

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

Tuesday
January 9TH, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Met in Commissioner's Chambers

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Brewer called the meeting to order at 9:30 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 2nd, 2024. Commissioner Hurwitz seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

County Attorney Report – Burt Hurwitz:

Rescheduled for January 16th at 11:00 a.m.

Health Nurse Report – Eva Kerr:

Health Nurse Eva Kerr entered the chambers at 10:00 a.m.

Kerr gave her December report. Kerr stated she has finished her 4th quarter grant reporting and the yearly VFC agreement has been completed and approved. Influenza A is circulating in the community and she is reminding the public to get their flu vaccines via Facebook.

Kerr reported she had received additional ARPA funding for the Homemaker and Respite Care Programs. The Homemaker program will receive an additional \$2,675 and Respite Care program will receive an addition \$750.

Board of Health:

Health Nurse Eva Kerr was present

Kerr gave the year-end report for the Board of Health. In 2023 the county had 54 cases of COVID-19, 6 cases of Influenza A with 2 hospitalizations, 4 cases of Influenza B with 2 hospitalizations, 9 animal bites, 3 cases of Campylobacteriosis, 2 cases of Cryptosporidiosis, 3 cases of Chlamydia, 3 cases of Hep C, 3 lead/metal exposure investigations and 2 cases of E Coli.

Kerr reported that respiratory illnesses have increase in the county recently and she has begun the adolescent vaccine campaign starting with 6th graders and catching up junior high and high school students.

Kerr reported Sean Hill, Yellowstone Environmental is still working as our County Sanitarian and has completed all but one restraint inspection. The county will be receiving reimbursement form the State of Montana in the next month.

House Bill 819 (Workforce Housing) Grant Opportunity Discussion:

Makayla Paul, Cassie Coburn, Liv West entered the chambers at 11:00 a.m.

Paul & Coburn reviewed the Housing meeting on January 9th 2024. Coburn stated she is willing to be the contact person for the HB 819 grant application provided the Stewardship council agrees.

Nancy Schlepp, Tintina Montana has committed the 20% match for the grant. The county's application will be for neighborhood planning in potentially 2-3 areas in the county. The primary area is the acreage around the new hospital building and the acreage north of the new hospital. Clerk & Recorder West will reach out to Great West Engineering and see if they do neighborhood planning and get an estimate. Coburn will reach out to other firms for estimates as well.

Public Hearing – Policy Change – Verifying Prior Service to be applied to Annual Leave:

Dayna Ogle stated that MCA 2-18-612 that covers prior years of service for annual leave accruals. A policy is not needed.

Cattle Guard Discussion – Rick & Sandra Luther:

Road Supervisor Jake Kusek entered the chambers at 12:00 p.m. Rick & Sandra Luther entered the chambers at 1:45 p.m.

Commissioner Brewer stated the board had viewed the cattleguard and there was no structural damage from the removal. Brewer stated 16" concrete abutments at Western Ranch Supply are \$250 each. He offered the Luther's \$1500, \$250 for each of the four abutments and \$500 for labor. The minimum length of a cattle guard installed on a county road is 24' wide according to the current county specifications. The cattle guard that was removed does not meet these specifications. Brewer stated no cattle guards will be installed on county roads until the county has a written Cattle Guard Policy and a signed agreement with the landowner.

Rick Luther inquired about the right of way through the subdivision and neither party has looked into this any further. Luther stated he would prefer to install a permanent 5 wire fence rather than a cattle guard. He suggested the county pay an agreed upon amount to Mountain View Co-Op and he would purchase fencing materials to fence the road this spring.

No action was taken.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Claims Approved:

Commissioners were presented with Check #61020 through Check #61050 totaling \$46,9672.22. All Checks were signed as presented.

Meeting Adjourned:

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Commissioners are scheduled to meet Tuesday, January 16th, 2024.



CLERK & RECORDER





CHAIRMAN



VICE-CHAIRMAN



COMMISSIONER