

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMMISSIONERS
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA

Tuesday

January 2nd, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Brewer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioners Present:

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

Minutes:

ACTION #1

Commissioner Hurwitz moved to approve the minutes from December 19th, 2023. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Sheriff's Report – Jon Lopp:

Meagher County Sheriff Jon Lopp entered the Chambers at 9:27 a.m.

Sheriff Lopp presented the Commissioners with statistics for the Sheriff's Office from 2023. The Sheriff's Office received three thousand eight hundred ninety-three (3893) incoming calls. Three hundred seventeen (317) 9-1-1 calls and had three thousand thirty-three (3033) people come in to the office. A total of seven thousand two hundred forty-three (7243) people contacted the Sheriff's office in 2023.

Sheriff Lopp reported per MCA 7-32-2242 (2)(B), the county incurs the cost for inmates whose violations are within the city limits.

Sheriff Lopp stated that he has contacted Wheatland County regarding a vehicle trade. Sheriff Lopp would like to trade our 2019 Chevy Tahoe with the K9 unit for Wheatland County's Ford F150 pickup with a topper. The Ford truck would be used as a backup K9 Unit as well as a Coroner Vehicle when needed.

Sheriff Lopp requested to fill the vacant 911 Dispatch/Telecommunicator position. The Commission agreed.

Action #2

Chairman Brewer moved to open the 911 Dispatcher/Telecommunicator position for applications. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

Finance Report- Dayna Ogle:

Chief Finance Officer, Dayna Ogle entered the Chambers at 10:00a.m.

Ogle stated that Rosie Spaulding, Building Maintenance, has completed her 6-month probation and requested that Spaulding's wage be increased by one-dollar effective December 27, 2023 pay period 7.

Action #3

Resolution FY23.24 #56A

Chairman Brewer moved to increase Building Maintenance, Rosie Spaulding wage by one-dollar effective December 27th, 2023 pay period 7. Commissioner Galt seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed. The issue is hereby resolved.

Ogle discussed a policy change regarding verification of prior local public service to be applied toward annual leave accruals. Commissioners agreed to place the issue on the agenda for January 9th, 2023.

Ogle stated there were 0 bids on the Polaris Ranger. Ogle requested to extend the call for bid through January 12, 2024. The call for bid will be posted on the Meagher County Website, Facebook page and in the local newspaper.

Ogle Presented the Request for Release of Funds and Certification for an Environmental Assessment for Martinsdale Water and Sewer CDBG grant for signature. The certification will open up a 15-day comment period, at the completion of the comment period Martinsdale Water & Sewer will have the ability to start requesting the CDBG grant funds.

Ogle reported on the recent State Fund Workers Compensation Audit that found EMTs were reported in the incorrect class code. Meagher County may owe additional premium. The class code has been corrected

Ogle reported on the Statewide Unemployment scam. One County employee was affected and notified.

Ogle stated the need to update the office lease agreement. Ogle will draft an updated lease agreement.

County New Year's Resolutions:

Clerk Deems presented the Commission with the New Year Resolutions for signature.

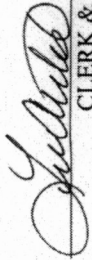
RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23.24 - #57

Whereas, unless otherwise provided by law, each officer shall keep the officer's office open for the transaction of business during the office hours determined by the governing body by resolution after a public hearing and only if consented to by any affected elected county officer each day except Saturdays and legal holidays,

It Is Hereby Resolved:

The Meagher County Courthouse will be open to the public from 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.


Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.

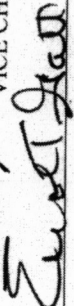


CLERK & RECORDER




CHAIRPERSON


VICE CHAIR


COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23-24 - #58

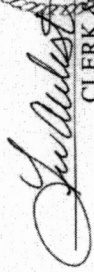
Whereas, the board of county commissioners must elect one of its members as presiding officer (MCA §7-5-2109), and

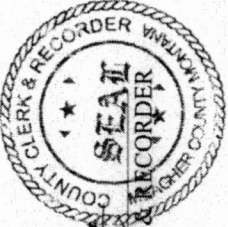
Whereas, the presiding officer shall preside at all meetings of the board, and in case of the presiding officer's absence or inability to act, the members present shall select one of their number to act temporarily as presiding officer,


It Is Hereby Resolved:

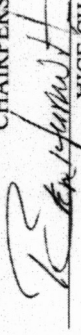
Rod Brewer shall be the Chairperson of the Meagher County Board of County Commissioners through December 31, 2024.


Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.


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SEAL
MEAGHER COUNTY, MONTANA


CHAIRPERSON


VICE CHAIR


COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23.24 - #59


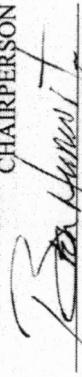
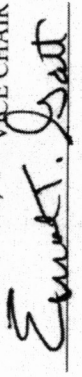
Whereas, it is recommended that counties adopt a resolution establishing mileage, lodging and per diem rates for business travel,

It Is Hereby Resolved:

Meagher County will use the prevailing state rates for mileage and lodging as of January 1st, 2024, and continue with the per diem rates set in Resolution 2013 - # 76 established November 19, 2013.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.


CLERK & RECORDER



CHAIRPERSON

VICE CHAIR

COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23-24 - #60

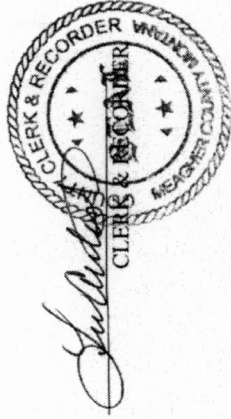
Whereas, Section 46-18-403, MCA, states that "the daily rate for incarceration must be established annually by the Board of County Commissioners by resolution" and that the daily rate must be equal to the actual cost incurred by the detention facility and it has been determined that the actual cost incurred by the Meagher County detention facility, on an average daily basis, is equal to Seventy-Five dollars (\$75.00);

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Meagher County that the daily rate for confinement costs, other than for actual medical costs, as ordered by the court and paid in advance for confinement and prior to payment of any fine, is hereby established at \$75.00 per day; and

Be it further resolved, if a judgment is for a fine and imprisonment until the fine is paid, the detainee shall be allowed a credit of \$75.00 for each day of incarceration; and that an inmate is responsible for the actual costs of medication, medical services, or hospitalization while detained in a detention center, based upon the individual's ability to pay and/or private provider health care coverage, or a bona fide and responsible third-party payer; and

Be it further resolved, that the County Attorney shall initiate proceedings to collect from the inmate any charges arising from the medical services or hospitalization in accordance with 7-32-2245, MCA.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.



Shelley A. ...
CLERK & RECORDER

Bob Brun
CHAIRPERSON

Steve ...
VICE CHAIR

Ernest T. ...
COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23,24 - #61

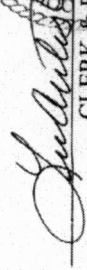
Whereas, unless otherwise provided by law, each officer shall keep the officer's office open for the transaction of business, during the office hours determined by the governing body by resolution after a public hearing and only if consented to by any affected elected county officer each day except Saturdays and legal holidays.


Whereas, Court hearings and meetings may be scheduled during or outside of office hours without notice. In the event of Court or meetings out of the office, the following hours may be changed and/or cancelled without notice.


It is Hereby Resolved:

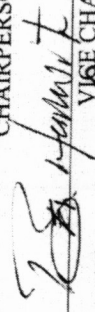
The office of the County Attorney shall be open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Scheduled appointments may be taken outside of office hours.


DATED this 2nd day of January, 2024.


CLERK & RECORDER




CHAIRPERSON


VICE CHAIR


COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23.24 -#62

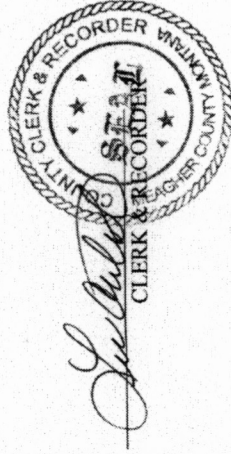
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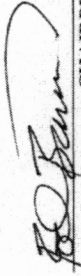
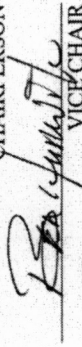

Whereas, the office of the Justice of the Peace is a part-time position and should consist of 20 hours per week. This office shall be open Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Hours shall be posted for the public's information. A minimum of four (4) additional hours will be dedicated to Justice Court administrative duties, clerk of court duties, and official criminal justice meetings throughout the week as needed to maintain the office. Court hearings and meetings may be scheduled during or outside of office hours without notice.

It is Hereby Resolved:

This office shall be open Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Hours shall be posted for the public's information. A minimum of four (4) additional hours will be dedicated to Justice Court administrative duties, clerk of court duties, and official criminal justice meetings throughout the week as needed to maintain the office. Court hearings and meetings may be scheduled during or outside of office hours without notice.

DATED this 2nd day January, 2024.




CHAIRPERSON

VICE CHAIR

COMMISSIONER

RESOLUTION FISCAL YEAR 23.24 - #63

Whereas, the governing body of the county shall establish by resolution a regular meeting date and notify the public of that date (MCA §7-5-2122), and



Whereas, the governing body of the county, except as may be otherwise required of them, may meet at the county seat of their respective counties at any time for the purpose of attending to county business, and


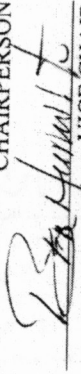

Whereas, the commissioners may, by resolution and prior two days' posted notice, designate another meeting time and place,

It Is Hereby Resolved:

The Meagher County Board of County Commissioners shall meet the first three (3) Tuesdays of each month beginning at 8:30 a.m. and running till said meeting is complete. The meetings shall take place in the Meagher County Courthouse.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.


CLERK & RECORDER

MEAGHER COUNTY MONTANA
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CHAIRPERSON

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COMMISSIONER

Housing Discussion – Great West Engineering:

At 11:00 a.m. Commissioners adjourned to attend the Meagher County Housing meeting in the courtroom with Great West Engineering and the Meagher County Stewardship Council. Topics presented included workforce housing issues and funding opportunities through HB 819.

Fire / Road Report – Jake Kusek:

Road Supervisor Jake Kusek entered the chambers at 12:00 p.m.

Road Supervisor Kusek discussed the cattle guard issues on Schendel Road.

Offsite Visit – Schendel Road Cattle Guard

12:20 p.m. Commissioners adjourned for an offsite visit to Schendel Road. Commissioners viewed the condition and placement of the cattle guards. Further discussion is set for January 9 at 2:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #61012 through Check #61017 totaling \$6096.05. All Checks were signed as presented.
Commissioners were presented with Payroll Check #14021 through Check #14030 totaling \$40,379.69. And Electronic Checks #-85446 through #-85390 totaling \$163,227.79. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, January 9th, 2024.

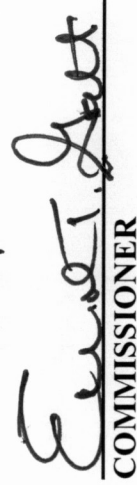

CLERK & RECORDER



SEAL


CHAIRMAN


VICE-CHAIRMAN


COMMISSIONER