

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

January 16TH, 2024

8:30 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Brewer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

Chairman Rod Brewer, Vice Chair Ben Hurwitz and Commissioner Errol Galt were present for the meeting.

Minutes:

ACTION #1

Commissioner Galt moved to approve the minutes from January 9th, 2024. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Library Report – Rachel Wahlstrom

Library Director Rachel Wahlstrom entered the chambers at 8:55 a.m.

Wahlstrom reported of the \$5000 Grant from the Dorothy Louise Kyle Fund, approximately \$3000 will be used for books and \$2000 for other children programming, including a train table. In addition, the library will relocate the CD Audio collection to a sister library, residents can still access the CDs from the sister library or use the online streaming platforms, such as Hoopla or Libby Library app for audio books.

Extension Report & HB 819 Grant Follow up – Makayla Paul

Extension Agent Makayla Paul entered the chambers at 9:25 a.m. Planning Board member Terry Taylor, Stewardship Council member Cassie Coburn, Clerk & Recorder Liv West entered the chambers at 9:30 a.m.

Paul opened with the Extension report: Paul will be attending the Meagher County Sportsman's meeting on January 16th 2024 to discuss 4H Shooting Sports opportunities at the site. Paul reported the Strong People, Strong Bodies program attracted approximately 17 people from the community. Paul hopes to begin classes in February at Stone Temple Fitness through the White Sulphur Springs School District Adult Education program.

Paul recently hosted the MSU Extension Community Vitality workshop. Local business owners and community members had the opportunity to showcase White Sulphur Springs and their efforts to revitalize the community. Paul also hosted a Leadership 47 workshop, part of the Big Sky Big Leadership program. The program helps build the skills of community-based leaders so they can work more effectively for positive change in their community. Four community members volunteered to serve on an advisory committee to help plan the program. The first meeting is planned for March and is expected to launch in September 2024. Paul has received a grant to help with startup costs.

Paul reported Tracy Mosley from MSU visited on January 15th for Paul's annual review. Paul and Mosley discussed successes and challenges in 2023 and set goals for the new year.

Paul concluded that she has been working with the Conservation District to help plan their annual winter seminar which will be held on February 12th, 2024

Paul, Coburn, and Taylor discussed House Bill 819 grant opportunity. Coburn stated the Stewardship Council agreed to her being the lead contact for Meagher County's grant application. Taylor suggested Lila Fleishman, a housing expert from the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC), would be a good contact for Meagher County. Coburn will meet with Fleishman at the end of January. Coburn stated all of Meagher County is in an opportunity zone, which means investors can receive tax credits for building in the county. The Commissioners discussed forming a housing committee that can provide reports and be accountable for moving forward. Coburn, Paul, Jerry Grebenc of Great West Engineering and County Attorney Hurwitz will be preparing the HB 819 Grant application.

Treasurer Report – Maura Kusek

Treasurer Maura Kusek entered the chambers at 10:10 a.m.

Kusek presented the commission with the monthly treasurer report for signature.

Kusek stated the wage for the open Motor Vehicle Clerk position will remain at \$18/hour. Kusek stated it is difficult to provide any training with the interruptions from the motor vehicle counter.

Open Sealed Bids – 2020 Polaris Ranger

Chief Finance Officer Dayna Ogle entered the chambers at 10:30 a.m.

No bids were received.

County Attorney Report – Burt Hurwitz

County Attorney Burt Hurwitz and Makayla Paul entered the chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Hurwitz stated Victim/Witness Advocate position has proven to be a valuable addition to his office. Laura Taylor (VWA) is applying for a Victims of Crime Act grant (VOCA) through the Montana Department of Justice to help cover the cost of the new position. The grant application is due January 26, 2024 and awards will be made sometime this spring.

Hurwitz is collaborating with Makayla Paul and Cassie Coburn to complete the HB 819 grant application for neighborhood planning. The City of White Sulphur Springs will also be applying for the grant to possibly update their subdivision regulations.

Hurwitz and City Attorney Susan Wordal discussed updating the Law Enforcement Agreement between the city and the county.

Hurwitz will have 3 jury trials this summer, beginning in June.

Clerk & Recorder; Study Commission Resolution; CPT Resolution – Liv A. West

Clerk and Recorder Liv A West and Deputy Clerk & Recorder Emma Bess entered the chambers at 11:58 a.m.

Liv West presented the Interdisciplinary Child Information and School Safety Team Resolution to the Commissioners for signature.

West presented the Commissioners with the Study Commission Resolution for signature. West stated that every 10 years local governments are required to put to the voter the question of creating a study commission. The purpose of a study commission is to study the existing form and powers of a local government and procedures for delivery of local government services and compare them with other forms available under the laws of the state. The City of White Sulphur will have the same question on the city ballot.

Commissioner Galt moved to approve Resolution FY2324 # 65. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved

West spoke with Matt Blassic, Great West Engineering, regarding the Next Gen 911 addressing project. Blassic stated that they are about 50% done and the project is on schedule.

Meagher County Interdisciplinary Child Information and School Safety Team

RESOLUTION NO 2024- 64

Whereas, section 52-2-211, section (1) MCA, states "county commissioners of each county shall form a county interdisciplinary child information and school safety team by written agreement";

Whereas, section 52-2-211(1) further states that such agreement be signed by authorized representatives of the following: youth court, county attorney, department of public health and human services, county superintendent of schools, sheriff, chief of any police force, all public school districts operating within the boundaries of the county and the department of corrections;

Whereas, section 52-2-211(2) further directs that team officials "may by majority vote allow the following persons to sign the written agreement and join the team": physicians, psychologists, psychiatrists, nurses, and other providers of medical and mental health care, attorneys, and a person or entity that has or may have a legitimate interest in one or more children that the team will serve;

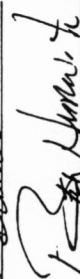
Whereas, the interdisciplinary child information and school safety team will operate under the further guidance of 52-2-211(3),(4),(5),(6),(7) and (8);

Whereas, 52-2-211(8) requires "The County Superintendent of Schools shall provide to the Office of Public Instruction a current copy of any written agreement under this section no later than September 1;"

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the following signatories comprise the Meagher County Interdisciplinary Child Information and School Safety Team.

Dated this 16th day of January, 2024

 Chairperson

 Commissioner

 Commissioner

Attest:

 Clerk & Recorder



RESOLUTION NUMBER 2024-# 65

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MEAGHER COUNTY MONTANA, CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF CONDUCTING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW AND ESTABLISHING A STUDY COMMISSION TO DO SO.

WHEREAS, Article XI, Section 9, of the Constitution of the State of Montana requires that each unit of local government shall conduct an election once every ten years to determine whether the local government will undertake a local government review procedure; and

WHEREAS, 7-3-173(2) M.C.A. requires that the governing body shall call for an election, to be held on the primary election date, on the question of conducting a local government review and establishing a study commission; and

WHEREAS, the Meagher County Commission is the governing body of the County of Meagher County.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

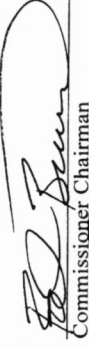
1. The County of Meagher hereby calls for an election on the question of conducting a local government review and electing a study commission to be held at the primary election on June 5, 2024.
2. If the voters decide in favor of conducting a local government review, a study commission comprised of three (3) members shall be elected at the general election of November 5, 2024.
3. Pursuant to 7-3-175, M.C.A. the question of conducting a local government review shall be submitted to the electors in substantially the following form:

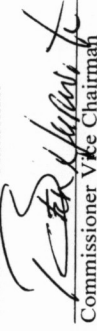
Vote for one:

FOR the review of the government of Meagher County and the establishment and funding, not to exceed \$34,076.61 or 3 mills, of a local government study commission consisting of three (3) members to examine the government of Meagher County and submit recommendations on the government.

AGAINST the review of the government of Meagher County and the establishment and funding, not to exceed \$34,076.61 or 3 mills, of a local government study commission consisting of three (3) members to examine the government of Meagher County and submit recommendations on the government.

Passed and adopted by the County Commissioners of the County of Meagher, Montana meeting at regular session held on the ~~16th~~ ^{16th} day of ~~February~~ ^{January}, 2024.



Commissioner Chairman


Commissioner Vice Chairman


Commissioner

ATTEST:




Clerk and Recorder

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


County Attorney

MACo MCT IT Services – Karli King

Karli King and Tyler Bracken MACo MCT IT entered the chambers at 12:32 p.m.

King and Bracken from Montana Association of Counties (MACo) Member Cybersecurity's & Technologies (MCT) presented the Commissioners with a quote for IT services. King & Bracken reviewed the services MCT would provide including email security, end point security, server end point security, cloud backup, Meraki license renewal & management along with helpdesk services. King explained the 911 dispatch center will be monitored 24/7, however the helpdesk services that are included in the monthly rate are for service calls between 8am and 5pm Monday through Friday, any calls outside of those hours will be billed at an hourly rate. King explained the difference between the county's network infrastructure, data infrastructure and individual work stations and how all areas will be supported and monitored.

Action #2

Resolution FY23.24 #66

Commissioner Galt Moved to migrate IT services to MACo MCT. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The Issue is hereby resolved.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #61051 through Check #61069 totaling \$21,451.79. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, February 6th, 2024.



CLERK & RECORDER





CHAIRMAN



VICE-CHAIRMAN



COMMISSIONER