

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
April 24, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM by Commissioner Chairman Randy Corgatelli, with Commissioners Steve Smith, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker and Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, Emergency Manager Levi Maydole, Will Naillon, Ron Bloxham and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Weeds: Brett Plummer has received the weed free twine for 2024. The bid for the spray unit being built for the road-side spray truck will come in between \$15,000 and \$20,000. This will include shipping from eastern Oregon. He has all the roadside spray work completed except the East Fork Road. He is holding off on that section due to road work that is in progress. The cooperative weed agreements with the USFS and the BLM were then discussed. Commissioner Zollinger inquired about weed control that is done in the backcountry? Brett explained that such work is paid for through the CWMA funding, and this year they are working on the Thomas Cr. airstrip and Bernard airstrip. Discussion turned to keeping the public informed about weed control. The Noxious Weed postcards will be going out the end of June. The Custer County/ITD weed contract is up for renewal. District #6 will be meeting on May 14th in Clark County to get the new ITD contracts completed. Brett will be needing new computers for operating the drone and doing the GIS mapping. He is working with IT-Jonathan Huse on the purchase of a new laptop and desktop. The agencies are planning another 8 to 10-thousand-acre spray project this fall. Brett will be spraying the project perimeter with the drone. Brett will need to purchase an enclosed trailer for hauling the drone, drone equipment, generator and ATV chase vehicle. He is looking for an 8-foot-wide trailer that is approximately 18' long to contain everything at a cost around \$10,000.00. Brett will attend a drone training held in Bonneville County on June 12th. Commissioner Zollinger asked if a drone demonstration could be done for the Board, and one will be planned for this summer. Brett has all the needed first aid kits updated and installed in the trucks.

Clerk: A credit card application was presented for purchase of Courier Bags for the Election Department. They will be paid for with HAVA funding, and will be needed for deliver of absentee ballots to each precinct on election day. The Road & Bridge crew have agreed to assist with needed delivery drivers. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the purchase of courier bags for Elections Dept. in the amount of \$617.59. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith requested credit card use for Registration of the WIR Conference at a cost of \$515.00 through NACO. He will also need to utilize the credit card for room reservations at the Yosemite Sierra Inn for his lodging during the conference for an estimated cost of \$1,100.00.

Commissioners: The Custer County ECIPDA representative will be changing from Commissioner Corgatelli to Commissioner Zollinger. The recent BOE training was attended by Commissioner Zollinger and Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Zollinger will attend the N Custer Rodeo Committee meeting on May 9th. Zollinger attended the Fair Board meeting on April 18th and reported the Blue Exhibit Building needs some major roof repairs, as it leaks about everywhere. The fees charged for the fairground RV spaces is still at \$25.00 and the stall fee is \$15.00. The Fair Board is planning to make the bathroom doors ADA compliant as well as purchase some more used stock panels from the 2024 Salmon River Horse Sale. The Hog weigh-in will be May 10th, and the Sheep weigh-in will be May 31st. They are also having classes for Rabbits, Chickens and Goats this year. Torey O'Neil will be doing the Open Horse Show and Twin Peaks, Mackay will be handling the fair food. Attending the SREC Annual Meeting disclosed that there will be an 8% power rate increase across the board coming to our area.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(f) for Legal at 9:04 AM. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Zollinger, 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 9:24 AM.

Clerk: The Stanley area Deputy has requested higher internet speeds, and possible removal of the Sheriff Office land line in the county building that is now his housing. After discussion, Commissioner Zollinger moved that the

internet speed be increased and the installed land line remain. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Clerk Lura Baker has learned that South Custer Ambulance District would like to dispose of their old ambulance that has been replaced. The city of Firth would like to have it. Discussion on the correct way to make the transition was held.

Emergency Manager: Levi Maydole attended and provided handouts on the TUSA - Tate proposals. The process was reviewed and payment process explained. All agreed that professional oversight is a necessity on communication systems. The Custer Telephone Co-op. Inc. contract was also provided for Board review and a copy will be given to the Prosecutor as well. Levi then informed the Board about older radios that Thompson Creek Mine would like to gift to the Search and Rescue volunteers. Commissioner Smith moved that the grant funding for Search and Rescue Radios be increased to \$6,000 from the previous amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. The Emergency Services office still needs to have cabinets, counter tops and a sink installed in the break room. Maydole provided a bid of \$1,800.00 for the complete job installed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the purchase of cupboards, counter top, sink and complete installation for \$1,800.00. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion carried. Manager Maydole then reported on the recent power outage that created havoc in the county computer power backup systems. The outage was created by old line connections in the SREC power lines that failed. The multiple outages revealed the weak links in the county power backup systems. Corrections have been made and batteries re-charged. Levi then reported that the IPAW's system is now up and running within Custer County. He discussed the required monthly system tests with the Board and they agreed that a regular schedule would be best. The ballistic safety vests ordered for the Sheriff's Office are here, and the helmets will arrive shortly.

NRAC: Chairman Jim Hawkins inquired if the Board members had read the newly released 600+ page Greater Sage Grouse EIS? The current deadline for submitting comments is June 13th and for the amount of information given it was agreed that it is not enough time to digest a document of this size. Jim suggested an extension be requested of at least 45 days and perhaps 90 days be requested. It was agreed that Mary Darling will be contacted to comment on behalf of Custer County. The recent Zoom meeting hosted by American Stewards of Liberty about requesting coordination with local government on Environmental Impact Statements was reviewed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the letter that was sent by American Stewards of Liberty with a co-signature by Custer County Commissioners. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jim Hawkins then suggested that a formal invitation be sent to Salmon/Challis Forest Supervisor Heather DeGeest to please attend a Custer County Commissioners meeting. He then reminded the Board that former Forest Supervisor Mark had promised Custer County a seat at the table when the Salmon Forest Plan Revision was being done. The new supervisor needs to know about this agreement and honor it. Hawkins then brought the fact that Wilderness Management Plans for the Boulder White Cloud Wilderness and Jim McClure/Jerry Peak Wilderness that have not been completed as yet. The Custer County Commissioners need to take their seat at the planning table to be coordinating on these management plans. The USFS has not completed the survey of either of these wilderness areas and the old fencing is not on the agreed upon boundaries. Chairman Hawkins then updated the Board on the Record of Decision for Grizzly Bear transplants in eastern Washington by the US Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. Commissioner Smith updated the group on the new legislation that gives conservation easements equal standing with multiple use that has been pushed through congress.

Certificate of Residency: Clerk Lura Baker provided the Oveson application for Board review. Commissioner Zollinger moved that it be approved as presented, Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

Pitney-Bowes Contract: Deputy Clerk Hawkins provided the new Pitney-Bowes postage machine lease contract for Board review. The cost is currently \$1,058.37 per quarter. Commissioner Smith moved that the lease agreement be approved and signed. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion passed.

Clerk: Clerk Lura Baker reported that she has received notice that the Secure Rural Schools funds will be appropriated for 2024. These funds in the amount of \$1.7 million are divided between Schools, the Resource Advisory Committee and Firewise programs. Commissioner Smith made a motion to amend the agenda and move

Probation/Aletia Workman and Shane Boyle up from 11:00 AM to 10:30AM. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion passed.

Probation: Shane Boyle, District #7 Juvenile Corrections Liaison provided handouts to the Board for Juvenile statistics in Custer County. The numbers and finances are very similar to last year. Probation Officer Aletia Workman provided her monthly report and explained the mechanics of her job duties for the Board members.

Clerk: Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 11:01 AM. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Zollinger, 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 11:14 AM. Commissioner Smith moved that the sick leave transfer request be denied, as it doesn't meet policy requirements. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. Clerk Lura Baker then presented the invoice for the IAC - Natural Resource Litigation Fund annual dues in the amount of \$2,346.80. Discussion was held on the ARPA funds and the reports that are required. The USFS Collection Agreement for S. Custer Search and Rescue was provided for Board review. Comparison was made with the Lemhi County Collection Agreement and the many differences were noted. This information will be given to Justin Oleson/Prosecuting Attorney for further review.

The minutes for the 4/8/24 commissioners meeting were reviewed. The BOE portion of the minutes will be separated onto its own page. Clerk Lura Baker also provided information packets for the upcoming BOE applications to the Board members to review before the next BOE meeting.

Stanley Deputy Housing: Commissioner Smith has completed a "squawk list" inspection with the contractor. A few items were discovered that will be fixed by Mr. Burk. Smoke alarms have been purchased and will be installed. Commissioner Smith has provided the needed information on the replacement Stanley Sheriff's Office to the SNRA.

ATC Communications: Manager, Kyle Bradshaw let the Board of Commissioners know about the fiber-optic work they are doing in southern Custer County. Colored maps were provided of the work that has been completed and what is planned in the upcoming year. There are more CPD Grants coming up for such work and they would like to apply. They are also applying for Broadband Equity Access & Deployment "BEAD" grants which are allocating \$583 million in the state of Idaho.

The meeting was recessed for a lunch break and reconvened at 1:00 PM. Attending were Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker, Emergency Manager Levi Maydole, Ron Bloxham, Will Naillon, Taylor Pratt/USDA and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. Noel LA Roque/USDA also attended via Zoom connection.

Rural Development/USDA: Clerk Lura Baker has researched the county attempts to get a jail/sheriff's office and courthouse remodel done over the years. She provided the documentation for inclusion in our application. Noel requested some photos of the court annex work that is currently in progress, as well as copies of former plans. Taylor Pratt will get the photos of the foundation that is completed, and deliver the copies to the Rural Development office.

The meeting was recessed at 1:45 PM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. The meeting was reconvened at 1:47 PM.

IT Jonathan Huse – Snake River Computers: Jonathan attended via Zoom connection and he outlined the recent problems caused in the Custer County computer system by power outages. A schematic of the current system was gone over to show where needed changes should be made. 1) Courts require dual factor authorization 2) another terabyte of storage is needed 3) the server is at 6.7 and needs to be at 7.3. He offered to get a quote put together on the needed items, as well as future improvements he recommends.

Sheriff: Sheriff Stu Lumpkin and Jessica Clemenhausen attended. Chairman Randy Corgatelli presented Sheriff Stuart Lumpkin a Certificate of Appreciation for his 23 years of service as Custer County Sheriff. The Board also expressed their desire to have his service revolver engraved on his behalf. Sheriff Lumpkin reported that the grill guards for the trucks are being shipped from Texas, and when they arrive installation appointments will be made. The two vehicles that are being retired from the Sheriff's fleet need to have center consoles put back in. Commissioner Smith will contact Bill Ricks Towing to see about purchasing replacement consoles. Sheriff Lumpkin also reported that Day Wireless will be checking the backup computer servers to see what the problem is.

Claims: Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid with an addition of \$2,346.80 for the IAC- Natural Resource Litigation Fund. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it carried.

Current Expense	56,461.60
Road & Bridge	12,283.46
Election Fund	30,889.00
District Court	19,548.00
Rodeo Grounds	22.18
Revaluation	79.95
Solid Waste	2,098.19
Weeds	249.59
Waterways	116.60
ARPA Fund	2,970.00
Auditors Trust	204.75
TOTAL	\$124,923.32

Commissioner Smith requested use of the County credit card for room reservations and NACO registration charges for the upcoming WIR Conference. Commissioner Zollinger moved that the use be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

Planning & Zoning/Assessor: Jessica Clemenhausen/P & Z Administrator and Jacquell Bruno/Assessor attended the meeting. Justin Oleson/Prosecuting Attorney attended via Zoom connection. Public comments on lot splits that were improperly handled in the past were addressed. The 2- or 3-year time line was reviewed on the Antelope Creek area parcels that are not buildable. Prosecutor Oleson went over the many conflicts he has dealt with because of such splits, and walked through a possible solution. Clerk Lura Baker suggested a list be built and maintained. Assessor Jacquell Bruno suggested building a spreadsheet on the common drive that everyone can access and update their portion. Oleson suggested a time frame be agreed upon for each office to complete their portion of the process. It was suggested that all pending lot splits be entered into the spreadsheet, to keep everyone updated. Shelley Ridenour/Challis Messenger Administrator attended the meeting. The Board agreed that a county policy is needed. A form letter will be created by Jessica/P&Z, which will be approved through the Prosecutors Office. The original parcels were designated in 2003, many lot splits were done in 2005 and Planning & Zoning began in 2007. Getting the Custer County Land Use Plan updated was also discussed.

Solid Waste: Assessor/Jacquell Bruno has talked to other counties about their solid waste residential fee charges, which range from \$75.00 to \$195.00 (Lemhi county charges \$100.00). They all charge one half to their circuit breaker citizens. Custer County solid waste fees are Residential - \$25.00; Commercial - \$50.00; and Schools are exempt. The fees will need to be raised substantially to support a Custer County landfill and recommendations from Great West Engineering/Travis Pyle are Residential - \$106.00; and Commercial - \$212.00. Custer County currently has 313 Circuit Breaker citizens. The demographics within each city will be a factor, ie: Stanley in the winter. Commissioner Smith felt that Public Hearings need to be held with expertise and help from Travis Pyle/Great West Engineering. All the Board members agreed and felt a hearing should be held in Challis, Mackay and Stanley.

Clerk: Lura Baker/Clerk has received the Public Defense Commission final annual report. The State of Idaho will provide Public Defenders for each county the new cost for PD's is being discussed and will begin October 1, 2024.

Commissioner Smith will author a letter requesting the comment period for the Greater Sage Grouse EIS be extended for a minimum of 45-days, on behalf of Custer County. The 4-7-2024 minutes will be reprinted to separate the BOE portion. Commissioner Zollinger moved to approve the minutes of the 4-7-24 Commissioners meeting with the BOE portion separated. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 P.M.



Attest:


Lura H. Baker, Clerk


Randy Corgatelli, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner