

COMMISSIONER MEETING OF May 8, 2023

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on May 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chairman
Bryce Somsen, Commissioner
Marty McCullough, Commissioner
Jill Stoor, Clerk
Sharlene Simons, Deputy Clerk
Doug Wood, Attorney
Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge
Brett Barfuss, Road & Bridge
Eric Hobson, EMS

Rowdy Larkins, Maintenance/Building Dept
Dwight Lloyd, Weed Control
Tyler Butler, SE Idaho Public Health
Maggie Mann, SE Idaho Public Health
Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning
Ally Schwulst, GIS
Aaron Cook, Assessor
Katy Bergholm, DEQ
Allan Johnson, DEQ

The meeting opened with Bryce Somsen leading the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge:

- Kevin gave an update of some county equipment.

The D7 is in Utah at Utah Tracks & Welding and should be completed by the end of the week. It still has minor oil leaks but Kevin stated he will keep an eye on that and fix it in the county if necessary.

The D7H started to get the transmission sensor coming on and is losing forward and reverse. An oil sample has been sent off for a diagnosis on where to go from here.

Pickup truck 102 that has been down at Liberty Jensen Motors and was finished and ready to be used as a patch truck. It had about 3 miles on it and the front end locked up. It was towed back to Liberty Jensen to be worked on again.

The state hot mix trailer is up and running with minimal repairs.

Road and Bridge will be pulling in trucks and pups for inspections and maintenance.

As a safety measure, Taylor was getting quotes for running boards for the 2 patch trucks and wondered about getting running boards for the other 2 trucks. The price for the crew cab is \$329.00 and single cab is \$269.00. The Commissioners agreed to purchase running boards for all 4 trucks mentioned.

The road grader should be showing up soon. Kevin asked if Angie needs a certain amount of time to get money moved around to pay for this. Jill asked Kevin to give her the bill and she will get with Angie. IDAWAY will be making a \$50,000 payment on equipment.

- Kevin informed the Commissioners on the county roads status.
Snow removal has been completed on Government Dam, Ten-mile Pass, and around to Cow Camp. Patching is going slow. Kevin has been calling for prices on patch mix. The best price he has found is \$121.80 a ton in Pocatello.
Cody Cole mentioned having the county replace the posts on 3-mile Knoll and have Kenny Daniels fix the fence. Kenny will be sending the county a bill.
Attempts were made to open up a short-cut road at the end of Sorensen Road; the roads are really soft and wet and they could only make it part way. Kevin will notify Chris Ayers, as Chris was wanting to move things out of his Quonset that fell.
Kevin stated that 100 posts at \$75 each has been ordered. He has Adam McAlister looking into other options to see if money can be saved in the future.
Kevin talked to Nellie about adding culverts to the new approaches. He stated that the subdivision on North Gunnell Road should have culverts put in or the water will dam up and cause damage. The Commissioners agreed and asked Kevin to fix the approach.
Todd Jorgensen is working with the Wood Group on Dry Valley Road to have them repair the damages done during the winter and culverts will need to be installed.
- Kevin would like to order a large garbage dumpster for \$131.00 per quarter to help keep things a little cleaner at the county shed.
- Commission Mathew commented that a family is living on Turner Cemetery Road and would like to have a conversation with Kevin on what needs to be done so the school bus and the plows are able to turn around.
- Commissioner Somsen reminded Kevin about the ITD workshop next week on May 17th.

Eric Hobson, EMS:

- Eric discussed the springtime flooding. Some citizens and the USDA brought concerns about the loss of livestock during calving season due to the extreme winter. There is a need for a disaster declaration to help facilitate their applications.

Eric presented Resolution 2023-05 Caribou County Emergency / Disaster Declaration

Commissioner Somsen motioned to adopt Resolution 2023-05 Caribou County Emergency / Disaster Declaration. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Eric is watching the local survey and meeting with surrounding counties regarding any problems.

Rowdy Larkins, Maintenance/Building Dept.:

- Rowdy shared a Caribou County Building Report on new permits from 01/01/2023 – 5/08/2023. The number of permits were 15 with a permit value of \$1,904,749.50 and total fees of \$15,096.08.
- Rowdy's truck needs maintenance done. A quote from M&R Sports for ball joint and exhaust manifold leak is under \$2000.00. The board recommended going ahead with the repairs.
- Rowdy discussed several items of concern including surplus equipment, damaged bricks outside of the back door, monument concrete, and the flag pole installation. He hopes to have that completed in June. Rowdy stated that the chairs are at the American Legion now.
- There is a concern about the playground equipment at the Oregon Trail Park. The equipment is broken and could cause injury. Nellie found grant that could help with this. Jill mentioned that the Park & Recreation's budget has a special project fund available if needed. Rowdy was asked to keep MR&E updated on the needed repairs.
- Rowdy will be meeting with Shannon and the insurance company about the fairground building with the roof damage.

Dwight Lloyd, Weed Control:

- Dwight mentioned that he would like the Fish and Game to meet with all the Commissioners about a project they are working on.
- Dwight asked if he could install invasive noxious weed signs, at all entrances to the county i.e. Freedom, Franklin County line, Bear Lake County line, and Fish Creek. This will need to be approved with IDT. The Commissioners all agreed to the signs being posted.
- Commissioner Somsen reminded Dwight of the ITD workshop on the 17th of May with an invitation to ride together.

- Dwight stated that the truck and gators are serviced and ready.
- The gas furnace went out at the weed shop and caused damage due to the freezing temperature; there is possibly \$1500.00 worth of parts to fix. Discussion was held on how to prevent this from happening again.

Maggie Mann / Tyler Butler, SE ID Public Health:

- Maggie began by reminding the Commissioners that there is a budget hearing that will be held in Pocatello as part of the Board of Health meeting on 05/18/2023. The Chair of the County Commission must attend or send written proxy. Commissioner Mathews authorized Commissioner McCullough to go and vote proxy in his absence.
- Maggie discussed HB316 – Repeal of Indigent Program. Effective 03/01/2022 the state aid to Health Districts will be removed and replaced with additional County aid.

With no FY2024 State Appropriation, the total additional county aid for FY 2024 will be \$1,142,300.

Breaking this down to Caribou County amounts, the original county aid contribution in 2023 was \$62,790.00. With a reduction in population and a change in market value the amount decreased slightly and the request for FY2024 is \$60,843.00.

The additional county aid contribution in 2023 was \$58,418.00. Population and market value decreased therefore making the FY2024 request \$56,606.00. This will make the total contributions for FY2024 \$117,449.00.

- The Commissioners were reminded of the many programs that public health offers ranging from community health, clinical services, WIC, and environmental health.

Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning:

- Nellie would like to order 20 copies of the 2023 Comprehensive Plan books from Alpha Graphics for public purchase. The total cost is \$1096.71; the board approved the purchase.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the purchase 20 copies of the 2023 Comprehensive Plan books for the total of \$1096.71. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ally Schwulst, GIS:

- Ally updated the Commissioners on the projects she is working on including finalizing the maps for the Comprehensive Plan, the county boundary project, and training for the 911 data project.

She stated that Jacob created a sequel data base which creates a way that Ally can edit a map, and Jacob can see the edit at the same time. This saves Ally from having to export a copy for whoever is using their map. She will work on creating a web map gallery for the public to interact with and view.

Ally work with Aaron to create a damage survey for the county. Her next projects will be a recreational map and weed department map.

- Ally discussed that she will begin pounding address posts. She voiced concerns about having enough time to get this done. She asked if she could come in at 8:00 am and if needed, earn comp time; the commissioners agreed.

Ally Schwulst, GIS:

- **Commissioner Somsen made a motion to convene an executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(b) at 10:47 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the executive session convened.**
- **Commissioner Somsen suggested ending the session at 11:03 a.m. No decisions were made.**

Aaron Cook, Assessor:

- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to convene as the Board of Equalization at 11:04 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- Aaron presented 3 casualty loss claims to the Commissioners for approval.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to accept the casualty loss exemptions as presented by the Assessor. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Commissioner Mathews recused himself from the vote. Motion passed.

- Aaron then asked if the county wanted to renew past tax exemptions for the Caribou Historical Society, Bancroft Lion's Club, and the Chesterfield Foundation.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to renew the tax exemptions of the Caribou Historical Society, Bancroft Lion's Club, and the Chesterfield Foundation. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to recess the Board of Equalization at 11:13 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Jill Stoor, Clerk:

- Jill mentioned the Commissioner's meeting on July 24, 2023 is on a holiday and asked if the Commissioners still wanted to meet that day. The decision was made to tentatively cancel this meeting and move the jail inspection and the meeting with the Caribou County Senior Citizen's to the following scheduled meeting which will be August 14, 2023.
- Jill asked for signatures on the PDC (Public Defense Commission) Grant.
- Commissioner Somsen, Jill and Jacob Fullmer met informally with Jeff Hough about the Eastern Idaho Forensic Pathology Center in Bannock County that will be opening soon. They are wanting to do a subscription-based fee per population. The center is asking participating counties to contribute any available Opioid Settlement Funds to supplement initial subscription fees. The forensic group will come to formally meet with the Commissioners.
- Caribou Medical Center sent a letter to invite the county to participate and/or donate to their Golf Tournament. Jill was advised to either form a team or be a Bronze sponsor and donate \$350.00.
- A new retail alcoholic beverage license was presented for approval for Stampede Hills LLC.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve retail alcoholic beverage license for Stampede Hills LLC. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Jill informed the Commissioners of a new tort claim that was received recently.
- A Certificate of Residency was presented for approval.

Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the Certificate of Residency presented on 05/08/2023. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- **Commissioner Somsen made a motion to convene an executive session pursuant to I.C. 74-206(b) at 11:26 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the executive session convened.**
- **Commissioner Somsen suggested ending the session at 11:46 a.m. No decisions were made.**

Katy Bergholm/Allan Johnson, Idaho DEQ

- Katy shared the DEQ accomplishments from FY 2022 such as grants and loans that had been awarded, and performance measures. She introduced Allan Johnson who is the Engineering Manager and he works closely with the cities and counties. Allan has worked with DEQ for about 2½ years.

Allan shared that his group handles the loans and grants for water and waste water infrastructure improvement.

He is working on a project that is designed for Planning & Zoning and County Commissioners to see what the impact of septic systems are and then provide a list of best management practices that can be used as alternatives.

Katy mentioned that they have an open-door policy and to call if there are any questions.

Other:

- **Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/24/2023 as presented, the claims approval report in the amount of \$316,368.05 for the date of 05/04/2023 and the payroll claims in the amount of \$337,841.76 for the date of 05/03/2023. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet again on May 22, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chair

Attested: Jill Stoor, Clerk


