

Custer County  
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings  
December 29, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioners Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones and Weed Supt. Brett Plummer in attendance. Clerk Lura Baker attended via phone.

**Road & Bridge:** Brandon provided copies of a “snow removal agreement” with Jeremy Waite in the Garden Cr. Road area. The Board discussed the pros and cons of the plow route. The Israel family is currently plowing a portion of the same route. Jeremy has a small plow truck with a sander he plans to use. Brandon didn’t feel that a bond was needed. Commissioner Smith moved that the agreement be accepted and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Butts inquired about winter signage on the Double Springs Summit and Pahsimeroi Summit roads. Brandon verified that signs are up informing travelers that there is no regular winter maintenance provided. Lost River Highway Dist. has a road closed sign and a barricade on their end of Double Springs road. Brandon has received a bid for oils for chip-sealing the lower 2.2 miles of Morgan Cr. road from ASI (Asphalt Systems Inc.) in the amount of \$112,000.00. This is a rough cost estimate and he is working on getting a commitment date, so the distributor truck and driver is available. The East Fork road and Pahsimeroi road are not quite ready at this time. The Board gave their approval. Brandon then provided a list of the equipment that is needed on the new Road & Bridge crew trucks. Headache racks, radio systems, tool boxes, floor mats, a fuel meter and lights were included on the list. He also listed the vibrators that need to be installed on the sand trucks. R&B tested the vibration method on 2 plow trucks last year and it has worked great. They need 4 more units to equip the fleet of plow trucks. A 55-gallon drum of hydraulic oil is also needed, so one broken hose doesn’t stop a crew from working. The Board agreed that they were all necessary expenses. Commissioner Corgatelli inquired about the new secretary, and how she is working out. Brandon reported that things are going great. The Road Report is now complete and he has more training sessions planned. The February deadline for Commercial Drivers License’s is crowding the R&B crew members. The new CDL requirements take a 6-week class at a cost of \$5,000. There are only 3 members of the R&B crew that currently have a CDL. The Board suggested a “training cost reimbursement agreement” be set up for anyone that is working on getting a CDL, much like the post training cost agreement the Sheriff’s office has. Brandon had Gail Liam use their drone to inventory the gravel stockpiles and get him an accurate inventory of the materials contained. It has been a big assistance for his work planning. Per his agreement from the last meeting, Brandon has researched all the different methods of changing R&B truck beds from dump beds, to sanding units. There are three basic methods use within the state. Slide in sanding units (dump beds rust out quickly from the salt), bed racks (need to have two racks for each truck), or a crane system (lift the beds off and on). Brandon is leaning toward the crane method, as a crane can be utilized for many other projects also. The Annual Road Report was then reviewed by the board. Commissioner Smith moved that it be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

**Weeds:** Brett Plummer attended and will be going to the Idaho Weed Conference in Boise on January 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> and staying at the Riverside Motel. His 2022 crew will be the same as last year, with Ted returning and Dillon working part time. Linda will continue helping with certified hay inspections.

**Auditor:** Gary Merkle/Auditor and Clerk Lura Baker attended the meeting. Gary requested the Board look at their Investment Policy, as they currently have some un-rated investments and their policy requires an A1 rating. He suggested the investments be reviewed by the Treasurer quarterly and by the Board annually so this situation does not repeat. He also pointed out some conflicts with the “diversification” part of the policy, and suggested some updating there. The “threshold” amounts were then reviewed. The Building threshold of \$50,000 was fine, the Vehicle threshold of \$20,000 is cutting things pretty close, and the Equipment threshold of \$2,000 is to low. He suggested an Equipment threshold of \$5,000 to keep the annual depreciation schedule manageable, and more utilization of the “under threshold” line for inventory items. Gary complemented the County on the level of

competence and integrity within their employees in all the departments he has worked with. Chairman Butts thanked Gary for his thorough oversight and long-term employment as Custer Counties Auditor.

**Clerk:** Clerk Lura Baker then reviewed the tax cancellation from the last meeting. There have been some changes that will need to be dealt with when both the Assessor and Treasurer can attend. The Defense Expenditure Report for the Indigent Fund was also discussed. She has received the FEMA – GO review. Some items need to be changed and she has reached out for help. It needs to be corrected and resubmitted by January 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Sheriff:** Stu attended and received the signed credit card approval for purchase of a cook stove for the Stanley housing unit. Chairman Butts reviewed the floor plan of the replacement Sheriff's office building. He is including a Probation restroom for testing, that will have a separate outside entry door. After discussion was held the board OK'd Wayne to return to Trent Roman for updated floor plan drawings.

**NRAC:** Jim Hawkins attended and asked what the maximum limit was for the bridge on Morgan Creek road? He understands that the USFS has shut down "heavy loads" on Morgan Cr. road. The ITD definition of a "heavy load" is 120,000 lbs. or more. Currently all traffic that was using Morgan Cr. road for access to the Cobalt mine is now having to go in via the Williams Creek road at Salmon. This is costing the Challis area about \$30,000 per month in lost revenue, as all the crew lodging has been moved to Salmon also. Jim requested permission to recruit more members for the NRAC. The Board asked if he had a list of possible names? Jim also requested another training session with American Stewards. He will contact Margret Byfield and see what her schedule allows for a March or April training.

The meeting was recessed at 10:30 AM for South Custer Ambulance Board Meeting. The meeting reconvened at 10:55 AM.

**Homeland Security:** Mike Graham attended the meeting and reported that the SHSP Grant extension that they requested had been granted. He provided everyone paperwork on the 25KW generator bid he received. The bid for \$15,629.39 from TW Enterprises was reviewed. Commissioner Smith inquired about the 16-week delivery time, and that installation is not included in the bid amount. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the TWE bid of \$15,629.39 be accepted, understanding that it will be installed at a later date. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Upon further discussion of engine specifications, the above motion was withdrawn due to the physical size of the engine and it was agreed that it would not fit into the building. Commissioner Corgatelli then made a motion to approve the purchase of an appropriately sized generator and needed switch systems, with a cap of \$15,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and passed. Mike is planning to hold a LEPC meeting to keep meeting the Federal requirements on a community emergency communications system. The Board asked to be informed on the meeting dates chosen. The City of Clayton has asked Mike to look into grant possibilities for a sewage plant. Commissioner Butts brought Mike up to date on the property near Clayton that was acquired during the wilderness land exchange. Mike will look into a grant for a feasibility study on the proposed project.

Commissioner Smith moved that the Credit Card payment application from the Sheriff's office for the purchase of a cook stove for the Stanley housing be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried. The Jail Inspection was done at 11:35, with the full Board of Commissioners and Deputy Clerk Hawkins. The meeting was recessed for a lunch break at 12:10 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 with Chairman Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attending. A return call from Zane Vaden, South Custer Ambulance was received concerning the ambulance bid. Commissioner Corgatelli moved that the minutes from the 12/13/2021 meeting be approved. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed.

**Claims:** Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid with the addition of two demands that were printed on the last claims approval. Smith Chevrolet for \$33,425.00 and Patrick Shelton for \$721.80. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	29,152.39	
Road & Bridge	12,831.27	33,425.00 Demand
Election Fund	405.33	
District Court	124.77	
Indigent	12,718.36	721.80 Demand
Revaluation	851.09	
Weeds	175.00	
Emergency Communications	925.88	
Auditors Trust	1,126.00	
S Custer Ambulance	180.17	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58,490.26</b>	<b>34,146.80</b>

**Sheriff:** Stu Lumpkin attended and reported on the progress with repairing the Stanley housing unit. There was a back door left open and some pipes froze and burst in the back bathroom. The broken valve and damaged flooring have been replaced. The cabinets are now installed, after such a hassle getting them. Stu will personally pick up the cook stove from Lowe's that will complete the job. Commissioner Smith inquired if security cameras were needed at the site, to which Sheriff Lumpkin said no. Stu reported that the cost of the two new trucks that he has on order has increased from \$25,000 each to \$32,999. The value of the trade in vehicles has also increased

The Board then reviewed their payroll intentions for the Christmas and New Year holidays. Their intention was for all employees to get two days of holiday pay for each holiday. The sample Procurement Policy from Ada County was briefly reviewed and the Board agreed to look it over and review it at the next meeting.

**Planning & Zoning:** Jessica attended and let the Board know that a new Land Use Attorney will be needed. Caitlin has taken a new position and will no longer be able to assist the County. She then informed the Board of a re-zone on property along Wilson Road. She provided maps of the area and the parcel numbers will be confirmed. Current land use and the activities allowed per zone type were looked at. The Board agreed that re-zoning was necessary. Jessica then provided copies of her monthly report of zoning certificates. The new P&Z fees are reflected on the report. Questions on what LOMA (Letter of Map Amendment) indicated on a zoning certificate were answered. She then reported that the Conditional Use Permit for the Calcium Mine will probably be appealed. Jessica asked for direction from the Board on the pile of pending applications that need more information or funds to be processed. She would like to return the incomplete applications to the senders, after two unsuccessful contact attempts from her office. The Board agreed that she should not waste her time and effort with someone that doesn't respond. The neighbors of the Yankee Fork resident that has no septic system have been contacting her office again. The history of this issue was reviewed as well as District 7 Health Dept's involvement. They suggested that Jessica contact Kelly at District 7 Health for any additional history. She reported that the P&Z Board is currently working on conditional use permits for "all" properties. The Board discussed the ever-increasing work load in the P&Z Office. Many hours are required for field work, as well as the public hearings and responding to complaints. The "Tire Complaints" were then reviewed and any progress. Jessica will be sending a citation to the Antelope area dump site owner. District 7 Health is handling the other tire complaint.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Attest:

*Lura H. Baker*  
Lura H. Baker, Clerk



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