

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
April 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioners Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones, and Weed Supt. Brett Plummer in attendance.

**Weeds:** Brett delivered copies of the USFS Weed Grant Agreement, that needs a modification of performance period. Commissioner Smith moved that the Modification of Grant dates to 6/30/21 through 12/31/21 be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. When the signatures are all affixed Brett will get the original back to Lura for the Contract File. Brett has entered some RAC proposals to the USFS, Custer Motorway weed work and a UTV for \$64,966.00 and another for Lodgepole Creek weed control and reseeding for \$60,000.00. The Weed Dept. and R&B Dept. are working in tandem to acquire a hydro-seeder via grant funding. They do have access to the Lemhi Co. hydro-seeder until they are able to purchase one. Brett has learned that "Russian Olive" will soon be added to the Idaho Noxious Weeds list by the Idaho Legislature. They grow all over the county and state.

**Road & Bridge:** Brandon has talked to Les Schwab Tire Co. in Salmon about getting the junk tire pile at the R&B yard hauled out. They haven't settled on a price but are working on an agreement. The Fuel Island system is not quite complete yet. The supplier had issues with the computer while they were installing it, and had to order in new parts. There will be no additional cost to the county, but there is a delay. The 2016 Motor grader lease option is up, and it will be traded for a 2021 around the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. The possible need for a working MOU between the Road & Bridge Dept. and the N. Custer Rural Fire Dist. was discussed. Brandon will be attending the fire meeting tonight and will check with them. The road crew is planning to begin capping the upper Pahsimeroi Road by the end of the week.

The board discussed progress on jail planning. Commissioner Smith moved that Custer County apply for the Department of Agriculture Grant. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote of unanimous ayes passed the motion. Chairman Butts excused himself to attend a phone conference at 9:00 AM. Chair of the meeting was turned over to Vice Chair Corgatelli until his return.

Election polling places were then set for the May 18<sup>th</sup> Lost River Highway District election. Commissioner Smith moved that the Mackay/Leslie precinct polling place be set at the South Custer Fire Hall in Mackay, and the Battleground Mail Ballot Precinct, and Absentee Precinct be located at the Custer County Courthouse in Challis. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

The Stanley Library Board has had a vacancy for over 60 days, requiring a Board of Commissioners appointment. Commissioner Smith moved that Sarah Lundy be appointed to replace Shannon Christiansen as Stanley Library Trustee for a 6-year term. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it carried. After review, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the 3/31/21 Commissioners meeting as written. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Clerk Lura Baker provided copies of the BOE decisions.

**Treasurer:** Allicyn Latimer delivered copies of her monthly reports to the Board. When the dethatching of the front lawn was done, she noticed that the juniper bushes in the front flower bed needed to be removed. The Board approved the changes, and the Clerk's office will plant some flowers in place of the overgrown shrubs. The McCormick property tax deed sale was discussed, as well as the property that was gifted to the County by the Morgan family. Allicyn will work with Lura on the details of setting up the Tax Deed Sale process. Commissioner Smith excused himself for a doctor appointment at 9:30. Commissioner Butts returned to the meeting at 9:32 AM. Discussion on the proper way to handle the "abandoned, unlivable trailer houses" that appear within Custer County was held. With no good solution to a big problem, no decision was made. The tax deed property sales were set to be sold on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon on the steps of the County Courthouse.

**NRAC:** Jim Hawkins, Chairman delivered the requested response letter to Forest Supervisor Chuck Mark. Upon approval of the content, he requested it also be sent to David Rosenkrance, Mary Farnsworth, and Josh Milligan. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the letter and support materials be sent as written and requested. Commissioner Butts seconded and the motion passed.

**Claims:** The following claims were approved as presented by a motion from Commissioner Corgatelli, seconded by Commissioner Butts. There were no additions or corrections, and the motion passed.

Current Expense	21,681.94
Road & Bridge	63,903.00
Election Fund	695.83
District Court	4,886.13
Rodeo Grounds	79.55
Indigent & Charity	3.06
Revaluation	1,196.02
Solid Waste	3,394.15
Weeds	139.39
Waterways	248.99
Emergency Communications	2,048.67
Auditors Trust	8,960.25
S Custer Ambulance	<u>821.88</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 108,058.86</b>

Clerk Lura Baker requested some clarification on the proposed Planning & Zoning fee increases. Planning & Zoning Administrator Jessica Clemenhagen will be consulted before the ad is placed for the Public Hearing.

**Assessor/BOE:** Jacquel Bruno attended the meeting via phone connection. Prosecutor Justin Oleson attended at 10:50 AM, and reviewed the BOE information that was received from the Confluence Institute in a timely manner. Tracy Barrett, Deputy Assessor was also in attendance. The meeting was recessed for BOE at 11:00 AM, with the full Board, Clerk Lura Baker, Prosecutor Justin Oleson, Assessor Jacquel Bruno, Deputy Assessor Tracy Barrett, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attending. The meeting returned to regular session at 11:10 AM, and Jacquel and Tracy excused themselves from the meeting.

Commissioner Corgatelli reviewed the proposed MOU between Road & Bridge Dept. and N. Custer Rural Fire Dept. on assisting in case of an emergency. Prosecutor Justin Oleson inquired if it was a "rare" or a "common" occurrence? The "rare occurrence" does not require a MOU, so it will not be pursued.

**Indigent:** Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session at 10:32 AM for Indigent Review under Idaho Code 74-206(1)(d), the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Corgatelli and the roll call yes vote was unanimous. Attending were Commissioners Butts, Smith and Corgatelli, Prosecutor Justin Oleson, Clerk Lura Baker, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session. The meeting return to regular session at 10:39 AM. Clerk Lura Baker inquired about the legalities of late fees and interest that should be charged on the pending tax deed sales. Prosecutor Oleson felt the late fees and interest should be added, as any funds not claimed will then go to the State of Idaho.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 and reconvened at 1:30 PM.

**Agencies:**

Matt Marsh/BLM reported their new Wildlife Biologist will be arriving soon. He needs housing so please let him know if you hear of any that is available. Brenda is out of the front office due to surgery, and Keaton Kukiuama will be covering for her. They have 10 to 11 seasonal positions filled, and a new Realty Specialist, Lisa Scheirer. The BLM weed position still needs to be filled. The comment period for the Big Lost land exchange will be open for 45 days, starting now. The Horse ex-closure decision has been made to help mitigate damage around springs. There has been a feral horse killed on highway 75, and the BLM will look into possible fencing solutions. The EA for

the Spar Canyon power sub-station is coming up. Amanda Schramm/BLM Law Enforcement informed the board that the Rally in The Pines is rumored to be planned for the Summit Cr. Campground in the Pahsimeroi area on either July 15 – 18<sup>th</sup> or July 28 – Aug. 1st. There have been no permits applied for to date. Only the ATV tours that are done for fees, will require a BLM commercial permit. The BLM is planning to boost enforcement personnel on those dates, and the FS has offered to help. Amanda asked if there were any County concerns? The board is fully aware of the degradation of the local roads due to heavy fast ATV traffic, and the problem of gates that are not closed on grazing allotments. There is also a jump in calls for Search & Rescue, ambulance and law enforcement. Amanda then discussed the fire investigation process that is performed for human caused fires on public lands. The final decision on fine fee amounts is returned to the local BLM office, where the local details are known.

Heath Perrine/Challis-Yankee Fork RD reported on the spring burns that are planned in the South Zone, as well as Grouse Peak, Crane Basin and Mosquito Flats areas. They will only be done when the temperature, wind and moisture are all correct. They have received multiple RAC Proposals such as the County woodlot, Knapp Cr.-Loon Cr. trail work, Ramey Cr. trail work, Squaw Cr. road work, Custer townsite structure work, and ditch diversion improvements. The Challis off-road stampede is planned for August 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be approximately 150 ATV's and the proposed route is Challis Cr. to Darling Cr. to Gooseberry Road and back. Heath has looked into the radio sites and found that the Grouse Peak site is jointly owned between the USFS and Custer County. The Bayhorse Lake docks are being repaired/replaced by the Idaho F&G. USFS will be contacting the County for help as needed. Clayton Collins/Lost River RD reported on the proposed controlled burn process. They are using black lines to protect local homeowners and permittees. RAC proposals in his Ranger District include Weed proposals, a YCC Grant, Lost River Highway Dist. roads, Bellis to Broad Canyon trail work, and taking down fence in the JM-JP Wilderness. The GAOA will be used to fund a re-route of 10 miles of road & 20 miles of trail in the Lost River/Sawmill Canyon area, and fund a campground maintenance contract being worked out with LR Highway Dist. Suggestions were made to apply dust control on the Trail Cr. Road through this funding also.

Brian Anderson/SNRA reported that Kirk Flannigan has returned as District Ranger. He will soon need a new Deputy Ranger, as Brian has accepted a District Ranger job in Oregon. The Fire Management Officer position also needs to be filled. The Central Idaho RAC and the ID Dept. of Parks and Recreation Grants have been received. They will be used for improvements on the Stanley RV dump site, work on the Nip & Tuck Road, weed control along Valley Road and Hell Roaring Creek, and new SNRA signage near Thompson Creek. Their GAOA funds are slowly coming in, and they have no cutoff date set for the applications at this time. The SNRA will be working on their Fire Collaboration in May & June with local fire departments. The comments for the IOGA Plan are due May 2<sup>nd</sup>. They provide the framework for planning and rules that are consistent. The meetings with grazing permittees are about finished up. They are putting in for more funding for weed control. Commission Chairman Wayne Butts thanked Brian for his efforts in coordinating with the County Commissioners during his tenure in Custer County, and wished him the best of luck at his new position.

**Sheriff:** Stu Lumpkin and Chief Deputy Justin Mitchell attended. The computer in the Deputy Sheriff's office has died, and they would like clearance to replace it. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that a suitable replacement be purchased not to exceed \$2,000.00 in cost. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. Sheriff Stu Lumpkin expressed his budget concerns over increasing Law Enforcement costs. His research shows that the City of Arco is currently paying Butte County \$79,000.00 per year. The repeater site on Grouse Peak needs new P25 compliant equipment. Stu has received a bid of \$12,881.75 from Day Wireless for such P25 compliant equipment. Commissioner Smith made a motion that Sheriff Lumpkin go ahead and complete the purchase and installation per the bid he received. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

**Planning & Zoning:** Jessica Clemenhagen's response letter for the re-zoning application she received, was reviewed by the Board before being sent. Discussion ensued on the wording of the ordinance and review of the County Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 3:40 PM, Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Those in attendance were the full Board, Clerk Lura Baker, P & Z Administrator Jessica Clemenhagen, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 3:38 PM.

Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 3:40 PM. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Those attending were

the full Board, Clerk Lura Baker, and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 3:45 PM.

The grant application by Big Lost River Irrigation District for the Mackay Dam work has a public hearing scheduled for May 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Moore Community Center. The grant is for \$10 million with a 20% match requirement.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to return to executive session under Title 74-206(1)(d) for Exempt Records at 4:00, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Those attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 4:10. The board discussed the PRIMA program and Risk Manager training availability for counties. Continuing education is a constant need for county employees. Aletia Straub-Workman has expressed interest in assisting with the Risk Manager position, to Clerk Lura Baker.

Clerk Lura Baker reviewed the proposed Planning & Zoning fee increases with the Board. The list will be published as required, and the Public Hearing held. Budget meetings will begin next week with Clerk Lura Baker notifying each Department head.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

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Wayne F. Butts, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:

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Lura H. Baker, Clerk