

COMMISSIONER MEETING OF January 22, 2024

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on January 22, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Bryce Somsen, Temporary Chairman
Marty McCullough, Commissioner
Jill Stoor, Clerk
Doug Wood, Prosecutor
Sharlene Simons, Deputy Clerk
Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge

J. Adam Mabey, Sheriff
Eric Hopson, Fire /Ambulance
Shalayne Bartschi, CC Senior Center
Brandon Hall
Michelle Martin

The meeting opened with Doug Wood leading the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge:

- Kevin shared that they have started hauling their summer chips from Nucor today. He mentioned they have 4 trucks hauling from there today and depending on the storms they will continue hauling for the next couple of weeks. The 2 new trucks are included on that job they seem to be pretty nice with the digital dashboards.
- Kevin and Brett discussed that the Old Hwy, the Lund Road, and the Turner Road are the only 3 roads in the county that do not have oil mat; everything else is chip seal-based roads. They are seeing a lot of undermining on the shoulders of those roads. He mentioned that Nucor, for \$.07 a ton, has their rejects which is a 3/8 minus and he would like to get 10-12 loads to have for the summer to do should repair work to keep the roads from undermining, and if it works it might be something to put on other places. He is hoping that it is heavy enough it won't wash away like some of the other aggregate that has been along the shoulders.
- He stated that they did have 3 snow plows slide off the road. One of the plows did need a tow truck out on 2-Mile Road to be pulled back on the road; all 3 due to lack of visibility.
- He has 5 road graders working to re-opening the dikes on Dike Road and Blackfoot River Road.
- Kevin said they would be going in to Grace today or tomorrow to the North Cinder Pit Subdivision to get the banks pushed back with a payload. They will have to go in and identify where the power boxes are so they don't cause damage.
- He called on the D7 that is in Pocatello this morning and they are waiting on one part and then should be able to go pick it up this week.
- Kevin shared that the snowblower completion date is not until February 20th.
- Eric Hobson talked to Kevin about the snow cats being buried with snow. Eric borrowed the county payload and hauled snow around to the back side of the building. Along with this, Kevin mentioned

how long it is taking to plow the county facilities in town with the skid steer. He is trying to figure out what to do in the coming years to increase productivity.

- Kevin talked about the road closures on Highways 30 and 34. Bannock County put their road closed signs on the bridge, so the traffic was diverting to the Old Hwy. Kevin is asking if someone should talk to ITD and see if they can close traffic further back to keep the traffic off of the Old Hwy. Commissioner Somsen will talk to Chris Peirsol about this.

Kevin shared that there was a funeral in Bancroft on the Friday that the county offices were closed. The burial was in Soda Springs and so with the help of the county and the state plows, they were able to get the family where they needed to go.

J. Adam Mabey, Sheriff:

- Sheriff shared that the sanitizing station is in and working great. It takes about 30 seconds to kill everything.
- He mentioned that they are working on getting the east side of the gate leading into the Sheriff's office taken care off. However, the snowplow backed into the west gate and it is bent out of shape. He is working with the contractor to get that rectified.
- He also mentioned that they are in the process of getting the radio console put in to place with the 700 system. This will be a good update for the dispatch center. There will be a training that will allow local entities that are on the console system to do their own programming and administer this system themselves. This will be a huge discount; every time they have to program their system it is around \$6000 - \$8000. Eric has found out that they can use 911 funds for the training. Sheriff will send 1 employee plus Eric to this training. This will be 2 weeks of training later this year. Eric shared that this will be a good thing for the county and in the long run will save the county money.
- Sheriff shared a personnel update; patrol is up to speed, he just hired a new person for detention putting that department up to speed, and still down 1 position in dispatch.
- He mentioned that there have been a few Search & Rescue call outs. He wanted to share that they are a huge resource for Caribou County. The heater is up and running in the Search & Rescue building.
- He said they were able to get a donation from Bayer in regards to portable radios and all it will cost the county is the fee to program them. He stated that communications have increased dramatically for Search & Rescue.
- The Sheriff's Office is in the process of trying to work with the Tri-County Sheriff's Association to put together a fentanyl task force for Southeast Idaho. This will be a joint task force where Sheriff's will ask for assistance in a certain area and once this task force is up, they will saturate that area with law enforcement for fentanyl type activities. He stated that fentanyl is currently coming into Caribou County.

- He is working with Bonneville County Sheriff Hulse who has put together a program called IGNITE for the jails. (Inmate Growth Naturally and Intentionally Through Education) They can utilize the tablets that they already have in the jail to provide educational opportunities for the inmates. Inmates can work on things such as GED, learn a trade skill, and enrichment courses. There are 8 counties in the nation using this and Sheriff would like to trim it for small jails and be a model jail for the rest of the country to see that it can work in small jails also. This will help with rehabilitation in the jail so that when they are put back in the community they are skilled up.
- He shared that they are very proactive out in the community in solving crimes. To name a few; there were some brake lines that had been cut in Grace, which has been solved and taken care of, and then there was an ATV that was stolen in Chesterfield and they were able to get that one solved as well and have the individual in custody.
- He mentioned that he was on Idaho Public Television doing a round table on how to fund jails in the state of Idaho with two other sheriffs and the jail inspector for the State of Idaho. He felt by doing this he was representing Caribou County and how to improve our issues. They discussed the local option tax.
- He then talked about the camera system and the body cams and how they are slowly going down on them. He will be bringing this topic up in the future with new options. He feels that these cameras are very important and useful in many instances.
- Sheriff said the boat grant was increased by \$2000 this year. This could help with replacing the patrol boat.
- IT was the last topic Sheriff talked about. How do the Commissioners want him to proceed? Are there funds available? He asked if the Board could help him get through this year and he will see if he can come up with quotes for next year. Sheriff agreed to do this and will bring it back later to present to the Commissioners.

Eric Hobson, Fire/Ambulance:

- Eric mentioned the Motorola training and felt it had been discussed pretty well during Sheriff Mabey's time earlier today.
- He then talked about the Dry Valley MOU system. With all the mines migrating out there, he began conversation with private industry to do a joint response system to get better service. He mentioned that they were approached by P4 who wants to take the lead on this. What P4 asked of the county was to do an overlapping coverage so they will use their license and maybe leasing one of the ambulances. This information has been sent to the legal team to look over. April 1 is the day they would like to be in service.
- He shared that the state has sent the agreement for the "All Hazard Litigation Plan" grant for a signature. The amount awarded is \$31,784.79 with a 10% match making the total award amount \$35,316.43.

Commissioner McCullough made a motion to accept the 2023 Subrecipient Agreement for Caribou County for the amount of \$35,316.43. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- He shared that they are a quarter of the way through their EMT Class and things seem to be going well. Also mentioning that they have 5 signed up to go to the Fire Academy in February in Burley.

Doug Wood, Prosecutor:

- Doug shared that he attended a conference in Phoenix that dealt with victims and victims advocates. This was a Prosecutors and Victims Advocates Conference. He was able to attend through a grant from neighboring counties.
He felt that they represented Idaho well. He came away feeling like our area needs a Victim Advocate. His concern is that an office space would be needed and Jill mentioned that there is an office in the basement of the courthouse. The other item needed would be to find grant funding to pay for the advocate.
He asked the Board for their blessing to proceed and the Board agreed.
- He brought up a discussion on House Bill 406 dealing with fentanyl and encouraged the Board to talk to Kevin Andrus who is on this committee.
- Commissioner Somsen asked if Doug knew anything on Senate Bill 1217 about public access. Doug said he would look into this and report back.

Shalayne Bartschi, Caribou County Senior Center:

- Shalayne shared a report of the Income/Expense Comparison by year and by quarter. She shared that the thrift store is continuing to do well. Shalayne said they do get items that need to be taken to the dump and to the DI.
- She talked about a grant with Bayer, but to do this they need a project so some ideas are; insulating the garage and putting a heater in there, and getting an air conditioner in the thrift store. The grant is usually around \$10,000.

Jill Stoor, Clerk;

- Jill presented 2 certificates of residency for approval.

Commissioner McCullough made a motion to approve the Certificate of Residency for the names that were presented on 01/22/2024. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- She shared a Thank You from the Caribou Historical Society for the donation that they received. They said the money would be used wisely.
- Brent Krebs at Sam's Market sold the store to Talen Tibbitts and it is now the Grace Market LLC. Jill asked for a motion to approve the new ownership's liquor license.

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

- Jill shared that they are in the beginning process of using a new jury system. Computer Arts is going to stop supporting their jury system in the fall, but the State has started a new program thru Tyler and the State will pay for this.
- The Clerk's office is struggling with Computer Arts with W-4 and 1099's and these forms are to be out by the end of the month.
- Jill thanked the Board for allowing her staff to attend the Election Conference and thought it was well worth while for all to attend.
- She mentioned that Rowdy talked to her about filling 2 vacancies on the Fair Board. Commissioner Somsen called Commissioner Mathews to see who will be filling these positions. He shared the names from a text he received from Rowdy which are Kade Lusk and Roger Hill.

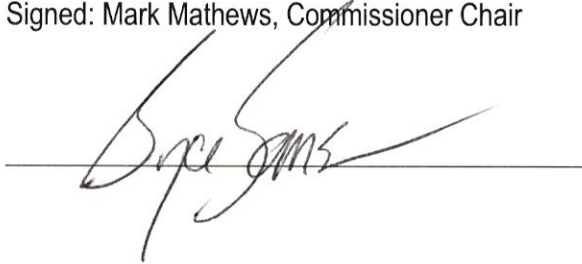
Commissioner McCullough made a motion to accept Kade Lusk and Roger Hill as Fair Board members. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- Jill asked who was going to the Eastern Idaho State Fair meeting with Commissioner Mathews being out of town. Commissioner Somsen will be the only one going.
- She shared that there has been a lot of talk about neighboring newspapers wanting to cover Caribou County. Currently the Idaho State Journal will continue be where the county posts information to until another paper is named. Brandon Hall was in attendance from Idaho Enterprise and is wanting to do a Caribou County newspaper. Brandon has looked up the rules to see what he will need to do to be eligible to be named the paper of Caribou County postings, and mentioned this will take a while.
- She clarified who is attending IAC meetings and where their rooms will be.

Other:

- Commissioner McCullough made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/08/2024 as presented, the claims approval report in the amount of \$3,517,342.64 on 1/19/2024 and the payroll claims in the amount of \$344,588.08 on 01/12/2024. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet again on February 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chair



Attested: Jill Stoor, Clerk

