

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
April 13, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM in the Custer County Commissioners Room by Chairman Randy Corgatelli with Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Clerk Lura Baker, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, Road & Bridge Supt. Brandon Jones, Probation Officer Aletia Straub-Workman and Secretary Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Weed Dept: Supervisor Brett Plummer is needing to replace the batteries in his drones, as they are now 3 years old. He needs at least 4 batteries at a cost of \$800 each. He reports that his proficiency with the drones is constantly improving. There will be one last herbicide order for around \$15K that should last the department for the season. The cost share portion of the CWMA (Cooperative Weed Management Area) has been approved but not funded as yet. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to approve the purchase of up to 6 batteries at a cost of \$800 each for the weed drones. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and it passed.

Road & Bridge: Brandon and Aletia attended and requested an Executive Session. Commissioner Vaden moved to go into Executive session at 8:08 AM under #74-206(1)(d) exempt records. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the roll call vote was unanimous ayes. Brandon Jones, Aletia Straub-Workman, Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Risk Manager Lura Baker and Secretary Tina Hawkins attended. No decisions were made during this session and the meeting returned to regular session at 8:25 AM. Commissioner Corgatelli excused himself from the meeting for another commitment. Brandon brought information on the BLM Right-of-way that is connected to a small portion of Valley Road. He is working to get the section of roadway transferred to the county road system. The Board approved for him to proceed with his efforts. Road crews are working on blading the dirt roads with the moisture provided by recent rain. The repairs are complete on the excavator and low-boy trailer and they are back in use. The all-wheel drive plow truck is having front end problems, but will be limped through this summer as a rear wheel drive water truck. The repairs will be done with the next FY budget funding. It seems that repair costs just keep coming. Brandon reported on a road closure on Hot Springs Road. The canal culvert plugged and overflowed, causing major under cutting damage on both sides of Hot Springs Road. Repairs are being done as soon as possible. Three of his current crew members are completing the "grader training program". Chipping work will be done this summer on the East Fork road, Yankee Fork road and Rodeo road.

Solid Waste: Replacement tires have been purchased for the backhoe that is stationed at Stanley. Brandon was able to buy bias tires at a much lower cost. It was agreed to maintain the posted site hours through the summer season, and plan for more activity. Brandon is working on the "Mutual Aid Agreement" between the Road & Bridge Dept. and Solid Waste Department.

The meeting was recessed to go into South Custer Ambulance at 8:50 AM and returned to regular session at 8:53. Commissioner Vaden made a motion to approve the minutes of the 4/9/26 Special Meeting. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Vaden then moved to approve the minutes of the 3/23/26 Commissioners meeting as presented. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer: Allicyn Latimer provided her March report for the Board. She requested one tax cancellation and two tax refunds. Commissioner Vaden made a motion to cancel the solid waste fee on parcel #RP00034010017AA in the amount of \$50.00. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Vaden then moved to refund the solid waste fees on parcels #RP00034010017AA and #RP00034007016A in the amount of \$50.00 each. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion carried. Treasurer Allicyn informed the Board of a hard luck case that has property taxes in arrears. This person pays \$25.00 per month, but is unable to even keep even. Allicyn has helped this person with signing up for the homeowner's exemption and the circuit breaker exemption, but this will not cover the past due taxes owed. Commissioner Vaden agreed to check with this resident and research the entire situation before any further decisions are made.

BOE: Commissioner Vaden made a motion to go into Board of Equalization at 9:10 AM. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Attending were Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Deputy Assessor Tracy Barrett, Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia and Secretary Tina Hawkins. The BOE meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM and returned to regular session.

Clerk: Commissioner Vaden moved to go into Executive session at 9:26 AM under #74-206(1)(a) for personnel. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the roll call vote was unanimous ayes. Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Clerk Lura Baker, Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia and Secretary Tina Hawkins attended. No decisions were made during this session and the meeting returned to regular session at 9:29 AM. Clerk Baker has ordered file cabinets for the court offices with the county credit card. Commissioner Vaden moved to approve this purchase of filing cabinets at a cost of \$551.16. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Clerk Baker voiced the need for two scanners and a larger hard drive in the Clerks office. Commissioner Vaden moved to approve the purchase of two scanners at a cost of \$1,560 and a larger hard drive at a cost of \$235 from Snake River Computers. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Vaden then moved to approve the purchase of a new computer for the new employee in the Clerk's office at a cost of \$3,107.96. Commissioner Naillon seconded the motion and it carried. Clerk Baker explained the schedule needed to complete the annual budget process. New budget information needs to be to the Assessors office by the end of April. The date of August 31st was then selected for the final Budget Hearing allowing for required publication time. Each Department will get a budget information notice with a deadline of May 18th. The meeting date set for the Commissioners and Clerks budget work was June 22nd. June 11th will be the Commissioners and Departments Budgeting meeting; an agenda will be set beginning at 1:30 PM. Discussion was held with the Prosecutor about legal requirements for publishing of public notices. The county is struggling to get the information out to our local residents.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica Clemenhagen reported on filling vacant position on the Planning & Zoning Board. Names were put forward for possible candidates and they will be contacted. Commissioner Vaden moved to amend the agenda and move the 2:30PM P&Z session up to 10:10 AM. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Vaden moved to go into Executive session at 9:26 AM under #74-206(1)(a) personnel. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the roll call vote was unanimous ayes. Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, P&Z Administrator Jessica Clemenhagen and Secretary Tina Hawkins attended. No decisions were made during this session and the meeting returned to regular session at 9:29 AM. The Custer County Comprehensive Plan needs to have a public hearing through the Planning & Zoning Board, but without a quorum of board member's, it has not been scheduled as yet. A marked copy of the Garfield County, Colorado Comprehensive Plan was provided to Jessica for review, to see if there were any items that she felt needed to be added to the Custer County plan. The proposed ordinance changes for RV Parks is being looked into and a list of

parameters is being created. The Commissioners asked when the change deadline was. Jessica reported back the 7th of September.

Prosecutor: Paul Rogers attended the meeting and was asked about the legal requirements for publishing County public information. He agreed to write a letter on the subject for the Board. Commissioner Corgatelli returned to the meeting.

NRAC: Chairman Jim Hawkins attended and provided copies of a letter to the ID Dept. of Water Resources concerning the administration of ground water rights within the Eastern Snake River Aquifer. All agreed Mr. Gordon Fulton made some excellent points of fact. Hawkins also provided copies of a letter concerning the lack of coordination with the Dept. of Interior and the US Fish & Wildlife Services. After reviewing the letter, the Board requested Jim to edit the letter into a calmer tone for their approval and signature. The NRAC has learned of new directives from the USDA. They include; more open communications and more cattle out on the range. The BLM Sage Cr. grazing allotment issue was discussed, as well as the problems with ground water recharge efforts in the Barton Flat area that have been interfered with by the BLM.

Claims: Commissioner Vaden moved that the following claims of 4/10/26 be approved in the amount of \$294,269.47, including the additions of \$1,795.00 and \$3,107.96 to Snake River Computers and \$551.16 for filing cabinets with the credit card. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	112,882.83
Road & Bridge	122,511.79
Election Fund	1,450.46
District Court	1,883.86
County Fair	17,000.00
Rodeo Grounds	2,969.61
Health District	12,959.25
Revaluation	13,199.46
Solid Waste	5,345.10
Weeds	938.68
Waterways	100.79
Em. Comm. Fund	3,027.64
TOTAL	294,269.47

Terri Pritchett: Attending the meeting along with Terri was Bart Gammitt. Terri updated the Board on her property in Antelope Cr. It contains 157 acres (50 acres in Custer County the rest in Butte County) and is bordered by Forest Service property on three sides. It is surrounded by grazing allotments and there are a lot of campers that use the area. She was first contacted by the Forest Service in the fall of 2024. Required studies were worked on for about a year then the government shutdown stopped all progress. The Pritchett's do have a contract with the USFS. Terri requested the County to relent and allow this private property to sell to the government. She has researched the Commissioner minutes and found the first mention of "no net loss of private property" is mentioned in the December 2025 minutes. Everyone was reminded of the Custer County Land Use Plan that specifically states "no net loss of privately-owned land". Commissioner Naillon offered an option of brokering a land swap process, where the sale could continue and the county would lose no taxable privately-owned acres. He stressed that the government currently owns 97% of the land in Custer County and we are surviving on the property tax income from 3% of the 3 million plus total acres within Custer County. Commissioner Corgatelli

stressed the long-time policy of Custer County for "NO Net Loss" of private lands. Former Commissioner Wayne Butts fought long and hard on this subject. Bart Gammett gave his personal opinions about the property involved. The remote location, stream fishing possibilities and benefits to the public. Will voiced the continual loss of privately-owned property within Custer County over the years, and asked "Where will it stop?" Bart suggested a meeting between Rep. Simpson, the Pritchett's and Custer County. Terri suggested the Commissioners give the go ahead to get the funding released. Bart offered to pay the property taxes for the next ten years, let the sale go through and then stand on the line of "No Net Loss" after this sale. Terri stated that she has talked to the Butte County Commissioners and they do not want to get involved. The Commissioners agreed to discuss this issue with the Forest Service delegation that is attending this afternoon at 1:30. The entire board agreed to work toward finding a path forward that is beneficial to all involved.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:09 and reconvened at 1:30 PM. Attending were Commissioner Gordon Vaden, Commissioner Will Naillon, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, NRAC Chairman Jim Hawkins and Secretary Tina Hawkins.

Agencies: BLM Assistant Field Manager Randell Anderson discussed the fuels project up on Willow Creek Summit. They plan to cut trees that are 8" or less this September. They are also prepping for a regular timber sale in the area. He maintained that the new fuels project will look much different than the one pictured in Steve Smith's complaint. He will get the Commissioners more information. Randell reported the horse gather is moving ahead. The yearlings that will be offered annually to the 4-H program are in the area now. Commissioner Vaden inquired about the aquifer recharge project that is planned for the Barton Flat area? The cemetery expansion was also discussed and it is still in the paper-work phase in the hands of the Boise lands department.

USFS – Challis/Yankee Fork Dist. Area Ranger Chris Waverek reported they are still waiting for the Secure Rural Schools program to be signed to fund the Central Idaho RAC (Resource Advisory Committee). He is looking to find five more representatives from the Challis area. The Custer Motorway FLAP project to rebuild a section of the Mill Cr. Road is still on deck. Requests were made to be sure the detour route is well signed for non-resident drivers of large motorhomes. They will be unaware of the tight, steep turns that are in the route. Chris then provided their road maintenance plan list for projects in the forest along with a map. Commissioner Naillon asked about work on the Jordan Cr. crossing, as he understood that they would be repairing it this season. Chris will have the road crew contact and meet with Naillon. The USFS road crew currently has 9 members with separate crews stationed in Salmon and Challis. They worked on 581 miles of road the 2025 season. The dead trees along Highway 75 were then discussed. The area fire crews are well staffed for this year at 80%. The national USFS headquarters are being moved to Salt Lake City, Utah, and the state office will be in Boise. District Ranger Heather DeGeest spoke on the changes happening in local FS office. The local Ranger Districts are doing great work on trail maintenance and campgrounds.

Lost River Ranger Dist. Area Ranger Lance Stavast reported they are opening up the campgrounds as the snow allows. Currently the summer trail work is being scheduled and he asked for any suggestions or needs from the Board. The seasonal workers in Lost River are hired and they enjoy a full crew.

Josh Milligan provided a copy of the drought letter that is being sent out to all the grazing permittees about possible drought conditions this summer. They are actively checking into all vacant allotments. The use standards that apply are; grazing must be done 3 out of 5 years to keep a permit active. Commissioner Corgatelli asked for the current list of allotments, and Josh agreed to send him a digital copy of the list. It was understood that the old sheep allotments can be changed over to cattle, IF it is actually viable. They are accepting applications, but the grazing use must be possible. Jim Hawkins asked about how to apply for a current but un-used grazing permit, or sub-leasing the summer use? He

suggested the FS follow the plan currently being used by the BLM. The USDA is working on a new Grazing Management Plan. Ownership of base property is required before you can obtain a FS grazing permit. Heather spoke on the possible effects on local ranchers, as there is always a trade off involved. Commissioner Naillon asked to discuss the LWCF monies. He stated the Custer County stance on NO net loss of private property. He then provided the option of brokering an exchange VS a sale. Heather discussed past exchanges and the time involved and the problems encountered. They require a huge amount of time and trust to ever complete. Jim Hawkins suggested attempting an exchange between City of Stanley's landlocked property and the Antelope Cr. property all within Custer County. No decisions were made. Commissioner Vaden asked Josh Milligan about possible use of chainsaws within the wilderness area? Milligan agreed to follow up at a later date.

Sheriff: Levi Maydole attended and updated the Board on recent incarcerations. The needed lighting retrofit for the office was discussed. Commissioner Naillon moved to approve the needed work. Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion passed. The LAN-upgrade was then discussed for the patrol office. It is needed to upload video from the officer's body cameras. Custer Telephone has quoted \$100 for the equipment plug-ins and \$80 per month (\$960 per year) for the service. Commissioner Naillon moved to approve the LAN-upgrade for the patrol office. Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion carried. It was decided to put a connection in the Emergency Services office as well. The FEMA Emergency Services notification list was reviewed. Sheriff Levi agreed to add the EMS and Board to his notifications list. The Star Link phone system was discussed. Levi has a personal system that he is using in the area. The coverage is much better than regular cell service and has been beneficial for the department. Eric with White Cloud Communications is also working with the Sheriff on getting complete coverage if possible. The Cost for a portable Mini Star Link system is \$199 for the system, \$45 for the car adapter and the service is \$50 per month. (\$278.64) Commissioner Corgatelli suggested contacting Star Link about a group/government rate, as there are 12 Sheriff's vehicles. Tamra has the contact information. The portable generator housed at the Community Center will be utilized in Stanley during the primary election. The scheduled SREC power outage for the area could not be changed. Wunch Electric will check the generator and provide the needed connections, to safely utilize it on election day.

Commissioner Vaden made a motion to approve the response letter to Mr. Janes concerning the P&Z Department and issues in the Crow's Nest Subdivision. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed. The signed letter will be mailed out today.

Emergency Services: Administrator Lisa Benson attended and provided her report. She has scheduled the next AHMP Zoom meeting for April 20th at 6:00 PM. She asked if the County Comprehensive Plan could be placed on the web page, to mesh with the All Hazard Mitigation Plan wording. The nonprofit group called Fortified Schools Foundation has agreed to pay to have all 5 schools mapped for Emergency Services. Lisa has contacted Superintendent Lani Rembelski and the School District is A-OK with the mapping project. This will meet the needs of the Critical Response Group and local law enforcement. The 2022 BRIC Grant that was received for the Mackay Dam is being reviewed by IOEM crew. Details will be provided when more is known. Lisa is working with Tucker Flaten on the SVWFC (Sawtooth Valley Wildfire Coalition) IDL Grant they received. They have requested this \$240,000 grant be offered to Custer County. She needs to know who will be responsible for the extra reporting duties that come along with the grant? A meeting has been set with State Comm. on April 29th at 11:00, to be held at the N. Custer Hospital District. She invited Board members to attend. Lisa reported that she is still having issues with her computer system. It is felt the LAN-upgrade should assist with some of the problems.

The need for a drought declaration was discussed. Butte County has completed theirs. Clerk Lura Baker provided a Custer County Resolution #2026-01 Disaster Declaration for Drought. Commissioner Vaden made a motion to approve Resolution #2026-01 as presented. Commissioner Naillon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Lisa then reported on the Regional Leaders Workforce and Innovation Tour that she attended. The Elevate Academy was amazing. They currently operate 4 such academies and are planning to start another one in Twin Falls. The Board verified to Lisa that any of the residents of the Stanley area are able to take their cleared brush to the Stanley rural drop box site, as part of the wildfire mitigation process.

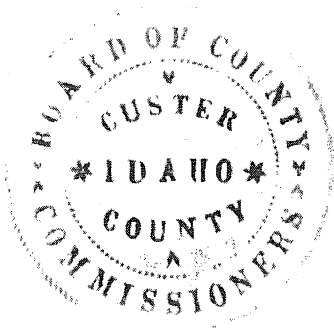
Upon review the single bid received for Courthouse Yard Maintenance from Jordan Oerke was accepted. The bid amount was \$2,830.00 for the 2026 season. Commissioner Naillon made a motion to accept the bid of \$2,830.00 for annual lawn care for Custer Co. courthouse. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and it passed.

Commissioner Naillon moved to tearfully accept and approve the resignation of Clerk Lura Baker as Custer County Clerk, effective July 31st, 2026. Commissioner Vaden seconded the motion and it passed.

The response letter to the Idaho Wool Growers Association, concerning nomination to the Animal Damage Control Board was approved as written by a motion from Commissioner Naillon. Commissioner Vaden seconded and the motion passed.


Repairs and renovations to the Custer County courthouse were discussed. A memo will be sent to all departments concerning this issue, to keep everyone informed of the correct process.

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




Randy Corgatelli, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:


Lura H. Baker, Clerk