling from earlier in the meeting. Discussion regarding the reintroduction of the Grizzly Bear and the history behind this plan. Hawkins advised that he understood that the FEMA funding had been cancelled for the Mackay Dam Project. He feels that the "health, safety and welfare of the community" needs to be addressed in regards to this project with the Federal Government.

Commissioner Corgatelli asked about the prospect of having a special meeting regarding Range with the USFS, but isn't sure that there will be enough topic for a meeting and would think that it would be best to address in the fall. Hawkins advised that he believes that if the USFS is willing to have meetings, to continue to address issues as we can. Commissioners discussed and decided to put the topic of Range out for later this year.

Hawkins would like to pursue the proposal of opening the Wilderness Area up for chainsaw use, for a temporary period of time, for trail clean up. Would like to be able to utilize the area by motorized vehicle but that does not look like a possibility. Hawkins would like to keep this idea in the forefront so that it would not be forgotten, Commissioner Naillon advised that he feels that this proposal is not going to be overlooked and that around the end of May there should be a decision made.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to amend the agenda to move Kendall Ballard on the schedule to 10:45 AM from 11:00 AM, motion seconded by Commissioner Vaden and motion passed.

Ballard Insurance: Kendall Ballard, an insurance agent with Ballard Insurance gave a brief history of municipalities that Ballard Insurance works with and their background with working with group health insurance, such as Madison County. Currently working more with City governments. Ballard gave brief presentation for a Health Insurance plan for the County, touching on the transition to Medicare and how the County could assist with employee need for Medicaid. Advised that Ballard likes to also assist with educating the employees on the plan so that employees know how to utilize their plan. Advised that they would be able to get a soft quote via census data and would not need actual applications, just names, age and dependent info and current rates. Commissioners decided to re-address this later this year during budget hearings and get back to Kendall.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to go into executive session under I.C. 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel, at 11.15 AM, Seconded by Commissioner Vaden, the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Those present: Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. Commissioners recessed from executive session at 11:33 AM.

Commissioner Vaden asked if the other Commissioners would be willing to go to Stanley to review the location for the new well to be drilled at employee housing and also to review the Stanley Rural Drop Box waste site. Commissioners will schedule a time to travel to Stanley.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 11:58 AM 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) - Challis Bridge repair will have a temporary closure 05/05/2025 to 05/16/2025. Will have a temporary closure for the Bayhorse campground that will be happening in the fall 2025. Brenda Johnson will be taking the voluntary retirement, has been the administrative professional at the front desk. Were able to get the probationary individuals that were laid off back, are currently down an administrative assistance, weeds/fuels and a range technician. Commissioner Naillon asked about plans to extend the Joe Fallini campground, Hilliard advised that this is still in the planning stage. Commissioners gave update on the status of the Mackay Dam project.

Randall Anderson (BLM) – In regards to the fencing near Hwy 75 for the Feral Horses, Kevin Lloyd has been communicating with ITD, who has advised that they are on board with looking into a fence. Fence from Mackay to Challis, near highway is down, there is about 40 miles of fence that is in disrepair. Also fencing near the Challis dump is non-existent and a permittee that has not put cattle on that range area is now going to put cattle out, which will end up on the highway with the fence as it is. Commissioners advised that this property is actually part of the city and BLM will have to discuss this problem with the City of Challis.

Mary D'Aversa (BLM) – Commissioner Naillon asked about an easement in the Mackay area for the Mackay solid waste site, she advised to submit a request. Dave Hilliard is going to continue to as the acting field manager at this time due to hiring issues with the Federal Government. There has been a deferral put on building the new building out by the bridge location due to freeze on the federal funding. Will not be able to start building for another few years.

John Runkle (USFS) - Employing firefighters has been positive, will have an engine for the Mackay area. 150 acres of prescribed burning in South Big Lost Range was completed last week. Campgrounds are not going to be closed, however there will be limited water and there will not be a fee. Personnel down for recreation. Lease on their building ends in February 2026 and no information on a renewal, but do have a contingent plan. Not being told much on future government plans. Commissioner Corgatelli advised that the Commissioners still want to have a list of all non-used range allotments. Deputy Clerk Hawkins will follow-up with a letter requesting the allotment lists. John requested that they no longer have to attend the Commissioners meetings monthly, would rather come quarterly, Commissioners advised that they would rather he attempt to attend but communicate if he cannot.

Ryan Hilton (Fish & Game) – Spring Bear Hunting, as well as Turkey opens tomorrow. Budget line item approved through the State for expansion on their building in Salmon. Steelhead season is winding down, but was a really good season. Will be starting field work, projects for habitat improvements and other items have been put on brief hold due to funding through Federal Government, as they contract with BLM and USFS. Irrigation is beginning, water is being turned on and screens are planned for repair or new construction.

Mike Fuller (SNRA) – May 1, 2025 the roads open on the SNRA. Did get campgrounds open for the Steelhead season. Going to start with the virtual fencing in the Stanley area, trying to utilize the field usage and keep animals out of the burned area. Trying to keep office open 10-3 Monday through Thursday. Coordinating with Boise Forest in the Grand Jean area for salvage harvest. Discussion regarding the reasons and pushback for the salvage harvest in that area. Commissioner Naillon asked about the rehabilitation process for burn area in the SNRA and Boise Forest. C&M crew is going to be utilized for roads. As for staffing status, they have no employees in range, administration, private lands admin, only one in wilderness and trails, three in recreation. Notifications are being sent out today, referred to as a 2.0, for voluntary retirement, if they sign they will be finished by the end of April. Chief concern in the Stanley office, they have approximately 1300 visitors in his office per year and he is worried about being able to service these individuals efficiently. Fuller asked for a status update on the Rural Drop Site, Commissioner Naillon explained where the County is at with this project and gave a tentative open date of June 1, 2025 for opening. Fuller also wanted to advise the Commissioners that the two deputies in the Stanley area do a very good job.

Prosecutor: Paul Rogers gave a brief history of his law career. Discussion on the process for appointment or contract for the prosecutor position. Rogers cited Idaho Code 59-907 in regards to appointing and/or contracting with a Prosecutor. Under this code, a resolution will need to be adopted and then an appointment can take place. If there are multiple names, interviews will need to be completed. Letters will need to be sent out immediately informing applicants that interviews will be completed the week of April 22, 2025. Commissioners will hold a special meeting to be scheduled for that date of April 22, 2025 at 10:00 AM.

Custer County Sheriff: Sheriff Maydole advised that the Chief Administrator will start on May 2, 2025. Had a dispatcher take a patrol deputy position, leaving a vacancy in dispatch. Officers' Harvey and Brewer have returned to duty with the department. Holding one inmate inhouse, one male and one juvenile in Lemhi County. Received lightbars from Ada County that will be mounted on the patrol vehicles. Spoke with Mayor Botti this morning regarding the office trailer for the Stanley housing location. Waterways program is secure for the season, as the grant paperwork has been approved for 2025. Commissioner Naillon advised that there will be a contractor coming to Challis to review the proposed jail location, asked Maydole if he would attend this meeting at 1:00 PM on April 24, 2025. Maydole asked the Commissioners about setting a date to meet with WhiteCloud in regards to the communications project, Commissioners advised to schedule this meeting for 10:00 AM on April 24, 2025. Sheriff Maydole advised that this week is National Dispatch week.

Emergency Management: Lisa Benson gave a status report, discussion regarding BRIC funding freeze. Benson advised that there needs to be a formal adoption of the Senior Official Guide for Custer County, as well as and Emergency Operation Plan (EOP). Commissioners advised her to get these documents to Paul Rogers for review and to have it added to the agenda, with an action item, for the next Commissioner meeting. Discussion regarding the Custer County Hazard Mitigation Plan, that will need to be reviewed and revised. Discussion regarding the SVWLFC Spring Meeting, Commissioners will join this meeting on May 30, 2025 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Great West Engineering -Travis Pyle - Need to have public hearing scheduled for increasing solid waste fees in the Mackay area. Commissioners invited Pyle to attend the public hearings to help explain the reasons for the increase in fees. Discussion regarding setting the solid waste fees and different categories for charging the fees, such as commercial, residential, multi family dwellings, etc. Pyle advised he would write a letter with his recommendations to start with advertising to the citizens. Will have to set categories and then set rates from there. Discussion regarding a landfill and the challenges vs the benefits. Pyle gave some examples of other options and what other entities have done. Discussion turned to the jail proposals.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica Clemenham came before the Commissioners regarding the status of filling the part-time position that is available in the P&Z department. Commissioner Naillon asked if there was a job description that she would like to have an employee follow. Clemenham advised that she would want someone that could answer phone calls, some

research, minutes and findings of fact reports, initial permit forms and address letters. She advised that she is too busy with the influx of Conditional Use Permits to be able to do the administrative working. Commissioners asked how many hours Clemenhagen would like the part-time employee to work, and were advised that up to 29 hours would be ideal. Commissioners advised that they would like to help Clemenhagen. Discussion regarding some of the projects on file at this time. Discussion regarding some inquiries that have come through regarding solar development projects. Clemenhagen advised that there is an issue with citizens that feel P&Z have authority to enforce all property issues and P&Z cannot, which needs to be more transparent to the public. Clemenhagen will also make a list of issues that need to be addressed on the revision of the Custer County Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Naillon made motion to go into executive session under I.C. 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel, at 4:39 PM, Seconded by Commissioner Vaden, the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Those present: Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Naillon, Commissioner Vaden, Clerk Baker, Deputy Clerk Giampedraglia and Deputy Clerk Hawkins and Jessica Clemenhagen. Commissioners recessed from executive session at 4:48 PM.

The meeting was recessed at 4:54 PM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the minutes from 03/26/2025 and claims through 04/11/2026 in amount of \$280.13, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon, motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Vaden made motion to approve the proposal with United Medical Services, LLC as the third-party medical biller. Commissioner Naillon seconded and motion passed. Motion made by Vaden to send termination letter to SoleStone Reimbursement Services, motion seconded by Commissioner Naillon and motion passed. Reconvened to the regular meeting at 4:57 AM.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.



Attest:



Lura H. Baker, Clerk


Randy Corgatelli, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner Chairman