

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
September 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioners Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Weeds: Brett has picked up the new truck from federal surplus and it is in very nice shape. He is working with Jerrod Myers on the BLM Grant using a new process. They have finished with private spray jobs and are now spraying on federal lands. One project is in Trail Creek doing some trial sections on halogeton spraying. They have lost some cattle in this area. Brett has the new truck set up, and there is a spare tank on hand. He has also rebuilt all the various pumps that were on site and has some spares for emergency use. Commissioner Smith inquired about his inventory of spare parts, as getting parts is becoming harder and harder. Brett agreed and has kept his parts inventory full. The Board thanked him for the great job that he has done and is currently doing in the Weed Department.

Road & Bridge: Brandon presented the Letter of Certification for the Road Creek Bridge project with the Custer Soil and Water Conservation District for review and approval. Commissioner Smith moved that it be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Brandon then provided information on a 2008 International Paystar 5600 dump truck he located with very low mileage to replace the Mack. The asking price is \$86,000 it has a Cummins engine and is a 4X4 that would work very well plowing the East Fork road. The truck is located in Central Point, Oregon, and will require delivery or sending someone over to pick it up. The truck does not have live hydraulics. The truck is needed mainly for plowing, but could be set up as a water truck with a slide in tank. There will be additional costs for installing the live hydraulics and water tank. Discussion was held on the difficulty of finding new vehicles. Commissioner Smith moved that the truck be purchased for \$86,500.00 from S & G Wilson Truck and Equipment Inc. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Brandon then delivered the information on a metal detector he would like to purchase for \$866.00 plus freight. The Board reviewed the information from Schonsedt. Commissioner Smith moved that the metal detector be purchased, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. The road issues connected to reducing speed on private lands have been researched by Brandon. The Board of Commissioners has also researched the legal ramification involved and talked to the Prosecutor. Clerk Lura Baker suggested our attorney be the author of the response letter.

Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 8:55. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 9:03.

Wade Allen/ID Transp. Dept., Cody Schmidt/Dist. Sup. And Jason Minzghor/Dist. Engineer attended the meeting at 9:00 AM. Chairman Butts reviewed the road speed situation for their benefit. Wade listed the speed information that has been recently collected by the ITD showing speeds between 123 mph and 46 mph. If the speed study is completed it could very well give a recommendation to "increase" the speed limit rather than decrease the speed limit, as ID State Statute requires average speeds be set. The roughness of the Warm Springs Cr. bridge has been worked on by ITD, and improved somewhat. They realize that there are some compaction issues underneath the bridge that will require additional work. The Board thanked them for their efforts. The Hot Springs Road and Highway 93 junction agreement was gone over, as well as widening the Morgan Creek Road approach to allow larger vehicles enough space to turn. Wade then reviewed the ITD ownership of a portion of Challis Main Avenue, and the offer that City of Challis has made to take it over. This change of ownership would streamline permitting for utility work as well as maintenance issues. The Commissioners agreed that ITD continue with negotiations on the exchange of ownership agreement with City of Challis.

Prosecutor: Justin Oleson attended and the current Custer Co. Public Defender situation was discussed. John Thomas has sent a letter of resignation due to a more important work load. Questions were asked by the Board members. Chairman Butts will proceed with inquiry to help the board understand the current situation. Justin suggested alternating the Criminal and Civil court dates to every other Monday.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer attended and provided copies of her monthly report. She learned at the Treasurers Conference that some counties are no longer sharing the penalty and interest income with other entities. She will get more clarification on this at the IAC Treasurers meeting this month.

Assessor: Jacquell had questions on how to handle the Homeowner Exemptions this year. The Board agreed that it should be done the same as last year. The DMV Administration Fees that Custer County charges is \$3.50 per transaction. Lemhi County charges \$5.00, Power County charges \$8.00, Shoshone County charges \$6.00, and Butte County charges \$3.00. Her office is looking into raising the fee due to the number of out of county transactions that they currently handle.

NRAC: Chairman Jim Hawkins asked for a formal letter of appointment to the committee for Bryce Jones. Commissioner Smith moved that Bryce Jones be appointed to the Custer County Natural Resource Advisory Committee. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Jim then went over grants that are currently being used for "wolf defense", he learned about from Bryce. It was suggested that the same type grant process could possibly be used for the fisheries efforts. Commissioner Smith inquired about the amount of grant funds that are involved? Chairman Butts requested a FOIA request be submitted to the SNRA to get the number of acres they currently own within the boundary of the SNRA. Jim was asked to look into the details on privately owned acres within the SNRA, and possible FOIA requests. The SNRA was established Aug. 2, 1972. A copy of the comment letter from the Sawtooth Conservation Alliance, Inc. concerning the new IOGA Management Plan proposed by the SNRA was reviewed. The Board was asked to submit comments by Jeff Bitton and Louise Stark at a previous meeting, but has not done so to date. The final item was the socio-economic study that is required for the Forest Plan Revision on the Salmon & Challis National Forests. Currently CEDA and LCEDA groups are working together on such a study. They requested 5 priorities from the Board of Commissioners. Jim suggested #1 Update the Custer Lemhi Economic Model or CLEM into a working model; and #2 Impact Measurement. All agreed that these issues need to be included.

Custer Public Defender: Tyler Salvesen/Public Defender, Justin Oleson/Prosecutor and Chris Matson/Prosecutor Secretary attended the meeting at 10:50 AM. Chairman Butts welcomed Tyler to the meeting, Clerk Lura Baker introduced him around. Chairman Butts asked Tyler to help the Board understand the legal system and just what the Public Defender's job entails. Tyler obliged the Board with an explanation. Commissioner Butts then went over the complaint letters he has received from the public. Tyler reviewed the telephone glitch that their office has had. Possibilities of a phone message system was discussed. Scheduling of Criminal and Civil court was also discussed. The resignation letter received from John Thomas was gone over as well as the wording in the PD contract. Clerk Lura Baker requested paperwork to enable the County to move forward, and everyone agreed to look for someone to take the Public Defender job. The University of Idaho contract information was given to Prosecutor Justin Oleson to review. The amount listed in their latest correspondence does not line up with the carry-over amounts or the current budget figures.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00. The meeting was reconvened at 1:30 PM. Attending the meeting were Dave Hilliard/BLM, Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River Ranger Dist., Heath Perrine and Clayton Collins/Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger Dist. Bobbi Filbert/SNRA called and is unable to come to the meeting.

Agencies: Dave Hilliard/BLM reported that Josh Travers has been hired as the new Field Manager for the Challis Field Office, his start date will be October 17th. He comes to us from Elko, Nevada where he was the Fuels Manager. The BLM is planning their public lands clean-up day to do work in the Penal Gulch area. Chairman Butts addressed the new Mackay solid waste site prep work. The access road needs some changes to be on the property line. Commissioner Butts has also talked with Mary D'Aversa about the Bayhorse Campground boat access being moved across the river to a better site for safety reasons. Dave agreed to relay the information to his office.

Clayton Collins/MFRD - Clayton reported that his ranger district has hired two permanent Range Tech's. Melanie Weeks and Erica LeRoche. They have had a good grazing season and were able to complete the monitoring as needed. The forest fires are still roaring, but the season is beginning to cool down slowly. The fisheries surveys are being conducted as usual, and there is impact from the forest fires.

Jonathan LeBlanc/LRRD - The range is making it through the grazing season ok, not bad and not good. They are having campsite overstay in his ranger district. People are staying longer than the 14-day maximum, and enforcement is being done. Someone has applied to name a glacier "Pioneer Glacier". Commissioner Smith doubted that it is a true glacier, and the other board members are unaware of any glacier besides Borah Glacier.

Heath Perrine/CYFRD - Heath reported on the Ramshorn Slide on Moorehead Mountain. This slide was caused by a cloud burst on the mountain, in areas where it has previously burned. The slide initially trapped 2 boating groups. Boating access is now open at Indian Creek, but it requires you to fly your equipment in. The groups that were trapped have since been safely gotten out. The Ramshorn pack bridge is currently caught in the mud slide and is hung up in the river. The USFS blaster was sent in to look at the situation and see if the slide could be blasted loose, but the type of material is not effective to blow out. They are working with an Outfitter to get the pack bridge safely out of the river before high water takes it any further. An additional mud slide has also flooded Velvet Falls, and Squaw Creek has some similar issues. The Norton and Wood Tick fires both grew last week due to the winds. Both fires are being watched and there are crews on site. There have been some rains that have helped a bit. A small Goat Fire was found and contained last week also. The Ross Fire in Salmon is providing smoke for the entire area. The 90-day controlled burn pause is being lifted. This will open up the Wino Basin option again this fall. Timber sales in the South 21 have continued. Flat Creek has sold, as well as Jordan Cr. in the Yankee Fork. The Challis USFS road crew has filled two jobs for this spring. They have been attempting to control excessive speed on the USFS roads, but it has not been effective to date. The "Firewise program" is working on thinning projects. Both Stanley Mayor Steve Botti and the SNRA have been invited to view the results.

Levi Maydole/Disaster Services Coordinator attended the meeting and reported that he likes his new job and the new office.

Sheriff: Sheriff Stu Lumpkin and new Deputy Greg Plitts attended the meeting. The Custer County speed trailer is currently in the Mackay area, but can be moved if needed. Sheriff is still down three deputies from a full staff. Stu brought the "Employment Agreement" draft and will get the figures corrected to reflect Custer County costs. Greg has looked into grants from Dart Drones. Such a drone could be extremely beneficial for photos of accidents, especially when it is in the river. Such a drone could also assist with initial search & rescue investigations. He is looking into 100% Grants that cover drone training and purchase. The Board encouraged him to continue the searches and bring back any information he finds. He is looking at Police One grants for equipment, and Polaris/Police One for a side by side Ranger purchase. Greg then asked about putting a garage door opener on the Mackay housing unit garage. Levi Maydole offered the Sheriff's Office the spare door opener that is currently on the old Search & Rescue building. The offer was accepted.

Disaster Services: Levi provided his map of the Ross Fire near Stanley. Three area ranches are being prepared for evacuation if needed. The Smiley Creek Lodge made it through the burn, but many homes and cabins tucked up behind the lodge did not. He provided information on the "Ready - Set - Go" proposal for the Board to review. Levi prefers the State method, but he needs to know which plan the Board likes. He will look into Lemhi Counties plan also. The ORION Dashboard Program that was set up by Mike Graham has been verified. He is set up with training in the morning with the Emergency Managers. The big generator at the Mackay airport will be moved on Wednesday by Brandon and Levi to the Hot Springs Firehall building near Challis. He provided photos of the pallets of sandbags that are scattered in the airport buildings. Memory says that some of the 700 radio equipment was traded to Butte County for sandbags. Suggestions were made for places to store the sandbags, from purchasing a Konnex trailer to putting them in the Quonset with Sheriff's permission.

P & Z: Jessica reported to the Board about a citizen that is unhappy with the zoning certificate process. The Custer County ordinance does explain the county process for zoning certificates and what the fees charged are paying for. She has been able to locate several construction projects in process that need to purchase permits. The Board also reported on buildings that they have seen going up recently. After review, Commissioner Smith made a motion the

Hill Rezone Findings of Facts be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith then moved that the 8/31/22 Public Hearing for the Hill Rezone be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-11 - South Custer Ambulance FY2023 Budget, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Smith then moved that Resolution #2022-12 -Battleground Mosquito District FY2023 Budget be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #2022-13 – FY2023 Custer County Budget. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. Commissioner Smith then moved that Resolution #2022-14 – Transfer of funds to increase carry over for 2023 Budget be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Clerk Lura Baker went over the funding for the Waterways position for years end. Commissioner Smith then made a motion to approved the FY 2023 Salary Order, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

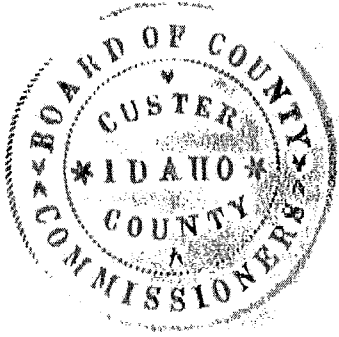
Court: Chief Court Clerk Layla Plummer attended at the request of the Board to provide the Court Clerks point of view on scheduling. She reviewed the traditional court schedule and how Monday has been used for court dates. The Courts are much busier this year, by about 2X, than last year. The Judges and Trial Court Administrator's set the court schedules, not the attorneys, litigators or prosecutors. We work with more judges than just Judge Barrett and Judge Thompson. We also work with Judge Savage, Judge Hansen and Judge Wolfe. The Board thanked her for coming and helping them understand the position of the court clerks.

Claims: Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. One claim will be held for FY 2023 – NACCFO Dues at \$100.00.

Current Expense	29,245.78
Road & Bridge	145,892.79
Battleground Mosquito	251.50
Election Fund	193.32
District Court	5,311.36
Rodeo Grounds	111.80
Solid Waste	3,394.15
Weeds	157.14
Waterways	1,643.75
Emergency Communications	1,121.57
Auditors Trust	<u>219.50</u>
TOTAL	187,542.66

The letter to appoint Bryce Jones to the NRAC was approved and signed. Commissioner Smith moved that the 2022 Ballot for the Capital Crimes Defense Fund Board be marked Brent Mendenhall. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the 8/31/22 Public Hearing for FY 2023 Budget. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Smith then moved that the minutes for the 8/31/22 Commissioner Meeting be approved as written. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. After review of the polling places, Commissioner Smith moved that they be approved as listed; #001 Challis – old Challis Middle School; #003 Round Valley I & #004 Round Valley II – Challis American Legion Hall; #005 Mackay & #006 Leslie – Mackay Fire Hall; #007 Battleground, #008 Sunol, Absentee & Mail in Precincts – Custer County Courthouse; #009 Clayton – Clayton Community Center; #011 Stanley – Stanley Community Center. The Board approved that Clerk Lura Baker work with Disaster Services Coordinator Levi Maydole on the BRIC Grant through FEMA. Lura reported that the Levies need to be certified, but Lura has received the wrong information from the State. Commissioner Smith moved that an extension be requested by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 P.M.



Attest:

Lura H. Baker

Lura H. Baker, Clerk

Wayne F. Butts

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner