

Custer County
Commissioner Proceedings
January 11, 2021

Judge Barrett presided over the swearing in ceremony for the newly elected Custer Co. officials at 8:00 AM. Present in the Custer County Courtroom were Judge James Barrett, Justin Oleson/Prosecutor, Randy Corgatelli/Commissioner, Wayne Butts/Commissioner, Stuart Lumpkin/Sheriff, and Lura Baker/Clerk. In the audience were Kathy Butts, Marla Andrews and children Jaden and Colton, Justin Mitchell, Crissi Gilchrist, Steve Smith, Chris Matson, and Hunter Diel/Challis Messenger.

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM by Chairman Steve Smith in the board room. Present were Commissioner Wayne Butts, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Steve Smith, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Commissioner Butts made a motion that he be nominated for chairman. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Commissioner Smith moved that Randy Corgatelli be nominated for vice-chairman, Commissioner Wayne Butts seconded and approved with a unanimous vote.

Chairman Butts then reviewed the Risk Manager position and nominated Clerk Lura Baker. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Clerk Lura Baker accepted the position. Committee appointments for each board member were then reviewed. Commissioner Butts will continue on Magistrate, District 7 Health, and Rodeo. Commissioner Smith will continue with Fair Board, RDA and Weeds. Commissioner Corgatelli will continue with ECIPDA/Development Co, High Country, and Payroll oversight. The Wells Fargo Bank account approved signers were reviewed. Currently they include Commissioner Wayne Butts, Treasurer Allicyn Latimer, Clerk Lura Baker, and Deputy Treasurer Verla Harvey. Commissioner Smith moved that they all be approved for 2021. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Chairman Butts requested that a meeting date be set on the 1st Wednesday of each month, due to the backlog of unfinished items on the agenda. Commissioner Smith rebutted that the extra meeting only be scheduled as needed, and Commissioner Corgatelli asked if a half day meeting would be sufficient. It was decided the first meeting would be on February 3rd at 1:00.

Weeds: Brett Plummer attended and reported that he had to remove the SNRA and the City of Challis from the Cooperative Weed Management Agreement for this year, due to lack of response. The USFS, BLM and Counties will all be involved. Commissioner Smith moved that the CWMA be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. The annual operating plan will also reflect the removal of SNRA and City of Challis. The option of purchase new ATV equipment will depend on the approval of the CWMA by the ISDA. Brett reported to Commissioner Smith that the insulation in the garage doors has made a big difference in the heating.

Road & Bridge: Brandon Jones attended and asked for direction on the ITD Road Safety Grant Program through LTHAC. The qualifying roads in the County are Morgan Cr. Road and the Upper Pahsimeroi Road. There is a time limit for grant applications and we will soon be past the deadline for the proposal submitted in 2020. The cost share to the county is 10% on the 1.5 million grant, and the application is due in on 1/14/21. The proposed work needs to be completed within a year. Brandon reported the cost of the Road Report came in at \$880.00 not the original quote of \$1,000. Clerk Lura Baker will get the new computers to the Road & Bridge Dept. first, as they have serious need of them to keep their iWORQS program in use. The East Fork Road Plan has been looked over, and the NRCS could assist with funds for the problem culvert at Road Creek. Brandon will contact Karma Bragg to look into putting a bridge in place of the culvert. The R&B will continue with zipping the pavement on the section scheduled for this year. Discussion turned to setting priorities on the Annual Road Plan. Commissioner Smith reminded him of the complaints on the Upper Pahsimeroi road, and gravel supplies were gone over as well as the schedules of blading in the area. Commissioner Corgatelli inquired about crew dynamics, and Brandon feels that things are going well. He has the LHTAC training scheduled and the new computers will make it all possible. They will begin with First Aid classes and then Flagging classes will be done. Commissioner Butts brought up the Road Map of roads maintained by Custer County R&B. Discussion was held about Sunrise Drive and Round Valley Loop, and the actual benefits for R&B equipment. This item will be added to the Feb. 3rd meeting agenda.

Clerk: Lura Baker brought up the names on the Telephone Authorization list. It currently has Wayne Butts, Lura Baker, and Christy Foster. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to add Steve Smith and remove Christy Foster to the Telephone Letter of Authority. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried. Chairman Butts then brought the need for a secretary for the Board of Commissioners forward. They have pushed way too much work onto the Clerk in the past. A discussion of work time needed, as well as payroll funding was held.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer handed out the January treasurers report. She needs a copy of the signed minutes containing the motion on Wells Fargo Bank Account name changes. Her office is working with the Auditor Gary Merkel on this year's audit. The meeting was recessed for BOE at 9:53 AM.

The meeting reconvened at 9:55. Clerk Lura Baker requested the Google Meet program that was installed to test the Owl camera system be removed and Zoom Meetings be installed on the Commissioners Board Room equipment. The Board all agreed that Steve Stringham with Computer Arts be contacted and the change made. Commissioner Smith made a motion that the Board of Commissioners pay Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins as their part time secretary, with her wages to be paid from their budget for 1/4 of the year. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

NRAC: Jim Hawkins, Chairman attended. Commissioner Smith thanked him for the comment letter he penned on the Boards behalf. The direction of future coordination is a concern, as is the lack of a decision on the Forest Plan Revision to date. Possible decision dates given this year have all been passed with no action. Jim would like to recruit some new members, as his warriors are all getting tired. Commissioner Butts has reached out to the other Custer County committee and board members on Waterways, Fair Board, P&Z, Rodeo and NRAC. American Stewards of Liberty booklets have been ordered for each. Jim asked to use the booklet for recruiting new NRAC members. The Great American Outdoors Act requires a local citizens committee that will work with the Forest Service supervisors to create and confirm projects. Chairman Butts plans to send a re-affirmation letter to all the committee and board members that assist Custer County.

After review, Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the 12-14-20 Public Hearing Minutes be approved with one correction. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried. The correction was made before signatures were affixed. Commissioner Corgatelli then moved that the 12-30-20 BOE Minutes be approved as written. Commissioner Smith seconded and they motion passed.

Coroner: Chad Workman attended and informed the Board that the IAC Spring Meetings have been cancelled due to Covid. All of the continuing education classes will be done on-line. Chad and his Deputy Coroners all need CEU's but the cost will overwhelm his education budget. They need to be accredited through ABMDI for 50 hours each year. The Deputy Coroners asked Chad to voice their appreciation for the Christmas Cards received from the Board.

Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the 1-7-2021 Special Meeting Minutes be approved and signed. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried. Commissioner Corgatelli then moved that the 12-14-20 Commissioner Meeting Minutes be accepted as written. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

Lost River Irrigation/Development Co.: Attending were Max Bingham, Mark Roberts and Byron Pehrson with the Lost River Irrigation Dist., Krissi Staten with the Development Company, Hunter Diel/Challis Messenger and Prosecutor Justin Oleson. Chairman Butts requested introductions around for everyone present. Byron brought all up to date on the Mackay Dam project. The Engineer is working on cost estimates for the three phases of the project. Spillway, tower and dam lift. They have discovered that the Lost River Irrigation District is not included in the AHMP, so all applications need to come through the county. It was believed that Mike Graham had amended the AHMP to include the Lost River Irrigation District, but found that they need to wait for 5 years to be included in the next AHMP. As it stands the grant will need to be processed through Custer County and Clerk Lura Baker will be responsible for the paperwork. The FEMA pre-application is due in June, and the awards come out within one year. Matching funds will need to be put up at that time for this multi-million-dollar grant application. Currently Rick Scott with the Development Company is working on the application paperwork. Byron felt his other affected

parties such as the ID Fish & Game and the INL would help or completely fund the matching funds requirement. Mike Graham-Emergency Manager will be asked to amend the AHMP to include the Mackay Dam. Chairman Butts made it clear that the Commissioners cannot use taxpayers' monies to finance the Mackay Dam Project. It is OK for the County to be used as a pass-through account. Commissioner Smith made a motion that Custer County act as the Grantee on the FEMA Grant and act as the administrator. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Smith made a motion to amend the AHMP to include the action items needed for the Mackay Dam project to proceed on mitigation items of the spillway repairs, tower repairs, and lift of the dam for flood control. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Byron inquired about putting together another MOU between Custer County and the Lost River Irrigation District to cover this amendment that will need to be completed by Mike Graham. It has been found that neither the Challis Senior Citizens Center, nor the Salmon River Electric Co. were included in the AHMP. Byron informed the Board that he is currently working on a Grant with both Custer and Butte Counties, and will need a sponsor letter from the Board. The NRCS will be the group that is handling the administration of funds. The engineer that is working with this project currently can no longer be involved in the dam project, due to federal laws.

Krissi Staten with the Development Company brought the Board up to date on the new Challis Fire Station. They are waiting for the 2nd Grant from the Idaho Dept. of Commerce for \$175,000.00 to complete the office space and outside concrete work. Custer County has already met the in-kind requirements.

Prosecutor: Justin Oleson reviewed the letter to Lanier it was approved. The Custer County Transportation Plan will need to be re-affirmed also, as research has shown that something is out of whack. The Snow Plowing Authorization boilerplate received from the USFS was gone over. The county receives requests for such work each year and an appropriate form is needed. Justin agreed the bond requirements could be replaced by a liability insurance policy. The solid waste bond requirements on Blue Mountain Refuse were reviewed, and possibilities were discussed. The savings account option will be looked into further, as Justin felt it could be beneficial to both parties involved. The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:15 PM.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:30 PM by Commissioner Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance. Also attending were Tom Curet and Dennis Newman-ID Fish & Game, Matt Marsh-BLM, Heath Perrine-Challis/Yankee Fork RD, and Brian Anderson-SNRA.

Agencies:

Brian Anderson/SNRA brought a map of the fuel treatments that have been done in the Redfish Lake area and explained when each colored section had been treated. Commissioner Corgatelli inquired about widening the fire protection to the south, at least to the ridge top. Brian then discussed upcoming timber sales for April and May. There will be two in the Elk Mountain/Stanley Lake area, and two along the 210 Road/Decker Flat area, and one small sale at Trap Cr. Campground which will be a salvage sale. He reported that the concessionaires that handle the campgrounds want an increase of fees. The SNRA settled on a \$2.00 increase for a single campsite and \$4.00 increase on a double. Commissioner Butts inquired if their RAC had approved the increases that put the charges at \$20.22 for a single and \$40.44 for a double campsite? Brian responded that the last fee increase was in 2016/2017. The Concessionaires contracts are for 10-year duration, and this one ends in 2024. Brian then requested comments from the Board for an Idaho Parks & Recreation Grant that they plan to use to repave the access road into their RV dump station. They have also applied for a IDPR grant to address 100 miles of trails that need work after the earthquake, as well as 100 miles of ATV trails. Commissioner Smith inquired about the earthquake activity, and Brian reported that it has slowed down considerably. Steve asked if the temperatures of the local hot springs are heating up? Commissioner Butts brought the requirement of having a Citizens Advisory Committee for the Great American Outdoor Act projects forward, and the Board requested this requirement be complied with.

Heath Perrine/Challis-Yankee Fork RD reported that Clayton Collins/Middle Fork RD ranger is on detail as a fill in for Allison Jackson/Lost River RD. The Annie Roonie timber sale is pretty quiet now, due to snow and weather. The timber sales on Big Hill are pretty well finished for the year also, with the lower sale being wrapped up. The upcoming sales will be Vader: for green lodge pole, Swamp: a fire salvage sale, and Bayhorse. He did receive the

carbon copy of small timber scoping comments the Board sent to Chuck Mark. He would like to meet and discuss the questions raised. Commissioner Butts inquired about the gravel supplies currently available in the Blind Summit gravel pit in the Stanley area? Heath understood that it was part of the statewide NEPA process, but will find out more and report to NRAC.

Matt Marsh/BLM reported on the new fish biologist Alen Mosley that has begun work. The final decision on the Goldberg allotment EA will be out by February. The Chilly Slough fence and the Cottonwood Campground Boat Ramp are both scheduled for work this spring. Tom Curet offered F&G assistance with the boat ramp if needed. The low water crossings for Sage Cr. and Darling Cr. are on the top of the work list this year. They are working on the design of the 3rd Loop for the Mackay Reservoir Campground. Commissioner Smith requested the Board be allowed to comment, and felt it needs to be larger than the current campground to alleviate overcrowding. They are working on fuels reduction in Bay Horse, and have a White Bark Pine project in the Poverty Flats area. Their new geologist is starting on the Three Rivers Stove mine reclamation project. Other projects include the Morris Creek fish salvage for Bull Trout. The BLM Resource Advisory Committee has been seated. There are 15 members from within the state and the first official meeting will be April 14th. Our area representative is Leon Smith from Mackay. Commissioner Smith requested that the IDF&G be the final authority on all BLM projects that affect the fish or game. Tom Curet/IDF&G verified that they are working together on the Morris Cr. fish salvage project.

Tom Curet/Idaho Fish & Game reported that the local area staff is short two officers, and they will fill these positions with experienced officers. Jerry Meyer is no longer on the State Board, and Ron Davies has been appointed to fill his position. Repair of the Deer Gulch handicap access ramp is being pursued. The 2021 Steelhead runs are lower count, but 70% of the fish are larger B run fish. The F&G capture crew has kept the collared animal count up to date, so the data received is much better. The Wolf camera study was done again this year and will be completed in March. It will show what the affect of liberalized seasons and methods of take is. Active trapping is going on right now, and there has been an increase in harvest due to the trapping. An Idaho wolf tag is sold for \$11.00 each with a limit of 15 per person. The helicopter has been doing antelope collaring to track local population migration routes. They are using this information to identify migration barriers to the migration pattern. The Moose, Sheep, and Goat season proposals will be out by the end of the week. The other seasons will come out in February. Dennis Newman/Biologist shared the F&G data for moose. Statewide, West-wide, and Nationwide moose numbers are declining, and nobody really knows why. In the last 10 years tags offered for sale have dropped 50%. The IDF&G has collared 100 cow moose to find the mortality reasons. So far the #1 reason is disease. These collars will blow off after 2 years. The Pioneer elk herds were then discussed. The cow elk count is trending in the right direction, but they need to take more cow elk from that area. Tom Curet offered to assist via telephone with any other questions.

Sheriff: Sheriff Stu Lumpkin and Deputy Justin Mitchell attended. Chairman Butts asked if they found anyone to look over the Communication Plan? Those contacted have decided not to get involved. Stu suggested talking to Larry Sidlow for direction. Commissioner Butts has found someone to service the generators on a quarterly schedule. Stanley housing repairs were then discussed. Winter weather has stopped the plumbing repairs, that will continue when the spring thaw arrives.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica Clemenhagen has a Public Hearing at the CEDA building scheduled for February 4th for re-zoning from "trans-ag to commercial". She has enforced the laws and rules and the problems in the Mackay area are beginning to subside.

Indigent: Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session for Indigent Review at 3:00 PM under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d), the motion was 2nd by Commissioner Smith and the roll call yes vote was unanimous. No decisions were made during this session. Upon return to regular session Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion for #20-16 – place a lien on assets. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and the aye votes were unanimous.

Claims: The following claims were approved as presented by a motion from Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Corgatelli with one addition of Negotiation Services for \$3,500.00, the motion passed.

Current Expense	10,720.10
Road & Bridge	7,763.89
Election Fund	319.06
District Court	4,751.21
Rodeo Grounds	79.65
Indigent & Charity	60.27
Revaluation	115.11
Solid Waste	3,694.15
Weeds	387.01
Waterways	37.40
Emergency Communications	1,121.57
Auditors Trust	126.50
S. Custer Ambulance	<u>1,161.28</u>
TOTAL	30,337.20

Citizens Jail Committee: Jolie Turek, Tom Coates and Ken Dizes attended along with Deputy Justin Mitchell and Sheriff Stuart Lumpkin and Hunter Diel with the Challis Messenger. Tom reported that the CTC grant they looked into can NOT be used for a jail. The committee needs to know what the PILT dollar amount commitment could be, and the payroll burden involved in the jail. Proper utilization of PILT funds, setting priorities and not overlapping improvements were all discussed. All agreed that costs are changing rapidly and an updated price is needed. Ideas were discussed on how to manage the Sheriff's office dispatch and drivers licensing spaces. The space coming available in the old firehall was considered for the first time.

Clerk Lura Baker informed the Board that Chip Giles has been approved as a Public Defender, and the contract needs to be signed. Attorney Trevor Castleton has applied as a Conflict Attorney. The Board reviewed the contract, Commissioner Corgatelli moved that it be approved and signed. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Certificate of Residency for Chelsey Johnson was reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved that it be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

Election precinct boundaries were reviewed with Clerk Lura Baker. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the current boundaries for the Commissioner Districts remain the same. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. There will be a school levy election in March of this year.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:

Lura H. Baker, Clerk