

## **COMMISSIONER MEETING OF February 13, 2023**

The Caribou County Commissioners met in regular session on February 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Mark Mathews, Commissioner  
Bryce Somsen, Commissioner  
Marty McCullough, Commissioner  
Jill Stoor, Clerk  
Kim Spencer, Road & Bridge

Brett Barfuss, Road & Bridge  
Eric Hobson, Public Safety  
Rowdy Larkins, Building Department  
J. Adam Mabey, Sheriff  
Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning

The meeting opened with Mark Mathews leading the pledge of allegiance and prayer.

### **Kim Spencer, Road & Bridge:**

- Kim questioned needing a bid for oil purchases if we are piggybacking off another county. Legal council confirmed the need to make a motion on the purchase. Kim stated that oil prices are up approximately 15 percent this year.

**Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the Road & Bridge purchase of oil through the Power County Highway District for 2023. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the purchase of a 2014 CAT TL943C with approximately 2500 hours from Western States for the amount of \$85,000. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- We are finally on the bid list for the trucks approved last September; they will need to be include in the FY2024 budget process for delivery next January at the estimated cost of \$350,000.
- The brakes on the 160M will cost approximately \$31,000 and repairs will be done in June. The engine will be approximately \$33,000 for the snow plow previously discussed.
- Wayan Loop will be chip sealed this year as well as Lanes Creek Cutoff. Kim anticipates a late start for opening roads this year rather than his normal March timeline. He is aware of a potential avalanche and will work with the state or government trapper to help with the issue.

**Eric Hobson, Public Safety:**

- Eric was hoping to bring in grant bids on the ambulance but obtaining bids is nearly impossible right now; he will continue working on it.
- They are working on their All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Upgrade as required by FEMA every 5 years. FEMA is now requiring cities to be brought on early so he is working through that process and hopes to be funded this spring.
- They are doing the close out on the RFC Grant as well as the Saver Grant for fire equipment.
- EMS and Fire Departments are functioning steady; several chimney fires have been reported.

**Rowdy Larkins, Building Department:**

- Rowdy presented bids from Construction Services for work on the Clerk, Assessor, and Prosecutor's Office. They have also come up with a solution for additional space for Ally's GIS work; they will still need several maps stands and quotes will be submitted.

**Commissioner Somsen motioned to accept the bid estimates from Construction Services in the amount of \$9,562 for the Clerk's office, \$1,983 for the Prosecutor's office, and \$1,306 for the Assessor's office. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

- After attending his yearly IDBO training, Rowdy feels that it might be time to update our permitting fees. They are based on 1997 recommendations. ICC does a yearly chart and he recommends that we move to that as our base. He presented a worksheet showing the differences using the new fee chart as well as comparable rates with our surrounding counties. He stated that ICC recommends the permit fees are high enough to cover 75% of the department expenses. We are currently only covering 50% of salary expenses. Discussion was held on the time requirements for inspections, costs per square foot, and the effect on the levy if we were to increase fees. Commissioners stated that they understood the request but were not prepared to make the change right now with the current increased cost of building and values.

Rowdy stated that he would like to also look at implementing a planner view fee for large project.

**J. Adam Mabey, Sheriff:**

- Sheriff asked that he be able to use funds from the 911 Trust to complete the upgrade for the E911 system. He proposed using \$200,000 from the E911 Trust and another \$100,000 from the ARPA funds in order to not deplete the entire 911 Trust. They discussed options and decided that with trust renewing at approximately \$50,000 per year, they would rather see the trust pay for the entire expense.

**Commissioner Somsen motioned to approve the purchase of the updated communication system at the cost of \$305,000 from the 911 Trust Funds. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

**Nellie Askew, Planning & Zoning:**

- Nellie presented revisions to County Code 13.48.050 regarding the caretaker splits. She feels that the code is being used to undercut the minimum 40 acre requirement in agricultural zoned land as it is written. The code was created to allow a second dwelling on the parcel and have the deed remain in the originators name; she stated that is really not what is happening. Nellie has gone through the code and made revisions to clarify that the property cannot be split off and it is only allowing a second dwelling and preventing illegal land splits.

After discussion, the board agreed to the changes and gave Nellie permission to continue working on cleaning up the current planning and zoning codes to be implemented in the new comprehensive plan. This caretaker split code change will be presented through the public hearing process.

**Jill Stoor, Clerk:**

- Jill stated that we received the snow removal reimbursement check from Bonneville County and discussion was held on where those funds should be deposited. It was decided to split the funds between the Road & Bridge and Weed funds to help compensate for Dwight's salary.

**Commissioner Somsen motioned to split the snow removal revenue from Bonneville County evenly between the Weed and Road and Bridge Departments each year. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

- **Commissioner Somsen motioned to convene and executive session at 11:06 a.m. pursuant to I.C. 74-206(b). Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Commissioner Somsen suggested ending the session at 11:13 a.m. and regular session resumed with no decision made.**

- Jill questioned the board on timing for cutting warrants. We do have the option of only issuing those warrants after the board has approved the claims and eliminating the demand warrants. The board felt comfortable leaving the process the same.
- Discussion was continued on cell phone reimbursement. The board is comfortable with paying those reimbursements quarterly. Budgets will be adjusted to pay those reimbursements from each department fund in the upcoming fiscal year and regular county phone billing from the Sundries account.
- Kerry Hong submitted a request for increasing the budgeted amount for Judge Brown's staff attorney position. He requested an increase of \$12,681.20 in salary along with added employer costs. After discussion it was determined the county is willing to pay half of the requested increase.
- B.O.E. training is coming up in April. Dates were confirmed and Jill will take care of the registrations.
- Jill presented a quote and requested approval for the purchase of a new ballot printer. The quote from Hart Intercivic came in at \$8,395 including shipping. Funds are available in the capital outlay line item in Consolidated Elections.

**Commissioner McCullough motioned to approve the purchase of an Okidata C931e Ballot Printer at a cost of \$8,395 from the Consolidated Election Fund. Commissioner Somsen seconded the motion. Motion passed**

Other:


- Commissioner Somsen made a motion motioned to approve the payroll claims in the amount of \$396,252.13 for 2/10/23, the claims approval report in the amount of \$394,825.98 for 2/10/2023, and the minutes of the 1/23/23 meeting as presented. Commissioner McCullough seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:43 a.m. The Caribou County Board of Commissioners will meet again on February 27, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. for regular meeting.

Signed: Mark Mathews, Commissioner Chairman



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Attested: Jill Stoor, Clerk



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