

COMMISSIONER MEETING OF January 08, 2024

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on January 08, 2024 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
Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge

Eric Hopson, Fire /Ambulance
Rowdy Larkins, Maintenance/Building Dept
Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning
Angie Mendenhall, Treasurer
Michelle Martin

The meeting opened with Jill Stoor leading the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge:

- Kevin and Jeremy checked on the progress of the D7.
- He stated that a 2021 snowplow frontend went down and parts alone will be between \$17,000-23,000 with labor being done in-house.
- He mentioned that they received the 2 trucks back from Diesel Depot and are waiting for the license plates to arrive to be ready to use.
- Kevin talked to Kauflin, the company from St. George that will be coming up to work on the Blackfoot River project, and they penciled in the first of June to start working. Kauflin figured it would take about 14 days. Kevin shared that the county will do as much work as they can to help stay within the cost of the grant.
- He shared that the Caterpillar software renewal will be coming due in the next 30 days and received approval to renew it.
- Kevin will check today on the status of the snowblower and try to get a delivery date. Angie asked Kevin to notify her when he submits the payment for the snowblower.
- Kevin talked to Mark Luthi about the Tri-County Road Agreement. It was agreed that Caribou will continue doing the same as agreed on in the past between Caribou and Lincoln County. Ken Ray from Bonneville County said they will bring their own blade from Swan Lake so Caribou will need to blade Bridge Creek. Kevin will check with the Forest Service on what else needs to be covered. The Lincoln County agreement will stay the same; there will be a new agreement with Bonneville and Caribou Counties regarding snow removal. Jill will update the agreement and forward it to the Bonneville County Clerk. Kevin questioned if Caribou County needs the same agreement with Lincoln County and it was decided not to be necessary.

Commissioner McCullough made a motion to accept the revised agreement with Bonneville and Caribou counties for snow removal for 2024. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Eric Hopson, Fire/Ambulance:

- Eric gave an update on the EMT class. He stated that they are on week 5 and are down from 20 participants to 17.
- He shared that the Idaho Standards of Bureau and Rating gave him the fire rating and it has not changed since the previous time. He was given ideas on how to lower the score such as changing the training schedule and water systems.
- Eric stated that they have a couple of fire trucks going in for maintenance. The tanker has a clutch that needs attention and they are still having shift control problems on the KME.
- The Seismic Plan was discussed and Eric mentioned that he is working with them trying to get revisions completed and finalized. Eric informed them the building information is still incorrect. And he will again send it back with all the errors and concerns and see what happens.
- He mentioned that the bird refuge in Grays Lake is burning slash piles tomorrow so there will be smoke up on the observatory.

Rowdy Larkins, Courthouse Maintenance/Building Department:

- Rowdy shared the Caribou County Building Report for new permits for 2023. This showed a total of 77 new permits with the permit valuation of \$7,382,527.00 and fees of \$63,178.00. He mentioned that the building is spread out fairly evenly in the county.
- Rowdy met with Shannon and Wall to Wall for the Judges flooring project. The floor seems to have transitions where subfloor has been added. They would like to add subfloor to match what is there and then put LVP on top of the subfloor. Quotes will be coming in soon for this job.
- He talked to Mark Harris about IDOPL. Mark was aware of this and he doesn't see any changes in the near future. Rowdy mentioned that if the county agrees to take over these inspections that it is for county only and not the city. Bryce suggested to wait until the Senate is done in March. Rowdy asked if this is for residential only or commercial also. The board suggested he schedule a training to attend.
- Rowdy will be attending trainings in Boise the 22nd through the 26th of January.
- Rowdy also talked to Shannon about getting bids out in February for the construction at the fairgrounds in Grace. Whoever gets the bid needs to include the fair building and do that first so it will be done for the fair.
- Jill asked where to put the check that has been received for the cinderblock building damage. It was agreed to put it in P.I.L.T. and there should also be an adjustment check coming.

Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning:

- Nellie mentioned that there were two submissions for an engineering firm. From the Idaho Statutes she created an RFQ evaluation scoring sheet. She asked the board to break the seals, review them and proceed to score the two submissions.
- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to convene a Public Hearing at 10:18 a.m. regarding the amendment of the Solar Energy Code. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed and the hearing began.**

Nellie felt that this addition was needed to protect large scale solar energy from coming in the county. Adding #4 under Definitions in County Code 13.48.365. The following is what was proposed to add to the code:

Energy Storage: Solar energy storage refers to the process of capturing and storing the energy generated by solar systems for later use. Personal energy storage is allowed, but any storage systems beyond personal use are not permitted within the county.

Some concerns are: what will happen after the solar panels and batteries when they are done using them. The landfill would not currently take them. This could also disrupt the agricultural lands.

There was no public comment.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to adopt the amendment to the Solar Energy 133.48.365 #2 Definitions sub #4 stating: Energy Storage: Solar energy storage refers to the process of capturing and storing the energy generated by solar systems for later use. Personal energy storage is allowed, but any storage systems beyond personal use are not permitted within the county. Ordinance No. 2024-01.

Commissioner McCullough Seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- **Commissioner Somsen made a motion to end the public hearing at 10:29 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning:

- Nellie shared an overview of the grant for the Oregon Trail Marina Park. After emailing with the lady on the grant, she suggested just proceeding with the RV portion now since it is not something we have. She shared the specifics of the items wanted and work needed to obtain the grant. The total amount on the grant that she is asking in \$128,000 with a 5% match of \$6400. She does have some concerns about future maintenance. It was suggested to have a camp host.
- In order to get the map done, she needed to contract with Keller's.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to accept the Agreement for Professional Services for Recreational Grant Program Application Support in the amount of \$1000 to Keller Associates Inc. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Nellie came back later in the meeting and said she had tallied the scores for the engineering firms. She will check states statutes on how to notify the highest scoring engineering firm and then move on to the negotiations.

Jill Stoor, Clerk;

- We received a phone bill on Jacob's cell phone again and it was decided to inactivate the account.
- Jill presented a Certificate of Residency for approval.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to accept the Certificate of Residency for the name that was presented on 01/08/2024. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Mike Ridenour at the Grace Lounge has sold the Grace Lounge and signed a transfer for the liquor license to the new owners. Jill asked for a motion to approve the new ownership's liquor license.


Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve the liquor license for the Grace Lounge under the new ownership. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Jill shared that she has the Board's registrations for the 2024 IAC Mid-Winter Legislative Conference for the end of January. She shared where she was able to get the rooms while attending the conference. She reminded them that they need to RSVP for the District 5 breakfast meeting. Jill will respond for them; all agreed to attend.
- Bryce shared that a home child care service needs the Idaho Stars Local Compliance form signed. Bryce will send it to Jill to print.
- It was suggested to get an air printer by Bryce. Jill was asked to take care of this.
- Jill mentioned that she will not be allowing election equipment to be use at the caucuses.
- Mark shared that he went to market animal meeting and mentioned that it was decided to refund the money to the buy-back buyers.
- Bryce shared that the EISF Fair District Budget Hearing is on Thursday, January 25th, 2024 from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm at the Blackfoot fairgrounds in the Needlecraft building. This will be attended by Commissioner Mathews and Commissioner Somsen so this will need to be added to the agenda.

Other:

- Commissioner McCullough made a motion to appoint Mark Mathews as Chairman of the Board of Caribou County Commissioners and that Bryce Somsen will act as temporary chair in the absence of the Chairman. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-01. Resolution to appoint Mark Mathews as Chairman of the Board of Caribou County Commissioners and temporary chair as Bryce Somsen in the absence of the Chairman. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve Caribou County Resolution No. 2024-02 setting the reimbursement for travel, mileage for authorized work-related duties of Caribou County at \$.67 per mile. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve the Notice of Commissioner Meetings for Calendar Year 2024 and the Caribou County Courthouse Holiday schedule for 2024 as presented. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve the minutes of 12/11/2023 as presented, the claims approval report in the amount of \$384,390.32 on 1/05/2024 and the payroll claims in the amount of \$391,279.19 on 12/27/2023. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet again on January 22, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chair



Attested: Jill Stoor, Clerk

