

Custer County
Commissioner Meeting Proceedings
March 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM by Chairman Wayne Butts, with Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins in attendance.

Weeds: Brett was unable to attend and provided a written report via e-mail that Clerk Lura Baker presented.

Road & Bridge: Brandon brought the Federal Lands Access Project MOA Amendment 1 with the SNRA on the Yankee Fork Road for the board to review. The work to be completed has been reduced to fit the reduction in funding. Major price increases have changed the project list, as well as more personnel changes within the SNRA. The Custer County match has traditionally been met with in kind work, and we have exceeded the required percentage. Commissioner Smith moved that the MOA Amendment be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Brandon reported that the crew has begun work on removing trees for the Garden Creek project. The tree removal is about half done and they plan to finish up this week. They have cleaned up the debris as they go and it is going well. The Road & Bridge department needs to pay the annual fees for the "Spot Mapping" emergency response units. They do not accept check payments, only credit cards. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Road & Bridge Dept. use of the county credit card for this payment of \$430.20 for 3 Spot units. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it carried. Gem Stone Construction has clarified the costs for the "soft building" proposed by the Road and Bridge. The \$26,900.00 cost is for the 40 x 40 building kit. The \$29,000.00 cost is for the installation of the building, bringing the total to \$55,900.00 for an erected building. Brandon felt that he and his crew could install the kit for that amount of money. He will also check into the cost of a wooden truss & tin roof system, just for comparison, before going any further. The LHTAC Safety Grant for Morgan Creek Road has begun the consulting process on the removal of dangerous rock points along the road. Brandon discussed the LHTAC/ Garden Creek Supplemental Agreement #8 for charges of \$15,100.00 to survey the right-of-way for the utility companies. Mohamed Zubery attended the meeting via a Zoom connection and discussed the needed survey to realign the utilities with the road system. JUB and LHTAC will stake the utility lines at the same time they are doing the Garden Creek road right-of-way survey. It would be at a lower cost than finding a new surveyor as well as a much quicker time frame to get the job completed. The clearing of trees was then discussed. Mohamed reminded everyone that it needs to be completed by the April 15th deadline to be within the migratory bird window. Brandon has been working directly with SREC and CTC on the tree removal process. The utilities need to be moved before mid to end of May, as the contractor is scheduled to show up in May. The current snow conditions will dictate April for any surveying work. Commissioner Smith asked where in State Code it states that the utility companies are required to pay for the surveying costs? Mohamed responded that if a right-of-way is grandfathered in then JUB/LHTAC are required to pay the costs. If the right-of-way is new then it is at the utility company expense. (Per Idaho Statute §43-12-3) Brandon felt that the many, many delays (over 20 years) encountered on this Garden Cr. Road project has created this situation. Commissioner Smith then inquired about the match amount involved. Mohamed said the total fee is \$17,000.00 and the match amount is \$1,250.00. The match payment that Custer County just paid should cover this cost. Currently the bid amounts are unknown, but if they come in higher than 10% over the engineers estimate then the County will decide. Any overages will need additional match funding. This all takes time and any increases could delay the project up to six weeks. Change orders will trigger the same process and expenses. The Army Corp. of Engineers has approved the application. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve and sign LHTAC/ Garden Creek Supplemental Agreement #8. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. The Zoom session was completed. Discussion was held on the cost of the utility right-of-way survey and who should be responsible for payment. Brandon didn't feel the utility companies should be required to pay, in the interest of keeping the good working relationships they have built to date. Commissioner Smith made a motion that Custer County pay the \$15,100.00 survey costs involved, Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed.

Wendell Gohn/Blue Mountain Refuse: Wendell reported that the tipping fees at Lemhi county land fill have been raised another 4% with no prior notice. He would like to see Custer County have its own land fill site. Discussion turned to options that could be explored. ie: Hauling to Jefferson County land fill; Mass-burn power plant system. Wendell estimates that currently Custer County pays \$100,000 per year in tipping fees for solid waste. He will be required to raise his fees to cover the rising costs of running his business. Everything involved is going up in price. Commissioner Smith asked him to bring in actual figures for the landfill cost increases and business overhead. Commissioner Butts asked Wendell just what his fee structure needs to be? Wendell will return next month with the information.

Treasurer: Allicyn provided copies of her monthly report to the Board.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 9:25 AM Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Clerk Lura Baker, R&B Supt. Brandon Jones and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins. No decisions were made during this session, and the board returned to regular session at 9:45 AM.

Assessor: Jacquiel was unable to wait the required time. Clerk Lura Baker provided the latest BOE Applications that her office has received. The status of hospitals was discussed, and the Board asked they be given the full BOE form to complete.

Chairman Butts reported on the court annex project progress. The survey is needed for things to move further.

NRAC: Jim Hawkins attended and inquired about any responses to the agency letters about NEPA requirements for allotment fence rebuilding? No response has been received as yet. The funding that was located to assist permittees has not received any letters of support to date.

Assessor: Jacquiel attended the meeting. It was agreed that the BOE Applications that have been received should be given to Prosecutor Oleson for review. Jacquiel was directed by the Board to put a solid waste fee of \$50.00 on the Bengal Pharmacy as they have a dumpster and generate solid waste.

NRAC: The recent Firewise Meeting was discussed with Jim Hawkins, who attended on behalf of the county. There will be another Firewise meeting held in April. Connecting with the Lemhi County Commissioners was then discussed and a luncheon/dinner type meeting was suggested at the Dusty Mule restaurant. A letter of reminder about the promised Forest Plan Revision was suggested for the Forest Service and the Lemhi Co. Commissioners.

Commissioner Smith moved to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(d) for Indigent at 10:42 AM. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, 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 10:48 AM.

Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion to go into executive session under Title 74-206(1)(b) for Personnel at 10:49 AM Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous Aye. Attending were Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Butts, 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 10:50 AM.

Prosecutor: Justin Oleson attended and was given copies of the BOE applications to review.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Records Destruction Resolution #2023-03. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 PM with Commissioner Butts, Commissioner Corgatelli, Commissioner Smith and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins attending. Also attending were Ron Jenks/ID Dept. Parks & Recreation, Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River Ranger, Heidi Burks, ID Dept. P&R, Adam Zaragoza ID Dept. P&R, Chuck Mark, Salmon-Challis District Ranger, Josh Travers/BLM Director, Heath Perrine, Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger, Cody Kidd, Challis-Yankee Fork FMO.

Agencies: Heath Perrine/Challis-Yankee Fork Ranger reported their spring control burn plans are coming into focus for Wino Basin, Big Creek/Pahsimeroi, and Darling Cr./Red Mountain. They are submitting a RAC proposal to revive the YCC program for this summer. The new Acting Deputy Ranger Nick Shade is a big asset to his office. Getting the Morgan Prairie biological assessment completed is the top of his priority list.

Cody Kidd/Fire Management Officer-South Zone informed those attending that they are having serious hiring issues, and NO qualified candidates are applying. This could lead to problems for the entire year. Chairman Butts inquired if it was the "lack of available housing" that is creating the problem? Chuck Mark responded that lack of housing is an issue, but not the whole problem.

Jonathan LeBlanc/Lost River Ranger reported that the AOI meetings are ongoing. His district is planning to use a YCC crew this summer also. The jack fence is to be built at the Mt. Borah trailhead this summer. He has checked on the road materials in the summit gravel pit. There are still materials available, but not nearly as much as before. NEPA for the Corral Summit project is almost completed.

Chuck Mark/Salmon-Challis Ranger District announced that there will be a USFS RAC meeting in Challis next week. The BLM RAC has been disbanded. The RAC funds come from fees collected and Chuck is trying to get the program back on track. The Morgan Creek Road snow plowing is continuing. His office is still working on in house portions of the Forest Plan Revision. They will submit a public engagement plan and facilitate meetings per policy requirements. Commissioner Smith inquired about flood mitigation plans of the Forest Service this year. Chuck plans to coordinate with the other agencies.

Josh Travers/BLM Area Director reported on staffing changes in his office. They too are having hiring problems. The Dry Gulch project is still in process.

Adam Zaragoza/ ID Parks & Recreation announced that the purchase of the Challis Hot Springs property has been completed. The State will take ownership in April and they plan to carry over the same operational policies and honor all previous reservations. They provided the "In Lieu Fee Agreement" to Custer County to buffer the impact of the property no longer being included within the tax base of the county. The dedication will be held May 3rd, which is previous owner, Lorna Hammond's 90th birthday. They will be sending out invitations. Mike will stay on with them for about 6-months to teach and instruct the Department of Parks & Recreation staff about operation of the Challis Hot Springs. There are currently two gals in the office and a camp host that work at the Hot Springs. The Land of the Yankee Fork currently has two full time rangers for staff. There is quite a historic connection between the Bayhorse Townsite and Challis Hot Springs that will be recognized. This purchase is being paid with a one-time capital investment bill that is coming before the legislature. Commissioner Corgatelli made a motion that the Idaho Parks & Recreation - in Lieu Fee Agreement be approved and signed. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. Once it is fully signed by the ID P&R, the completed copy will be sent back to Clerk Lura Baker.

Sheriff: Stu Lumpkin/Sheriff and Deputy Greg Pitts attended with a Modification of Grant for the law enforcement agreement with SNRA to increase the 2023 funding by \$6,000. The Chief Deputy name correction was noted. Commissioner Smith made a motion to accept the Modification Agreement with the name correction included. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. Greg then provided his personal information for the Board members. The drone training grant that he applied for covers a percentage of the cost of the class and drone certification. He envisions having 3 deputies trained, one in each city. (Challis/Mackay/Stanley) This training grant does not cover the cost of purchasing a drone in the beginning, but there is a possibility of reimbursement for drone purchase. Greg provided two cost estimates for drones. \$1,180.00 for a drone with no screen (you use your phone) and \$1,330.00 for a drone that has a screen. Chairman Butts requested more information about drone purchase and the possible reimbursements. Greg agreed to dig into it further. Greg then let the Board know that the Stanley RV Park will only offer seasonal (Feb. through Sept.) RV water and septic hook-ups. Discussion then turned to the current office building and possibly getting it re-permitted and remodeled into a housing unit. A trip to the site to view the facility and then meet with Kurt Flannigan/SNRA Ranger was planned.

Clerk: Lura presented an option to pay the accumulated bank analysis fees from the General fund. The Board discussed the details and gave Clerk Lura Baker their approval to go ahead. The Title 6 – Non-discrimination Statement was then reviewed. The needed corrections have been made by Clerk Lura. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Title 6 Non-discrimination Statement and Complaint Form as presented. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Clerk Lura Baker has talked to Norm Folger/TUSA about the pending contract. They will begin once the contract is approved and signed. Commissioner Smith moved that the Consulting Agreement with TUSA in the amount of \$39,930.00 be approved and signed. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed. The paperwork for the Temporary Closure of the Stanley Solid Waste Transfer Site will be signed. It was agreed that Sign Pro will be contacted and a large 2-foot by 6-foot sign made to post on the locked gate. There will be an inspection of the Challis Jail by the Idaho Historical Society on Friday, March 17th at 10:00 AM. Chairman Butts, and Commissioner Corgatelli have agreed to attend. Lura then reported that Custer County has received an additional \$60,000.00 in funding for the Title III RAC program. She will be notifying the local wood cutters that more wood can be purchased for the woodlot. The Custer County "Conflict Attorney" situation was then reviewed and discussed. Computer Arts Inc. has billed the county \$278.00 for the Microsoft 365 program that is utilized by the Road & Bridge Dept. The Board approved that payment as well as \$137.19 in reimbursement for meals and hotel for Steve Stringham when he provided IT support to Custer County. Clerk Lura has received a request for a letter of support for the Idaho Parks & Recreation. Commissioner Smith agreed to pen the letter for Custer County. The annual carpet and window cleaning for the courthouse is coming soon. The Board suggested the bids not be requested quite yet, to get past the spring mud and wet weather.

Planning & Zoning: Jessica attended and presented each Board member with an updated "P&Z Rule Binder". She has received a rejection on the "Go Away Lane" road name recently approved. South Custer County addressing must be on the grid system, and the name does not conform. Commissioner Smith made a motion to rescind the original motion of approval for the name "Go Away Lane". Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the rescind motion and it passed. Commissioner Smith then moved that the address "4320 Hardy Way" be approved as per the required grid address system protocol for south Custer County. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion passed. Jessica attended the Custer Co. Project Coordination Meeting, and has been asked by the local utility companies for assistance with utility easements on all future lot splits. They have had problems trying to provide utility access for some land purchasers. Jessica has contacted her Land Use Attorneys and quickly reviewed his suggestions with the Board. She will follow his suggestions on current issues with the Board's backing.

Emergency Manager: Levi Maydole attended and reported on his meeting with Brandon/Road & Bridge Dept. and Lucas/Lost River Highway Dept. to coordinate emergency sandbag distribution in the county. They are getting some of the stockpiled sandbags moved into the Connex storage unit. Levi will put out a notice to the public on where to get sandbags in their area. Levi has worked with ID Transportation Dept. and they will be providing sand. Levi provided the 2023 Disaster Threshold listing. Once Custer Co. has paid out \$18,981.00, then the State of Idaho will provide the next \$3,255,217.62. Once that amount is expended the Federal funding/FEMA takes over. Levi has been working on a "Family Assistance Center Plan" for Custer County, that is nearing competition.

U of I Extension Office: Extension Agent Sarah Baker attended to update the Board. The Ag Week celebration and breakfast will be done during the last week of March this spring. They will be working with the schools in Challis and Stanley. She is planning a Beef School in April, to address the issues coming with prescription requirements for veterinary medicines that were formerly available over the counter. The 4-H program is getting the 2023 4-H Leaders certified. They have 2 new leaders in Challis, and 2 new leaders in the Mackay area. The steer weigh-in for the 2023 Custer County Fair had 33 kids weigh in 43 steers. This is an increase of steers from last year. Sarah then updated the Board on her annual evaluation meeting with Marni Spencer.

Claims: Commissioner Corgatelli moved that claims in the amount of \$179,371.44 be approved and paid. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion carried.

Current Expense	38,595.88
Road & Bridge	105,897.04
Election Fund	213.24
District Court	1,220.78
Rodeo Grounds	80.06
Indigent	4.80
Revaluation	214.63
Solid Waste	3,394.15
TORT	26,808.88
Weeds	1,507.31
Emergency Comm.	1,121.57
Auditors Trust	<u>313.10</u>
TOTAL	179,371.44

Commissioner Corgatelli moved the minutes of the 2/22/23 Commissioners meeting be approved as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded and the motion passed. Commissioner Corgatelli then moved that the minutes of the Public Hearing for Temporary Closure of Stanley Solid Waste Site be approved as written. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded and the motion carried.

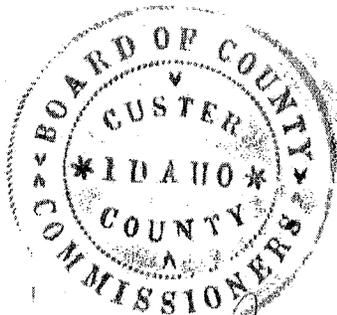
The meeting was recessed at 4:42 PM to go into South Custer Ambulance District. The meeting was reconvened at 4:46 PM.

Prosecutor Justin Oleson returned to the meeting. The possible exchange of ownership for Challis Main Avenue from the Idaho Dept. of Transportation to the City of Challis was discussed and the ramifications involved gone over. It will also be discussed with the City leaders at the City Council meeting on Tuesday.

Commissioner Smith moved that the American Stewards of Liberty be paid \$500.00 for our 2023 contribution. Commissioner Corgatelli seconded the motion and it passed.

The Deed and legal description for the Stanley Museum/Cemetery Road was reviewed with Prosecutor Oleson. Upon reading the deed word for word, it was suggested that a letter of amendment be requested to gift the ownership of the road to the City of Stanley.

With no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 P.M.



Wayne F. Butts For

Wayne F. Butts, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:

Lura H. Baker
Lura H. Baker, Clerk