

COMMISSIONER MEETING OF March 25, 2024

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on March 25, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chairman	Taylor Askew
Bryce Somsen, Commissioner	Date Yost
Marty McCullough, Commissioner	Sterling Delbridge
Tisha Young, Chief Deputy Clerk	Wade Yost
Doug Wood, Prosecutor	Rachel Yost
Angie Mendenhall, Treasurer	Isaac Yost
Sharlene Simons, Deputy Clerk	Scott Brown
Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge	Gloria Peck
J. Adam Mabey, Sheriff	Laura Peck
Rowdy Larkins, Maintenance/Building Dept.	Brandon Hall, The Idaho Enterprise
Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning	Vicki Yost Via Phone
Eric Hobson, Public Safety	Michelle Martin
Ally Schwulst, GIS	

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

Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge:

- Kevin gave an update on the new snowblower. It arrived and was put on the loader and was taken out to see how it works. Kevin seemed pretty pleased with it. The company will come here in November to do some training on it.
- He shared some jobs that they are working on including patching roads, putting up signs, and trimming trees up in the Hatch area.
- Kevin is still looking for land to do crushing on. He mentioned that Jean Labrousche may have some on King Creek Road past Corta's place. Kevin is asking about prices. Commissioner Somsen shared that the county has ground at the Sucker Trap to trade.
- Brett and Kevin wondered about equipment that is stored at the fairgrounds and could it be an option to build a shed on Highway 34 where the equipment could stay year-round. He showed an example of a lean-to as an idea for the building.
- Kevin found a used 2018 broom sweeper online in Boise that is about ½ price of a new one and ask the Board what they thought of purchasing it. The Board agreed for him to purchase it.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve the purchase of a 2018 Broce Broom RCT-350 Sweeper for the maximum amount of \$40,033. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Kevin was in Bailey Creek over the weekend and said that on Moore Lane there is a culvert that will need to be replaced. He tried to rod it out but it will need replace as soon as it thaws. Commissioner Mathews mentioned that there is another on Super View Road needs repair and asked Kevin to look at that culvert as well.
- He has had more residents requesting that the Lund Road and the Old Highway towards the county line to be striped. It would cost about \$20,000 to do both roads. Kevin said there is money in the funds to do this. It was agreed to have those roads painted.
- Commissioner Somsen mentioned that Crandall's road needs work done. They apologized for work they have done that has created a mess. Kevin said he would put them on the list.

J. Adam Mabey, Sheriff:

- Sheriff shared that he has a contract that needs a signature for the Idaho Parks & Recreation in regards to the boat grant in the amount of \$16,919 for this year. This is for accepting these funds. He mentioned that they are looking at a project to see if they can get a couple more endure type motorcycles.
- He talked about the Freedom horse issue and said that on Friday he received a complaint and after driving over there was nothing to worry about. The brand inspector said he is willing to keep a watch on them. He is also watching the right-of-way issues.
- He brought to the attention of the Board that he has learned that OSHA is working on a regulation change that is part of the Fire Brigade Regulations which deals with fire departments, emergency services, and technical search and rescue. If this happens it will put his technical search and rescue out of business. If it does go through, it will cost about \$100,000 per year just for search and rescue.
- Sheriff shared an update on his personnel; patrol is staffed, dispatch is staffed and detention still needs 1 more.
- Sheriff's Jail Commander wanted him to share her thoughts on the transport van. They have been struggling trying to find a transport van to purchase. They can find some back east that are used but are struggling finding some close that are in good conditions. They would like to propose to look at the ARPA funds that was going to be used to purchase the van and transfer that money towards a new gate project being fixed. The board agreed this is a good idea. Sheriff will have his team look in this.
- He talked about their body cams and that they are 7 years old and very important to have. The current ones are from WatchGuard and that company has now been bought out by Motorola who is not as good at customer service. His concern is that if these cameras go down, there will be no way

to fix them so he proposed a new system but this will be a big project. Through the company Day Wireless, they could get 9 body cams for patrol, 6 for detention and 1 in car system for the transport van. That quote came in at \$92,004.36 and this includes the cameras, the cloud system and a new antenna system.

He thought he could break this into 2 phases. Phase 1 for patrol and phase 2 for detention. Sheriff would like to implement this in the coming budget.

Rowdy Larkins, Courthouse Maintenance / Building Department:

- Rowdy shared that the elevator valve is out dated and they are having a hard time finding that. The quote for doing the whole revamp is a bit more complex and would be 2 years out before work could get done on it. The oil and the valve would be around \$14,000 not including the price of the valve.
- He stated that Robinson Roofing has started work on the EMS building.
- Rowdy said that Doug's door and bird proofing at the Fire Station are still in progress.
- He mentioned that the Event Center is still waiting on a few bids to come back. – The final bids are including the cinder block building.
- Commissioner Mathew asked when the next Fair Board meeting is so he can swear in the new member. Rowdy said it will be on the 1st of April.

Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning:

- Nellie shared that the public hearing was canceled so they withdrew their application and decided to go a different route. Everyone was notified that it had been canceled, but she felt like she should keep it on the agenda in case someone showed up. The conditional use permit was for 6 cottages out by Custom Iron.

Ally Schwulst, GIS:

- Ally said that Linda Ecker from Grace called about an address discrepancy. Linda said her packages were not being delivered to her address on Maple Lane. Linda said her address has been Maple Lane since they have lived there, about 40 years, but Google shows it as Maple Hollow Lane and the county has it as Maple Hollow Lane. After a discussion on this, Ally was asked to talk to all those on that road to see what they want and hopefully they can all agree to the same name. Ally agree to talk to each of them.

Vicki Yost, Analysis Review (Via Phone Call):

- Vicki Yost, 1184 Mill Canyon Road, Bancroft Idaho and 4252 S. Cantamar Drive St. George Utah. This is regarding her filing the Request for Taking Analysis with the Attorneys General Office and the Caribou County Commissioners. Vicki filled out the Regulatory Taking Checklist and shared why she scored it like she did. She stated that 1/3 of her property, almost all of Sterling Delbridge's property, and all of Blair Rindlisbaker's property that they have proposed leasing is all included in the Bancroft impact zone.
Others that spoke were Wade Yost, 360 Rose Ave, Soda Springs and Michelle Martin 1278 Barfuss Lane, Bancroft.
After discussing the Regulatory Takings Checklist, the Board shared how they felt the checklist should be scored.

Scott Brown, Solar Farms:

- Scott Brown 2665 Government Dam Road, Soda Springs. Scott mentioned that he has been approached several times by solar companies over the past few years due to the proximity of his ground and the substations.
Scott wanted to share several reasons he felt was significant for a solar farm.
Private investment in communities.
Ready and significant steady tax revenue while there would be no odor, pollution, or noise.
Keep land and agricultural by storing atmospheric carbon in the soil through regenerative land management practices such as grazing.
Good paying jobs and local companies would benefit from the additional business.
Resolution #2023-8 regarding the County budget indicates that \$6.9 million of the nearly \$18 million in the budget comes from property taxes. He asked where future money comes from to fund the county with expenses continuing to go up.
- Scott shared more information supporting solar farms and then said he would be willing to give back to the county and he had something in mind that would improve the beauty of the county.
- In addition, he is asking the Board to adopt an ordinance to address projects and proposals like this.
- He addressed wildlife by saying these companies have committed to plant vegetation under the panels for animals to enjoy.
- Scott also addressed decommission. These companies have their own recycling plant in California. They do not put these panels in the landfills.
- The Board expressed their appreciation to Scott for approaching them and informing them more of the solar farm projects.
- Vicki Yost then commented more on the comprehensive plan.

Gloria and Laura Peck, Grace Chamber:

- Laura Peck 1810 S Main, Grace. Laura shared that the Grace Chamber is planning a concert in the park on July 26 that will be free to the community. They are bringing the group Due West. She asked the Board for a donation to help with the expenses of this event. She said their expenses would come to around \$10,500 and currently have \$7000 with others committing to help. The Board agreed to donate \$1000.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to donate from P.I.L.T. \$1000 to the Grace Idaho Chamber of Commerce for their concert in the park. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kevin McLain, Road & Bridge:

- Commissioner Somsen made a motion to convene an executive session pursuant to I.C.74-206(a) 11:25 a.m. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously and the executive session convened.

Commissioner Somsen suggested ending the executive session at 12:15 p.m. with no decisions made.

Jill Stoor/Tisha, Clerk:

- Tisha shared that there are some contracts that need to be signed.
An MOU with the Idaho State Police Forensic Services for the Coroner's office.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to enter into an MOU between The Idaho State Police Forensic Services and Caribou County Coroner's Office. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

She mentioned that Jill would like to wait on the Indigent burial policy because she has not yet been in touch with the funeral home concerning the fee increase.

A public defendant contract needs to be signed.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to enter into an agreement for the Conflict Public Defender for Indigent Legal Services with John Bulger, Attorney at Law. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

An indigent defense provider contract was then presented for signature.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to enter into an agreement for Indigent Defense Provider Services in the 6th Judicial District of Idaho, Caribou County with Don Marler, Marler Law Office. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Tisha shared information for a donation for a golf tournament that is sponsored by Caribou Medical Center Foundation. It was suggested to donate the same as last year which was \$350.

Commissioner Somsen made a motion to donate \$350 to Caribou Medical Foundation for their golf tournament. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Tisha was asked by Jill to tell the Board about the 4-County Agenda items. Tisha was asked to have Jill share this with the other counties.
- March 27th Meetings – 4-County at the Fire Station at 10:00 a.m., IDAWY, and Juvenile Detention meeting, the board stated that the Juvenile Detention meeting has been canceled. There is also a drug court graduation that evening.
- April 3rd Jill has all 3 board members signed up for the BOE meeting.
- May 3rd County Officials Institute Meeting in Idaho Falls

Doug Wood, Prosecutor:

- Doug shared that Greg Haney passed away last week. Doug filled in for him Thursday and Friday. In order to continue to do this he needs to enter into a short-term contract. In order to have a contract with the city, he needs the commissioner's approval. The city has put out an RFP for this and Doug intends to apply for it. He feels that he could over the criminal portion; he is not necessarily interested in the civil responsibilities. He asked for the Board's blessing on this. The Board agreed and expressed concern that he does not take on too much of a load.

Other:

- Commissioner Somsen made a motion to approve the minutes of 03/11/2024 as presented, minutes of 03/12/2024 as presented for the Special Commissioner Meeting for the new Event Center in Grace, the claims approval report in the amount of \$308,728.05 for 03/21/2024 and the payroll claims in the amount of \$189,159.79 for 03/20/2024. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet again on April 8, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chair



Attested: Jill Stoor, Clerk


