

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
May 29, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 AM by Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Clerk Lura Baker, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Will Naillon and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Commissioners Steve Smith and Gordon Vaden attended via phone connection. Upcoming meeting dates were reviewed. June 7<sup>th</sup> – Budget meeting; June 19<sup>th</sup> – Budget/ Departments meeting; June 24<sup>th</sup> – Regular Commissioners meeting & BOE; July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting in Stanley for Solid Waste; July 31<sup>st</sup> – Regular Commissioners meeting (not able to meet in Stanley due to conflicting events).

**Road & Bridge Dept:** Superintendent Brandon Jones reported on their maintenance work in the Stanley area. They were able to repair some wash-outs in the Cow Camp Road while they were in the area. Brandon Jones has been working with Lucas Yockey/Lost River Highway Dist. to set up a share/trade agreement on equipment, trucks and crew. CC R&B has the zipper equipment and LRHD has 3 new dump trucks and drivers. An exchange is being worked out to jointly work on road zipping in both districts. CCR&B will provide the zipper and operator while LRHD will provide dump trucks and drivers. This will be a cost benefit to both road districts. Jones then presented his proposal to purchase 3 new traffic counters. He went over the benefits of the new style traffic counters and the additional information they will provide to the road department. The Board members were all in support of the purchase. Commissioner Zollinger moved that the Road & Bridge Dept. be approved to purchase 3 new traffic counters. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed. Supt. Jones then reported on his visit to the Chip Spreader Company. Custer County currently has two 1970 era chip spreader machines. One still operates, the other has been used for parts to keep things going. Options to the county are (1) rebuild the old machine at a cost of 190,000 to 195,000. (2) purchase a 2006 rebuilt machine that has all the components rebuilt at a cost of \$250,000 to \$255,000. (3) purchase a new chip spreader machine at a cost of \$475,000. The Board watched a slide presentation of the equipment and discussed the options. The Company will accept the old machines as trade-in on our purchase. Commissioner Smith moved that the purchase of the rebuilt 2006 spreader be approved for Road & Bridge in FY2025. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. The Lost River Highway Dist. and Custer Co. Road & Bridge would like to set up a joint use agreement for this machine also. Commissioner Zollinger thanked Brandon and his crew for their help during the primary election. They were excellent help to the Election Precincts with all the loading and unloading of equipment.

**Clerk:** Lura Baker brought forward the need to re-open the Stanley Solid Waste transfer site, and offered different possibilities. Questions were raised such as "Who would be hauling the solid waste?" It was agreed that Blue Mountain Refuse and Clear Creek Disposal both need to be contacted. Commissioner Smith suggested a special meeting be set up in Stanley. Clerk Baker then provided information from Norm Folgers/TUSA on his request for a meeting to review the bidding from TAIT. Meeting dates were set on Wed. June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 and Thurs. June 26<sup>th</sup> between the Commissioners and TUSA. Clerk Baker is working on the \$600,000 USDA Grant application that is due by Friday. Lura Baker then briefed the Board on the bids that have been received for the court annex building HVAC and electrical. She also updated them on the disposal of the old South Custer ambulance that is going to Bingham County.

The meeting was recessed at 8:50 AM for travel to Mackay City Hall. The meeting reconvened at 10:00 AM in Mackay City Hall. Attending were Chairman Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, Commissioner Steve Smith, Gordon Vaden, Will Naillon, James Corbet/EIPH, Blair Dance/EIPH and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins.

**East Idaho Public Health:** James Corbet presented the EIPH Budget information to the Board of Commissioners. He explained the designated funds that are being included this year. Their operating costs are rising, mainly due to the increase in vaccine costs. They are changing their insurance provider to Blue Shield of Idaho from Blue Cross. Commissioner Smith inquired about their deductibles? James responded that they are from \$750.00 to \$3,500.00 depending upon the employee's status. There has been a 20% increase in reimbursements for vaccines. The number of septic permits issued in Custer County has decreased since 2021. The Board was then asked what they

do with the Opioid Funding they receive. Chairman Corgatelli verified that we pass it directly on to EIPH. The opioid projects the EIPH funds were then discussed and how grants are provided back to the counties. There will be a 3% increase in County appropriation for 2024, which is the first increase in 8 years. June 20<sup>th</sup> the EIPH Budget meeting will be held with Zoom connection (Commissioner Smith plans to attend). Each county has representation on the EIPH Board. Regional landfills were then discussed. The main roadblocks for opening landfills are "water table levels" and "rain fall amounts". Commissioner Zollinger requested continuation of the EIPH assistance with area schools and the drug trailer educational programs.

**Battleground Mosquito Abatement Dist.:** Scott Johnson, Dan Mulick and Don Dorrell attended the meeting. Printouts of the tax collections for the mosquito district were provided by the Assessor's Office. The District representatives requested to have the spray days directly connected to the amount of tax payments collected. Spray truck operator, Don Dorrell verified that some stops take 15 min, and some take up to an hour. It was decided to reword the Annual Notice that is published in local newspapers. This will inform the public and provide a Commissioners phone number for concerns and questions. Commissioner Zollinger inquired about the spray process. Mr. Dorrell has up to 100 locations that he provides mosquito abatement for. He sprays the southern end one day and the northern end the next. If it is cooler than 58 degrees he cannot spray, or if the wind is blowing hard or the wrong way he cannot spray.

**Indigent Health Service:** The Board contacted Clerk Lura Baker via phone. She informed them that there is a July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline on Inmate Medical ratings. In the past Custer County was able to use Martha Overdorf to rate the invoices. The only choices available to the counties is a 10% fee on invoice savings, or a flat \$750.00 per month charge. After discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to utilize the 10% of invoice savings method. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed.

The letter of support for North Custer Hospital District on the EMSAVE was then reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved to approve and sign the letter, Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it carried. Another letter of support for the Butte County Sheriff Department to receive the PSAP equipment through the E-911 Grants was read and reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved to approve and sign the letter. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Smith reported on his attendance to the Legislative Update meetings. He reviewed upcoming legislation and how it will affect Custer County. H-561 Campaign signage distance from polling places, H478 City and County building inspectors can be combined, S-1403 Change in number of members in committee, H608 – Agriculture Protection Areas required in county planning & zoning. Commissioner Smith then reported on his conversation with Mary Darling/Darling Geomatics about the request for extending the comment period beyond June 13<sup>th</sup> for the Old Growth Forest mandates. Mary has sent comments in on Custer Counties behalf well before the deadline. Commissioner Smith scheduled a meeting with the USFS during the WIR conference and brought back a copy of the MOU that creates cooperation status for a county. He has also authored a letter of request for the extension of the comment period on behalf of Custer County. He provided a copy of the letter for Board review and for the Clerk to check over before sending off to the Forest Service.

Review of the work done by the American Stewards of Liberty was done on behalf of Gordon Vaden and Will Naillon, primary election winners of the commissioner seats. Commissioner Smith encouraged them to attend all the offered IAC training and NACO meetings that they can. The Homeland Security phone cards were then discussed and how they will be transferred when the time comes. The Commission representation on the USFS – Natural Resource Advisory Committee will also need to be decided in the near future. Will responded that he is currently on the USFS – NRAC as a mining representative.

**Bids for Court Annex:** Commissioner Smith made a motion to withdraw the acceptance of an HVAC bid for \$244,588.00 from the last meeting. Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Clerk has received bids for the HVAC and electrical portions of building the court annex. The HVAC bids were reviewed first. Ray's Heating, Cooling & Air Conditioning submitted a bid for \$459,140.00, Energy Plus submitted a bid for \$344,850.00, and Wiemer Heating & Air Conditioning submitted a bid for \$278,985.00. Commissioner Smith

clarified that the water and sewer lines will be stubbed in for these bids. Commissioner Smith made a motion to accept the bid of \$278,985.00 submitted by Wiemer Heating & Air Conditioning. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. The bids received for the electrical portion of the building were reviewed next. Wunsch Electric submitted a bid for \$295,000.00 and SY Electric submitted a bid for \$628,841.00. After review and discussion, Commissioner Smith moved to accept the Wunsch Electric bid of \$295,000.00. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it passed. The court annex seating was then brought up. The pews that were purchased are currently stored in Dave Cannon's garage and he would like them to be picked up. Safe storage space has been located at JK Storage. Commissioner Smith moved that the County rent a 20' storage space at a cost of \$95.00 per month to put the pew's in until the annex is completed. Commissioner Zollinger seconded the motion and it carried.

The meeting was recessed for a lunch break and reconvened at 1:30 PM. Attending were Commissioner Chairman Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Zollinger, Commissioner Smith, Will Naillon, Gordon Vaden and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins.

The minutes from the 5-13-2024 Commissioner meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Zollinger moved that they be approved as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it passed.

**Claims:** Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid with the additions of \$356.90 for Steve Smith, Commissioner Zollinger seconded and the motion carried.

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Current Expense | 34,211.31         |
| Road & Bridge   | 111,222.75        |
| Election Fund   | 617.59            |
| District Court  | 21,005.81         |
| Rodeo Grounds   | 88.14             |
| Solid Waste     | 2,098.19          |
| Weeds           | 6,340.40          |
| Waterways       | <u>2,571.54</u>   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>    | <b>178,155.73</b> |

Commissioner Smith went over the communications upgrade process that Custer County has been pursuing with TUSA. He walked those present through Phase I and Phase II. Clerk Lura Baker was then called to confirm the latest meeting request from Norm Folgers/TUSA. TUSA is requesting at least two days for contract negotiations with the TAIT Communications Company that won the bid. Clerk Baker inquired about where the funding for this project was coming from? Dates of June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> were chosen for the negotiations to be held in the Commissioners Room at the Courthouse.

Clerk Baker then discussed the USDA Grant application for \$600,000 that she was completing and if the ARPA funds would be utilized for the TUSA project, or on the Court Annex building project? Brandon Jones/Road & Bridge Supt. is going to be in the Blackfoot area and has offered to pick up the pews. The Board approved his offer. Crystal Johnson with USFS has requested a meeting with the Board of Commissioners and the Road & Bridge Department about road work. The Board offered her a time slot during the regular June 10<sup>th</sup> commissioners meeting, and will invite Lemhi County to attend as well. They have invited the District Ranger, Heather DeGeest to attend a Custer County Commissioners meeting and discuss the Grizzly Bears and Old Growth Forest issues.

Commissioner Zollinger reminded all attending of the June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting that has been set for Stanley Community Center on solid waste issues. Clear Creek Disposal, Stanly Mayor Steve Botti, Blue Mountain Refuse and the Board of Commissioners will meet in town. They will tour the solid waste transfer site if needed.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 P.M.

  
Randy Corgatelli, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:   
Lura H. Baker, Clerk

