

**COMMISSIONER MEETING OF September 28, 2020**

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on September 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance, Commissioner Chairman Phil Christensen, Commissioners Bryce Somsen and Commissioner Mark Mathews via phone. Also, in attendance Caribou County Clerk Denise Horsley, Deputy Clerk Tisha Young, Caribou County Prosecutor Doug Wood, Road and Bridge Supervisor Kim Spencer, Caribou County Public Safety Director Eric Hobson, IT/GIS Director Jacob Farnes, Caribou County Assessor Aaron Cook, Caribou County Sheriff Kelly Wells, Chief Deputy Matthew Galloway, Planning & Zoning Director JoAnna Ashley, Caribou County Treasurer Angie Mendenhall, LoyRaye Phillips, Rodger Sorensen, J.Adam Mabey, and Chris Thomas.

The meeting opened with Caribou County Clerk Denise Horsley giving the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

**Kim Spencer, Road and Bridge:**

- The bridges are installed and they will be backfilling them over the next couple of days. Kim is hopeful that by the weekend the bridges will be fully operational.
- Kim budgeted for 2 road graders for the new fiscal year at the cost of \$210,000.00 each. With the pandemic going on all the counties that will be renewing their leases in October will not have the option of a new grader due to a shortage. They will have the option of buying their leased one outright or let them go back. They have a few available either in Pocatello or Spokane Washington that are approximately 5 years old that have 3500 hours on them. Kim would like to get them tied up for delivery in October or November. He is planning on trading in two H models that both have over 12,000 hours. The Commissioners agreed to proceed with the purchase of the 2 road graders.
- Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the purchase of two 2015 lease return road graders for the amount of \$210,000 each. Commissioner Christensen seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The Forest Service gave him permission to widen the Henry Cutoff Road. Kim will plan on placing the crusher out that way next summer.

**Eric Hobson, Public Safety:**

- Eric presented the EMPG agreement that Commissioner Christensen needs to sign. This is the ongoing agreement we have with the State of Idaho. This is the reimbursement contract that pays for Linda's and Eric's salaries.
- Eric explained that we currently have 98 COVID-19 cases in the county right now. Eric asked the Commissioners what procedure the county employees should be following concerning COVID-19. The Commissioners asked Eric to draft a policy for the department heads to review.

- Commissioner Somsen asked what Eric would recommend that they cover on the COVID-19 policy. Eric said he has been asked about the cost of the test and when employees can come back to work after testing positive or being exposed.
- Eric said the best option is to have employees work from home if possible. He realizes that isn't an option for every department.
- They only had one big fire this summer, it was on state land. The fire ended up burning up approximately 500 acres. The season is winding down for the year.
- They found oil in the antifreeze on one of the old Ford ambulances. He will keep them posted on what options we have. He would rather not continue to put a lot of money into it to keep it going.

**Jacob Farnes, IT/GIS:**

- Jacob was unable to attend the meeting.

**LoyRaye Phillips:**

- LoyRaye wanted to voice her feelings and concerns about the discussions that have taken place concerning the Caribou Memorial Hospital. She recently read an article in the Caribou County Sun that got her attention.
- She feels that citizens of Caribou County deserve to have a local hospital. She doesn't believe anyone should have to drive to Pocatello or Preston to seek care.
- LoyRaye stated that Caribou County has the fifth highest tax record in the State of Idaho. Franklin County and Bear Lake County are far below our tax record per LoyRaye. In 2019, our tax record was over \$9 million. She believes with this much tax money coming in, we should be able to take care of our hospital.
- LoyRaye asked why the CEO isn't coming to Commissioner meetings to discuss the problems at the hospital and discuss a budget. She believes it is time for Caribou County to step up and take care of our county. She further stated that we have industrial plants here and people get hurt and need immediate care.
- She explained that there is money available through the Idaho Healthcare Facility Authority and a USSB loan can be obtained.
- She asked if the county sets a budget for the hospital out of our county taxes. Commissioner Somsen replied no we don't. We have allowed \$200,000 out of the county budget for the last two years.

- Commissioner Christensen said we are not selling the hospital. He further explained that the hospital is a non-profit organization and will continue to have a board of local citizens.
- Commissioner Somsen said the care provided to a patient could become cheaper as a non-profit organization.
- Commissioner Somsen asked why she feels like things are going to change at the hospital. LoyRaye is worried that the hospital will be considered private and not a community owned hospital.
- LoyRaye doesn't believe a bond would fail for the hospital. However, she doesn't understand why we need to run a bond since Bear Lake County and Franklin County have not run a bond and their hospitals seem to be doing fine.
- Commissioner Somsen said they have to act on the changes occurring and the amount of local support at the hospital is dwindling.
- LoyRaye believes the Caribou County Commissioners care about our community. Commissioner Somsen said he truly cares about this situation and he appreciates her coming to the meeting today.
- Commissioner Christensen commended Chris Thomas for her job over the last 2 years. He feels that the hospital would have been gone 2 years ago without her presence.

**Glen Avery:**

- Glen Avery did not appear for his requested time.

**Aaron Cook, Republican Chairman:**

- Aaron would like to finish the process as far as the Republican Party obligations on assignment of an Interim Sheriff. On September 16, Aaron as the Republican Party Chairman for Caribou County received a resignation letter from Sheriff Wells. Wells stated in the letter that his last day will be October 2. Upon review of I.C. 59-906 the Republican Party has come up with three names interested to serve as the Interim Sheriff. They held a special meeting on September 24 at the Soda Springs City Park. All seven active precinct committee persons were present. They held a secret ballot vote that day. Aaron gave the names in order of highest number of votes. Jon Bunderson, J. Adam Mabey, and CJ Golightly. CJ Golightly told Aaron that he only wanted to help complete the list, he is not interested in the position.

**Kelly Wells, Sheriff:**

- Wells presented the Idaho Policing Policy Manual that needs signed. The cost is based on the number of sworn officers. They have a total of 9 sworn individuals. There are no changes in the manual from previous years. The cost is \$1500.00 annually.
- Wells explained that he has enjoyed his time with Caribou County. He appreciates the working relationship he has had with the Commissioners.
- Chief Deputy Matt Galloway discussed the video arraignment system that was built four years ago. A couple months ago they were contacted by the Idaho Department of Corrections. They told him that our jail was the only one that was allowing PSA's and PSI's. They have grant money available to help keep the technology moving forward. Galloway spoke with them about a week ago and they have offered to purchase another IPAD and four more access points to help build up the WIFI system.
- Chief Deputy Matt Galloway asked if the Commissioners would consider awarding Sheriff Wells his duty badge and duty gun. Idaho codes allows for this to be done.
- Commissioner Somsen motioned to award Sheriff Wells his duty gun and duty badge as part of his retirement. Commissioner Christensen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **JoAnna Ashley, Planning & Zoning:**

- As part of the codification process they are reviewing all of our ordinances. They have provided feedback and organized it structurally.
- She wants to present the a few of the big points today to have the Commissioners give their input.
- She had Eric review the emergency services portion and they changed some wording to clarify the responsibilities of the Sheriff's Department and the Fire Department.
- The Cedar View Subdivision is referenced as no firearms are to be discharged within one half mile of this subdivision. This has been brought up because individuals are wanting to purchase lots for trap shooting in various areas of the county. We need to think about how to handle this kind of thing in subdivisions.
- Doug Wood suggested that JoAnna reach out to other rural counties to see how they are handling this. JoAnna will also call the Idaho Fish and Game.
- She has also been researching snowmobiling being prohibited in the county particularly in the Stump Creek Area. An ordinance was passed in 1982 and she asked if the county has the authority to prohibit snowmobiling within the county. Doug said we have no jurisdiction over private

property. Doug said we could enforce this if there is good reason to protect the health and safety of the citizens or the property itself.

- JoAnna will research our current ordinance by calling Fish and Game and private landowners to determine why this ordinance was passed in 1982. JoAnna can't see how the Sheriff's Office would govern this especially in Stump Creek during the winter.

**Angie Mendenhall, Treasurer:**

- The tax deed hearing that was scheduled for today has been canceled per Angie.

**Sheriff Appointment:**

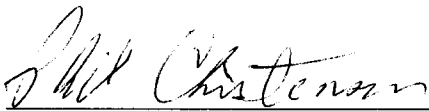
- Commissioner Somsen motioned to convene to executive session at 11:40 a.m. pursuant to I.C. 74-206(a). Commissioner Mathews seconded the motion. Motion carried. Commissioner Somsen suggested at 11:45 a.m. to reconvene to regular session. Commissioner Matthews made the motion to appoint J. Adam Mabey as the interim Sheriff to fulfill the term of Sheriff Kelly Wells. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Other:**

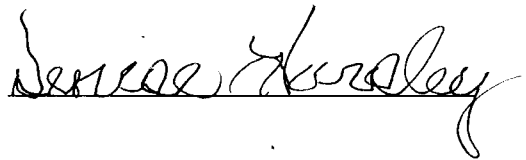
- Commissioner Somsen moved to pay the claims and remittances in the amount of \$241,681.61 and payroll claims in the amount of \$181,336.49 and to approve the minutes of August 31, 2020 as presented and September 14, 2020 as amended. Commissioner Christensen seconded the motion. Motion carried. Commissioner Mathews was not present for this part of the meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet October 12, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Phil Christensen, Commissioner Chairman

Attested: Denise Horsley



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Approved Payment of Bills

	9/28/2020	Claims	Payroll
Current Expense		\$ 16,645.34	
Indigent		\$ 9,967.90	
Road & Bridge		\$ 21,843.11	
Special Highway			
Justice		\$ 28,806.20	
Election Consolidation		\$ 3,727.33	
Weed Control		\$ 1,521.79	
Solid Waste			
Reappraisal		\$ 4,475.00	
Health		\$ 789.79	
Hospital M&O			
Ambulance		\$ 2,996.53	
Parks & Recreation		\$ 237.16	
Tort			
County Fair			
County Court Facility			
District Court		\$ 1,450.87	
Court Services			
Juvenile Justice		\$ 10,177.40	
Veteran's Memorial			
Mineral Leasing			
PILT		\$ 33,133.64	
City of Soda Springs			
City of Bancroft			
City of Grace			
Bancroft Cemetery			
Central Cemetery			
Fairview Cemetery			
Freedom Cemetery			
Grace Cemetery			
Lago Cemetery			
Lava Cemetery			
Lund Cemetery			
Thatcher Cemetery			
Turner Cemetery			
School District #148			
School District #149			
School District #150			
School District #21			
Grace Free Library			
Water District			
TV Translator			
Bailey Creek Fire District			
Freedom Fire District			
Farmers land & Irrigation		\$ 50,967.39	
Auditor's Trust		\$ 80.00	
Adult Probation Fee			
Diversion Education Trust			
Juvenile Housing Trust			
Range Improvement Trust			
Court Trust			
Centennial Trust			
College Trust			
Treasurer's Trust			
ID Trust			
Concealed Weapon's Trust			
Motor Vehicle Trust			
911 Trust		\$ 129.00	
Public Safety Trust			
Weed Control Trust			
Drug Court Trust		\$ 450.00	
Waterways Fund		\$ 220.58	
Youth Court Trust			
Vessel Account			
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 187,619.03</b>	<b>\$ 181,336.49</b>

## CARIBOU COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S AGENDA

**Date: 9/28/2020**

ACTION ITEMS / BUSINESS

Time	Name of Person/Party	Concerning
9:00 AM	Bills & Minutes	
9:15 AM	Kim Spencer	Road & Bridge - Graders & Trucks
9:30 AM	Eric Hobson / Larry Weaver	EMS / Ambulance
9:45 AM	Jacob Farnes	IT / GIS
10:00 AM	Loy Ray Phillips	Caribou Memorial Hospital discussion
10:15 AM	Glen Avery	Fairview Cemetery discussion
10:30 AM	Aaron Cook	Caribou County Republicans IC -59-906
10:45 AM	Kelly Wells	Sheriff
11:00 AM	JoAnna Ashley	Codification - ordinance changes
11:15 AM		
11:30 AM		
11:45 AM	Angie Mendenhall / Treasurer	Tax Deed Hearing
Noon	LUNCH BREAK	
1:00 PM		
1:15 PM	Sheriff Appointment	Executive Session IC 74-206
1:30 PM		
1:45 PM		
2:00 PM		
2:15 PM		
2:30 PM		
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3:00 PM		
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4:00 PM		
4:15 PM		
4:30 PM		
4:45 PM		
5:00 PM		

OTHER BUSINESS: Executive Session I.C. 74-206

BOE

sign CDBG Progress Report Senior Center grant

sign emergency Management Performance grant

Anyone needing special assistance to attend the above noticed meeting should contact the Clerk's Office at (208)547-4324.