

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
April 10, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, R&B Supervisor Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Weeds: Brett has gotten a 5-year weed agreement worked out with the BLM totaling \$350,000.00. This includes a \$56,000.00 match from the county. The funds will be spread out over 5 years and utilized for equipment purchases and replacements, as well as herbicides and salary expenses. A large roadside spray truck is at the top of the list. He then updated the Board on the new BLM invoicing system and EFT payments. He agreed to send Clerk Lura Baker a copy of each BLM invoice he sends for record clarification. The Board expressed their appreciation of all the work and dedication it took to get this agreement completed, and the huge benefit for Custer County.

Road & Bridge: Brandon reported on the poor condition of the printers at the Road & Bridge office as well as the Weed office. The adjoining offices would like to purchase one high-quality printer with shared funds for shared use. After discussion of what was needed, the Board gave their approval to continue with their plans. Brandon has the signed contract for the Fabric Storage building, that will be delivered soon. The crew will put the building up themselves once it arrives. The general public has been getting stuck in snow drifts up on the Little Lost /Pahsimeroi summit road. The crew had the road open on Friday, but by Saturday it had blown in again and was impassable. The drifts are now too deep to push with the dozer. It will require a rotary plow and there are none available. Plans have been made to close the road on the Butte County end as well as the Custer County end. Barricades and signs will be placed on both ends until the road is able to be cleared and reopened.

Clerk: Lura reported on the progress with the court annex and sheriff annex. Prosecutor Oleson was called on the speaker phone and discussions were held on how to proceed with the bid requests. Clerk Lura Baker will get the Request for Proposals advertisement in the newspaper this week.

Commissioner Corgatelli moved to go into executive session for Legal at 8:45 AM under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(f), the motion was 2nd by Commissioner Butts and the roll call yes vote was unanimous. Those attending this session were Clerk Lura Baker, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Prosecutor Justin Oleson and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session. Upon return to regular session at 8:50 AM

Wendell Gohn/Blue Mountain Refuse: Wendell brought information on his rising costs of doing business. Lemhi County has raised the tipping fee, gas prices are way up & climbing, and vehicle parts and tires have tripled in cost. He has researched landfill requirements for a community of our size with Great West Engineering. Currently the Custer County Solid Waste Transfer Site sits on a parcel of 166 acres, with the surrounding property being owned by the City of Challis. There are permits and site approvals that need to be completed, which Great West Engineering has offered to assist with. It would be necessary to purchase a compactor and up to 4 personnel would be needed. Clerk Lura Baker will contact Great West for further information on a 20 ton and under landfill application. Chairman Butts asked what price increases would be needed? Wendell provided the following:

Household trash	currently \$128.00 per ton	raise to \$132.00	3.13% increase
C & D waste	currently \$50.00 per ton	raise to \$ 52.00	4% increase
Mixed rock/concrete	currently \$4.00 per ton	raise to \$ 8.00	100% increase
Sm. Dead pit/scrap	currently \$ 20.00 per ton	no change	
Large Animal pit	currently \$ 20.00 per ton	raise to \$ 40.00	100% increase

Clerk Lura Baker will get the required paperwork started for the needed price increases.

Treasurer: Chief Deputy Treasurer Verla Harvey provided the monthly reports for the Board members.

Assessor: A tax cancellation for a mobile home was presented. Chairman Butts inquired on the current location of the trailer? The original purchase wasn't completed, so the trailer was never delivered to Custer County and has since been resold. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to approve the tax cancellation of \$133.84 on #MHV00150004058. Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Corgatelli then moved that the minutes of the 3/29/23 Commissioners Meeting be approved as presented. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and it carried. Commissioner Butts moved that the 11-14-22 Burges Architect Contract amendment be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

NRAC: Chairman Jim Hawkins inquired about the BLM response to the letter of inquiry on grazing allotment fence mileage? It was stated that some of the fences will require NEPA and some will not. A copy of the response letter was provided to Jim. He then voiced his concern about the ACEC's that are proposed in the GRS management. Mary Darling, Darling Geomatics has responded on behalf of Custer County. Another area of great concern was the mention of "retiring grazing allotments" to manage sage grouse. The meeting invitation sent to the Lemhi County Commissioners has not been responded to as yet, but everyone is eager to get communications started between the counties.

Probation: Shane Boyle with County Juvenile Corrections and Aletia Straub-Workman Probation Officer attended. Shane presented the Annual 2022 Custer County Juvenile Justice Report. All in all, it was very good with numbers being very low right now.

Board of Equalization: The Commissioners then began reviewing the 16 BOE application that were presented for review. At 11:41 AM the regular meeting was recessed to go into BOE. The meeting was reconvened at 1:30 PM with Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Agencies: Lance Stavast/Lost River RD, Nick Shade/Challis-Yankee Fk. RD, and Josh Travers/BLM attended.

Lost River Ranger District: Lance reported on the road reroute planned for Bear Creek in the Antelope drainage. It will begin once the snow conditions allow, perhaps in late May or June. They are not planning any road closures, but there could be some delays at times. There will also be a wetland restoration in Muldoon Canyon. A section of the road will be relocated up out of the riparian zone in late summer or early fall. The NEPA process is complete for the Castle Creek water trough project, and it is moving forward. The range allotment meetings are currently in process. Turnout will depend on the snow melt. Controlled burns are still possible, they just need to have a window of time with the correct weather conditions.

Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger District: Nick reported on upcoming changes in the firewood cutting program. There is a Public Meeting scheduled on April 26th at 6:00 PM in the Challis USFS Office. Changes will include all personal firewood must be cut in 8-foot lengths or shorter; there will be no more 3rd party permits issues; commercial firewood permits can be gotten for up to 60 cord at a cost of \$5.00 per cord. It is legal give or sell firewood to others. Cutting dry trees for fence poles is still possible but you need to have a post & pole permit. The distance from a creek or stream is still 300' before you are able to cut the dead trees. The Bayhorse Draft EA was published on 4/6/23. The Sawtooth Wildfire Collaborative is meeting on May 26th at the Stanley Community Center. They have made an effort to include the Yankee Fork residents. Consultation on the Morgan Prairie allotment was started on 4/6/2023.

BLM: Josh Travers began with the many requests for clearing ice from the Salmon River Boat ramps. Cottonwood Campground ramp is opened up, but the Challis Bridge ramp still has a huge wall of ice to be removed. The feral horses are starting to pull back from highway 75 with the spring thaw. The annual BLM horse census is scheduled for April 28th. They will consider this area first on the priority list when the gather is scheduled in September. The Department of Interior has a huge amount of funding that they would like to see used for conservation and restoration projects. The BLM was originally asked for a "dream list" of projects, but then reduced to a "shovel ready project list" with \$9.75 million in funding for the Custer and Lemhi County areas. Commissioner Corgatelli inquired about specific local projects. Josh listed aerial cheatgrass spray projects, riparian area fence work, water projects such as erosion and sedimentation.

The meeting was recessed to go back into BOE at 2:06 PM, and reconvened again at 2:25 PM.

Sheriff: Stu Lumpkin and Deputy Greg Pitts attended. Chairman Butts inquired about the costs involved for the drone project. The drone training for 3 deputies will cost around \$1,600.00. Actual cost for purchasing a drone is still being researched by Greg. He is trying to find all grant possibilities. He agreed to get the full list of costs together for the Board. Stu inquired about the Stanley Law Enforcement Contract progress? He has had applicants for the Stanley deputy position, but the lack of housing makes hiring someone impossible. All agreed that the housing issue needs to be solved.

Claims: Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the following claims be approved and paid with the addition of E. Idaho Public Health \$13,308.75. Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	41,491.75
Road & Bridge	13,301.42
Election Fund	1,437.95
District Court	4,700.85
Rodeo Grounds	80.11
Health District	13,336.70
Indigent	7.20
Revaluation	944.00
Solid Waste	3,294.15
Weeds	317.36
Emerg. Communication	1,955.04
Auditors Trust	<u>239.75</u>
TOTAL	81,106.28

The letter of response on the glacier naming request was reviewed. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to accept and sign the letter, Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion passed.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica attended and discussed the Planning & Zoning rules for some new applications she has received with the Board. She then put in a request for vacation time over July. The Board approved her request.

Emergency Services: Levi Maydole attended and the FOIA request for TUSA was discussed. He will work with Clerk Lura Baker to fill the request. The Sandbag Policy was then reviewed and Levi went over the Mackay area procedures. He is looking to get a few more loads of sand delivered to the Mackay area soon. He went over the Red Cross Shelter location and the WWPP meeting. He has posted a sandbag distribution notice in Challis, Mackay and Stanley. The IOEM Report has been received in his office.

Stanley Mayor Steve Bottl: The Law Enforcement Contract between Custer County and the City of Stanley was discussed. Steve has met with the Stanley City Council at a town hall meeting and is here to voice their concerns. He stated that the current deputy serving the City of Stanley is doing a good job. Possible changes were then gone over and discussed. The residents would like to have two deputies in the area, but lack of housing has precluded being able to hire a second deputy. Two certified applicants have turned down the position due to the lack of available housing. Future housing proposed out along Museum/Cemetery Road was then discussed and the length of time involved before anything is available. Enforcement of Stanley City ordinances and the ever-increasing cost of operations was discussed. Clerk Lura Baker suggested that a list of options be worked up and discussed further. Possibility of housing with the Mountain Village Apartments/Russell Clark needs to be revisited. It was agreed that the City and County would be willing to work together on rent payments. Commissioner Chairman Butts asked Steve to contact the Mountain Village about deputy housing, and the County will contact Kirk Flannigan/SNRA about permitting requirements for remodeling of the current Stanley sheriff's office to include deputy housing.

Rodeo Committee/Terri Stillwaugh: The water test for the well at the N. Custer Rodeo Grounds has come back with good results. The certification of the kitchen will now proceed. The Rodeo Committee is working on options to get the arena worked up, but do not want to purchase another tractor. The two tractors they currently have are unusable as they sit, and they would like to get rid of them. They are working with folks to have someone that owns a tractor come in and work up the arena, for reimbursement from the committee. It was agreed that the old tractors could be sold, perhaps on the federal surplus site. The roll out sprinkler they currently have leaks to badly to be used. The Committee is looking into purchasing 2 cart sprinklers to replace the roll out sprinkler. Clerk Lura Baker requested information on the items to be sold, Year; make; model & serial numbers be provided to her. Terri informed the Board that Brian Wilson of Challis Redi Mix is willing to work with the Rodeo Committee to replace the arena soil, perhaps in 2024. He has also offered to assist with an arena sprinkler system also. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion that the Rodeo Committee be allowed to sell the surplus equipment as is. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and it passed.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.



Attest:

Lura Baker
Lura H. Baker, Clerk

Wayne F. Butts
Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner