

COMMISSIONER MEETING OF September 12, 2022

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on September 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Mark Mathews, Commissioner
Bryce Somsen, Commissioner
Marty McCullough, Commissioner
Denise Horsley, Clerk
Jill Stoor, Deputy Clerk
Kim Spencer, Road & Bridge Dept.
Brett Barfuss, Road & Bridge Dept.

Molly Beseris, 4CASI
Adam Maybe, Sheriff
Russ Roper, Sheriff's Office
Dwight Lloyd, Weed Control
James Ackerman, Road & Bridge Dept.
Rowdy Larkins, Building Dept.

The meeting opened with Denise Horsley leading the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

Kim Spencer, Road and Bridge:

- Kim stated that Simplot is discussing plowing snow over Timber Creek Pass. He showed photos of the improvements they have completed to the road and where they plan to install a guard rail.
- The Fire Department has decided not to buy the available truck so Kim will put it out for bid at a minimum of \$8500 and ask that the sealed bids be delivered to the Clerk's Office.
- Kim has budgeted for new semi-tractors but has been informed that delivery would be in the spring of 2024. He will go ahead and put their name on the list however it may not happen in the upcoming fiscal year. They anticipate changing out a 10-wheeler and the 2 water trucks.
- He has been discussing a sale of a blade to IDAWY for a price of \$50,000. Jayson is on board and after they remove the wing, it will be transferred to IDAWY.
- Discussion was held on a report given to the board on recorded vehicle speeds. Several signs will be posted on the Wayan Loop. County roads are restricted to 45 MPH unless otherwise posted.
- He will install the signs about right of ways in the Freedom area; they will post one at Deer Creek and at Weber Road this week.

Eric Hobson, Public Safety:

- The office is working hard on FEMA paperwork; they are completing the requirements for the hazard mitigation fund project.
- Fire season has been minimal so far and they will be keeping watch until fire season ends. A report was given on the recent fire in the Grace area where several unused structures were burned as well as a wood pile in a gravel pit.
- Eric stated that the SCBAs that were purchased in 2002 were tested and Scott, the manufacturer, came back and said that they have discontinued the model. They no longer have parts available and if one fails it cannot be serviced. He has received several quotes with the lowest bid coming in at \$132,484.15 for 18 new units and anticipates the price to increase over \$30,000 in the next fiscal year. He recommended purchasing before the end of the fiscal year and requested ARPA funds to cover the cost. After discussion on ARPA totals spent in this fiscal year, the board decided to go ahead with the purchase.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to accept the bid from Curtis in the amount of \$132,884.13 for the purchase of 18 SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus) units to be expended from the ARPA funds. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Molly Beseris, 4CASI:

- Molly explained that because her position was vacated in October and not filled until February, the Department of Commerce took points away from their application that was submitted in June. This caused their funding to come in lower than anticipated by \$5,000. She explained that she is asking for assistance to cover that shortfall and this would be a one-time ask. The board agreed to \$2,000 and asked for her to report back on what funds she is able to obtain.
- **Commissioner McCullough motioned to assist 4CASI in the amount of \$2,000 from the commissioner contingency line item. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- Commissioner Somsen discussed the Caribou Loop Trail quarterly meeting and requested that she attend some meetings to potentially advise them on promoting the trail and funding options.
- Molly informed the board of a hybrid online class that is beginning in Soda Springs on October 26th. It is a 6-week course titled "Entrepreneurial Studio, From Startup to Success". When the information is received, the county will post the information on the county website.

Adam Mabey, Sheriff:

- Sheriff has received reports of speeding up Diamond Creek, Slug Creek, and Lanes Creek. They have increased patrol in the area.
- The LOTOJA bicycle race was uneventful although they issued at least 57 tickets including speed and stop sign violations. They had 7 patrol deputies using grant funding as well as several Soda Springs officers and 3 state troopers. Discussion was held on the issues and Commissioner Somsen asked that the Sheriff attend the next ITD meeting on October 6th to offer a report on the day.
- Sheriff is concerned that we have no women's advocate active in the county and is working with Bear Lake to partner up and cover our county. The department is looking into grant funds to open an office and make an advocate available in the coming year.
- The department has been aggressive in investigating property and personal crime recently and the detective has several high-profile cases under review. For some reason, they have seen a huge increase in sex crimes being investigated. Patrol officers have also recently been handling some property crimes and hazing incidences.
- The county guardianship program has been struggling with only 2 members on the board. He does have a meeting with another potential member with the goal of 4 members from the county.
- They are preparing for hunting season along with the Search and Rescue Team.
- The inmate population has stayed high with an average of 45 right now compared with 18 last year at this time.
- Sheriff expressed concern over the recent fire and questioned if the county has a burn ban in place. He did not feel the DEQ burn permit was reasonable for the weather conditions that day.
- The Search and Rescue building has been painted with a new mural painted on the side. They had a young lady volunteer to paint the mural and are pleased with the results. He encouraged the board to go and see the results.
- They have completed a vehicle accountability audit and have remedied the issues found.
- The department is investigating where additional buoys have been requested on our waterways. He requests that the Parks & Recreation budget be utilized for the additional buoys.
- Jacob Farnes has advised the Sheriff that the bank of servers is nearing end of service. They are working on quotes and anticipate nearly \$30,000.

- They have issues needing attention at the jail facility. They will do all they can within the existing budget. The exterior work will begin soon and hope to complete that project before winter hits. They are also beginning to sand down floors in the interior where the paint is coming off. The office space is limited and has not all be utilized as intended including food services using an office intended for law enforcement.
- Positions are fully staffed as soon as the patrol deputy that is currently at post returns. He noted that counties around us are recruiting heavily as well as the Idaho State Police.
- Sheriff stated that although they may only be 10% of the county budget, they definitely carry the highest portion of the county liability. With that in mind, he informed the board that the hospital is terminating their contract at the end October. He has been researching options including checking with Bear Lake Memorial. He has received a bid from Badger Medical, who formerly contracted with the county, at \$288,658 annually, as well as an annual bid from Sawtooth Medical at \$174,000. His concern with the second bid is that much of the work will be done through tele-health. He anticipates taking approximately 2 months to transition between companies and the hospital has stated that they are willing to help during the transition. The board suggested that he move forward Sawtooth.

Nelly Askew / George Scheidt, Planning and Zoning Public Hearing:

- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to convene a public hearing at 10:17 a.m. to hear the plat amendment for the Grouse Creek Ranch Subdivision. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- Nellie stated that this public hearing is to reconfigure the layout of lots 13 and 15, Block 2, Grouse Creek Ranch Subdivision. Presently the lots are divided by a lot line that runs north and south; the new configuration changes the lot line to run east and west. There is not a sizeable change in lot size. Mr. Scheidt has gone through the process of approval from the Architectural Control Committee as required by the subdivision's restrictive covenants. There has been no public input. The Planning and Zoning Board has made a recommendation for approval at their meeting on September 1, 2022.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the Final Subdivision Plat to Amend Lots 13 and 15 in Block 2 of the Third Amended Final Plat for Grouse Creek Ranch Subdivision. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Dwight Lloyd, Weed Control:

- Dwight stated that on July 23rd they had a line break; he and Dee Steadman were both hit with 30-40 lbs. of pressure with Weedmaster herbicide. They used the eyewash as a precaution.
- They have several safety concerns including a turning lane into the County Shop and Weed Control Shop area. He inquired if the board would have influence on that decision. Commissioner Somsen stated that he would make that suggestion at the next transportation meeting.
- Dwight also brought up the water issues at the current shop. He wondered if it would be a possibility to attempt drilling deeper at the current well to obtain better water. The water currently is very dirty and plugs the screens to the point that they cannot load tanks at their own facility. The board asked Dwight if he could do some research on the nearby wells and find out how deep the existing well is. The option of a filtration system was also mentioned.
- Dwight has sent out enforcement letters and had responses from all except one. The landowner is an older man who lives in a rest home in Blackfoot. The land is in Chesterfield and he is uncertain of the name that signed on the certified letter form. Discussion was held on rates to charge if the weed department were to spray the property. Dwight will continue to research who is running the farm ground and paying taxes for a contact. It is so late in the year that they will postpone any spraying until spring.
- Dwight asked permission to gravel in the Lanes Grave area. The board stated that the county would donate the gravel to complete that project.
- Discussion was held on winter maintenance in the Gray's Lake area. Commissioner Somsen stated that agreements are not signed with Bonneville County and they will work on negotiations. They asked Dwight to continue plowing if he is willing.
- Dwight stated that his summer help will finish up on September 29th.

Nellie Askew & JoAnna Ashley, Planning & Zoning:

- Nellie spoke with the board on a proposed schedule of Monday through Thursday from 7:45 – 4:30 as JoAnna has been working. She stated that it was to accommodate contractors, workers, and early-risers. She is not opposed to having meetings on Fridays if needed; and that most of the communication is happening online with emails or phone calls.

The board indicated there have been several complaints about the office not being open on Fridays and people wanting access to the office that day. Discussion was held on working from 8 until noon on Fridays and adjusting the other days to still maintain a 35-hour work week.

- JoAnna joined the meeting by phone to provide an update on how the transition is going. She stated that Nellie is doing a fabulous job and she is impressed by how quickly she is learning. It is taking a bit more time than planned for training partially due to the extra work on the comprehensive plan and getting all permitting transferred to the online program. She is requesting to extend her employment to the end of October to allow her more training time as well as wrapping up the ongoing projects.

The board stated that their only issue is on the budgeting end. After consulting with the clerk's office, due to the fact that the insurance line item is still in the budget, they would be able to accommodate the extended date. JoAnna will continue to receive the stipend for Planning & Zoning meetings until Nellie's training is completed.

James Ackerman, Road & Bridge:

- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to convene an executive session pursuant to IC §74-206(b) at 11:09 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- **Commissioner Somsen suggested ending the executive session at 11:23 a.m. It was agreed with the employee to acknowledge the receipt of letter and sign.**

Fair Board Discussion:

- On Friday there was a meeting with Shannon Schultz and Ted Booth to inspect the buildings at the fairgrounds. The art building has been added to previously and the flooring may have some issues. The walls are cement and the roof also has some odd things. They did seem positive that they would be able to add 2 new offices, a conference room, and 2 bathrooms. They did find where a water supply came into the building at one time but it appears to have been abandoned. They will need a new roof and windows as well.

The cinderblock (exhibit) building will need paint, inside radiant heaters, new windows, a new insulated roll up door on the front. They would also like to consider making access to the existing bathrooms to the west. The commercial water is an issue to run year-round so they would connect to Grace culinary water for both buildings. Ted and Shannon will begin working on some plans and estimates to see where the expenses come in before making any final decisions.

Rowdy Larkins, Building Department:

- With Rowdy's remaining capital outlay funds, he requested approval to purchase an iPad for onsite use while completing inspections. He is looking at the iPad Pro 12 that will work with his current software. He would also like to install the television in his office to review plans. Commissioner Somsen suggested that he purchase one that is compatible with the iPad. He has \$6000 available in capital outlay between his 2 budgets.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the purchase of an iPad Pro 12 for up to \$1,500. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- The time frame on the flag pole has been slower than anticipated. He questioned if it would be reasonable to pre-pay for the pole so that he is utilizing the current year's budget. The board agreed.
- Rowdy stated that he would be in Utah the last week of the month for training and testing on his commercial inspector's license.

Doug Wood, Prosecutor:

- Doug requested the approval on a purchase of an iPad Pro with 512 GB memory that is WIFI compatible.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve up to \$2000 for the purchase of an iPad Pro with keyboard for the Prosecutor's use. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Adam Mabey, Sheriff / ARPA funds:

- Sheriff Mabey presented the updated list of ARPA funds. The original request was listed at \$453,000 and they have brought that number down to \$254,000 as prioritized. That list includes: jail door lock, building electrical/voltage suppressor, exterior security cameras, jail door control touch screen, interior office doors/access control, jail kitchen plumbing, jail showers, and transport van.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve \$254,000 to cover the updated requests and fiscal impact list from the jail to be expended from ARPA funds. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Other:

- **Commissioner McCullough motioned to approve the claim's approval report in the amount \$732,804.25, the payroll claims approval report in the amount of \$581,062.35 for Fiscal Year 2022, and the minutes of 8/22/2022 commissioner meeting as presented. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to approved the names for College Certificate of Residency forms as presented. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- **Commissioner McCullough motioned to vote for Brent Mendenhall on the ballot for the Criminal Defense Fund Board. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve Resolution #2022-09, A resolution to approve the Caribou County budget for all county funds for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve Resolution #2022-10, a resolution for the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Caribou, Idaho, reserving the forgone amount of \$204,774.00 for the Fiscal Year 2023 for potential use in subsequent years as described in Idaho Code §63-802. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve Resolution #2022-11, a resolution setting the reimbursement for travel mileage for authorized work-related duties of Caribou County, at 62.5 cents per mile effective September 12, 2022. Commissioner McCullough second the motion. Motion passed.**

- The meeting adjourned at 12:27 a.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet again on September 12, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chairman

Attested: Denise Horsley, Clerk
