

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
December 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 AM by Vice Chairman Randy Corgatelli, with Commissioners Steve Smith, Clerk Lura Baker, Weed Supt. Brett Plummer, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones, Citizen Mike Newmyer and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Weeds: The BLM Grant is approved and they are sending \$110,000.00 in 2024 which will be used to purchase a roadside spray truck. Brett is working on a MOU between Custer County Weed and BLM Weed for joint use of the roadside spray unit by both entities. The CWMA meeting in Salmon on Wednesday will be attended by Brett. He is getting set up to mail out the weed identification cards to Custer County residents this spring. The Idaho Noxious Weed Conference will be held in Boise from January 8th through the 11th. Brett will be attending this meeting also. The new spray drone is slated to arrive in Challis by the end of February.

Road & Bridge: Brandon reported that we did get the 2nd 4x4 snow plow truck at the same price. The 1st truck is working very well on Custer County mountain roads. The identical trucks assist with stocking parts and repair costs. Brandon is needing a new laptop computer to replace their oldest unit. It will not talk to the newer computers in the office. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the purchase of a new Road & Bridge laptop with software with a cost cap of \$2,000.00. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. The Annual Financial Road Report was then presented and reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved to accept and sign the Report, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(a) for Personnel at 8:20 AM. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, R&B Supervisor Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 8:27 AM. Brandon will be gone next week, and is hauling some pumps back to the supplier to have the impellers checked and serviced. He is also taking the roller in to the dealer for required maintenance. The asphalt machine and pug mill are back in the R&B yard. Arco is working on a purchase agreement for the equipment, and Brandon is getting it appraised. The crew is plowing snow today, with the first big storm of the season. Clerk Lura Baker reported that the East Fork Road is in the best condition she has ever seen it. Brandon and the Road Crew have planned a Christmas Party at the American Legion Hall on the 22nd. He will be picking up the meat today and it's going as planned.

Commissioner Smith reported on the ongoing Sage Grouse and Grizzly EA process. He has talked to representatives from Valley County about participating with Custer and Lemhi Counties. They have passed a motion to join us. He has also talked to Idaho County and Clearwater County and they are still in the discussion and decision phase. All agreed that the NRAC is necessary to keep the county abreast of these important issues.

Clerk: Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(f) for Legal Review at 8:43 AM. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. 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 9:05 AM. Commissioner Smith made a motion to accept Skyler Cutler and Brenda Brower as incoming Fair Board Members. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. They will be sent letters of appointment by the Clerk's office. Clerk Lura Baker provided the Public Defender FY2023 Indigent Expense Report for the Board's review with a total of \$77,609.87 expended. Commissioner Smith moved that the report be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

Junior College/Certificate of Residency: Upon review of the two applications, Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Stavast and Waslow applications. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it carried. The credit card use request from the Treasurers' Office for office supplies (deposit slips) was reviewed. Commissioner Smith moved to approve the card use, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Clerk Baker has inquired about the Law Enforcement Agreement with the Stanley Mayor Steve Botti and received no reply. She is also in receipt of the Idaho Parks and Recreation annual report for use of grant funds. In the past the "snowmobile portion" was always completed by the City of Stanley. This year the IDP&R has requested that Clerk Baker complete the report. A date is needed for a Public Hearing on a Zoning issue. The first meeting will be held in the Commissioners Room on January 8th at 6:00 PM. The second hearing will be held at the CEDA Building on January 16th at 6:00 PM. Lura read a letter requesting support for a Pickle Ball Court at the Challis City Park. Commissioner Smith made a motion that a letter of support be sent on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Corgatelli and passed.

Assessor: Jacquel provided her list of tax cancellations for homes that burned or were otherwise unlivable. She is still dealing with unreasonable "timber exemption" requests from homeowners in the Stanley area. The valuation notices will be mailed out soon.

Commissioner Corgatelli has spoken with Damon Burk/Big Ben Construction and he is shooting to have the Stanley remodel done by Christmas. The approved holiday dates were reviewed and 12/26 was reaffirmed. The extra day will not be given after the New Years Day holiday, with Jan 2nd being a regular workday. David Philips attended the Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Smith updated those attending on the interactions between the Idaho Fish & Game and the National Fish & Wildlife Service concerning wolf depredations. He felt the Board should send a comment letter and offered to write it up. The 11-29-2023 meeting minutes were reviewed and one correction noted. Commissioner Smith moved the minutes be approved with corrections completed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Harriet Henderson attended the meeting. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing held 11-29-2023 for the Fees charged for RV Spaces at the Custer Co. Fairgrounds with one correction. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith then moved that the B.O.E. Minutes of 11-29-2023 also be approved as presented. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

NRAC: Harriet attended on Jim's behalf and presented a list of actions that the Committee feels are needed. (1) Custer County should join the Governor' Office on their petition to de-list the Grizzly Bear. Commissioner Smith felt that it had been done. (2) Mary Darling suggested the County follow the State lead and suggest the BLM use the State alternative as their preferred alternative for Idaho. It is understood that Mary is providing Custer a letter format to use. (3) It has been agreed that Mary represent Custer County in the State led stake holders' meetings. (4) With a new Forest Supervisor, it was requested that she be invited to attend a Commissioners meeting to discuss the Forest Plan Revision. (5) The housing shortage for the area is affecting everyone. One suggestion was a collation between the Federal, County and a 3rd party to build housing. Commissioner Smith reported that Valley County is trying to utilize a similar idea to deal with their housing shortage. NRAC suggested the agencies post their job openings where current residents are aware of the many positions that are open. (6) The USFS needs to follow the Data Quality Act when making decisions that directly affect the socio-economic condition of Custer County. The ever-increasing loss of grazing AUM numbers since the 1970's needs to be stopped. A letter will be sent for more information on this grazing allotment decision made by Chuck Mark.

Emergency Services: Manager Levi Maydole attended and updated the board on the condition of the Mackay area sand bag supply. They have all been moved outside of the hanger they were in. Levi needs a work crew to help him to get them gathered up and into the Conex trailer. The gate repairs on the Mackay Dam have been completed with Bid Lost River Irrigation Dist. funds. The FEMA Grant for 2 Million has not been touched, contrary to rumor. TUSA is still in a holding pattern, awaiting bids from their vendors. There is work being done to get a partnership between Custer Telephone Co-op and Custer County for tower and building use. The CWPP final draft is coming in January. Levi is still working on the Law Enforcement Tactical Equipment upgrades. One of the AED's that was supplied has been installed in the Courthouse. Commissioner Smith inquired about "Narcan" use and storage. He understands that it is very delicate and must not be froze or get to hot. Levi leaves the handling of such items to the Ambulance Crews. The SHSP Grant funds from 2021 were then looked over. Currently there is \$2,900.00 earmarked for ArcGis annual payment. Levi doesn't use the ArcGis system, but the Road & Bridge does and pays their own usage. Levi requested the ArcGis funding be used toward the "Orion System" that his office uses. The Orion System costs \$1,250.00 annually which is a substantial saving. Commissioner Smith moved that the funds

earmarked for the ArcGis system be transferred over to the "Orion GIS program" as needed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. The 2023 SHSP funds have been received in the amount of \$22,699.00.

The meeting was recessed at 11:01 AM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. The meeting was reconvened at 11:05 AM.

Commissioner Smith moved to amend the motion made earlier for the Road & Bridge computer purchase to \$2,500.00 instead of the original \$2000. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. A letter has been received from Mary Darling about the Administrative Draft EIS for Greater Sage Grouse in Idaho. All agreed that she should respond with a list of bullet points. The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 Noon.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 PM. Attending were Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins, Josh Travers, Jonathan LeBlanc, David Philps, Heath Perrine and Commissioner Steve Smith.

Agencies: Heath Perrine/Challis Area Ranger reported that they issued a non-compliance letter to a local permit holder. His cattle escaped from private lands onto a resting allotment in Morgan Creek. His office is scoping the Challis Creek Projects in entirety but will implement them as the funding allows. Phase I- Replace the bridge and fix the ford crossing above the reservoir, establish a good trailhead. Phase II- Rebuild the two creek crossings that are below the reservoir. Phase III- Reroute the trail up to Challis Creek Lakes. Heath would like to show the Board members maps of his proposals. It was decided to meet at 9:00 AM on January 18th at the Forest Service office. The Bayhorse Project has been signed but Wolverines are coming into the picture. The Darling Cr. prescribed burns will be completed when weather conditions are right. It will mainly involve the Red Mountain area. The new Forest Supervisor Heather DeGeest will be coming onboard after the first of the new year. Heath has a selection made for his Assistant Ranger that will be coming on staff soon.

Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River Ranger reported that he also had to send a notice of non-compliance to an area grazer whose cattle were in the wrong allotment. They are working on finalizing the schematic for the Mount Borah trailhead campground.

Josh Travers/BLM still has 10 jobs that are unfilled. Commissioner Smith suggested that local residents may be able to fill some of those positions if they were aware of what is required. Josh stated the BLM system has changed to only require high school graduation for some positions. Commissioner Corgatelli inquired about the BLM office building progress? Josh responded that a joint effort with the Forest Service is being considered and planning has begun. They have had some non-compliance issues with the Garden Creek and Bayhorse allotments. Livestock has been coming onto BLM allotments from private property. The BLM is stepping down from their leadership role in the Challis Trails Collaborative, into a more supportive role. The future meetings will be at the CEDA building and be led by local residents. Commissioner Corgatelli asked about the ATV Trail between the Yankee Fork Interpretive Center and the Challis Hot Springs? Josh said there have been no decisions made as yet. The Inflation Reduction Act funds are being budgeted out for projects. Discussion of possible housing solutions was also held. The BLM is planning to gather the feral horses in 2025. They are seeing 5 or 6 horses on Highway 75 so far this winter. The BLM hazed them back in 2022 but it didn't work very well. They will continue to monitor the horses and do a bait and gather if there is an emergency. Josh has talked extensively on the phone to the Allen's about the Rally in the Pines. The BLM has documented the 2023 event and any violations given. The Forest Service is also monitoring the ATV events. Both agencies have their LEO's working together on the event. The Rally has been cancelled in 2024 for this area, but they are making plans for 2025. Commissioner Smith then inquired about the Cherry Creek allotment grazing permit? It is still in Christopher James' name but there has been no action from him. The Forest Service will be sending a letter requesting a response.

Sheriff: Sheriff Stu reported they are having plumbing problems in the jail, cells 1, 2 & 3 have leaking toilets. He has contacted Adrian Hall Plumbing and she is ordering parts and working on getting things repaired. Commissioner Smith then discussed future plans for the jail replacement. He has a company name that does such work. A bill has been received from Big Ben Construction/Damon Burk but the Board would like to see more itemization on the bill. He was contacted by phone and will be sending additional information. The large storage shed made by Baker Country Store needs to be purchased and placed for the Stanley Sheriff's Office replacement. Stu reported that

the second Dodge pickup is at the dealership and is ready to be picked up. His department is no longer putting the law enforcement striping on their patrol vehicles due to the cost. They do put the Custer County Sheriff decals on the doors. Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(f) for Legal at 2:35 PM Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Corgatelli, Sheriff Stuart Lumpkin and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 2:45 PM.

Deputy Clerk Tamra Giampedraglia brought down corrected copies of the minutes for Board signature. She also brought the final list of tax exemptions for Board approval. Upon review, Commissioner Smith made a motion that the tax exemptions totaling \$5,562.65 listed below be approved. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. RP-B00170020100 for \$180.53; RP-000330010030A for \$3,821.99; RPA-00010790020A for \$334.00; RPB00130030070AA(burnt) for \$554.62; RP13N19E047213A(burnt) for \$508.83; MHB00210001272A (burnt)for \$135.88; MH14N19E108460A(burnt) for \$26.79;

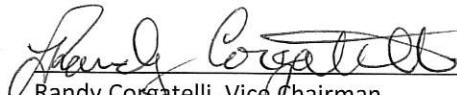
Planning & Zoning: Jessica attended and discussed the nationwide affordable housing shortage with the Board. Possible options were tossed out including the County property that is by Mackay Reservoir. She will discuss it with her Board. Jessica also brought forward an issue in the lower subdivision involving multiple sleeping cabins. The policy will be reviewed and the Prosecutor included. The influx of people living in their RV's also needs to be addressed. It was suggested that they be required to have a working septic system, not just a septic permit.

Claims: Commissioner Smith moved that the following claims be approved and paid with the additions of \$194.96 for Steve Smith, and \$10,000.00 for Big Ben Construction. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	39,330.62
Road & Bridge	74,036.92
Election Fund	195.73
District Court	8,091.12
Rodeo Grounds	201.97
Revaluation	2,173.08
Solid Waste	2,198.19
Weeds	7.65
LACTF	84,159.68
Emergency Comm.	1,201.09
Auditors Trust	546.00
TOTAL	212,142.05

The Board reviewed a credit card use request from the Clerk's Office to order State Insurance Fund Incident Report Forms. Commissioner Smith moved the use be approved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

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


Randy Corgatelli, Vice Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:



Lura H. Baker, Clerk